

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

**Ninth Session
(Tenth Lok Sabha)**



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Corrigenda to Lok Sabha Debates
(English Version)
.....

Monday, April 25, 1994 / Vaisakha 5, 1916 (Saka)

....

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FOR

AGAINST

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Shri Ramesh Channithala

Shri Ramesh
Channithala

467/8

SHRI CHITTURBAI
GAMIT

SHRI CHITTURBAI
GAMIT

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SHRI K.P.SINGH DEO

SHRI K.P.SINGH DEO

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SHRI K.P.SINGH DEO

578/8

through

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

*Monday, April 25, 1994/
Vaisakha 5, 1916 (Saka)*

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

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

OBITUARY REFERENCE

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Honourable Members, I have to inform the House of the passing away of one of our former colleagues, Shri S. Easwara Iyer.

Shri S. Easwara Iyer was a member of Second Lok Sabha representing Trivandrum parliamentary constituency of Kerala during 1957—62.

Shri S. Easwara Iyer was an eminent Advocate. He also taught law in law College, Trivandrum.

An active social and political worker, he was arrested for participation in agitation for a separate Bench of Kerala High Court at Trivandrum. He was also interested in the fields of photography and tennis. He took keen interest in the debates of the House.

Shri S. Easwara Iyer passed away on 22 April, 1994 at Cochin at the age of 73 years.

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

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

11.03 hrs.

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

11.05 hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

Obscenity in films

+
*401. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR
PATEL:
SHRI S. M. LALJAN
BASHA:

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

(a) whether the Government are aware of the growing trend of obscene songs and scenes in Indian feature films;

(b) if so, its impact on the Indian society and culture;

(c) whether any guidelines have been issued by the Government under the Cinematograph Act, 1952 to Central

Board of Film Certification to curb the depiction of obscene songs and scenes of violence and sex in films;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the remedial steps taken by the Government to curb this menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b). Complaints/press reports about exhibition of films with obscene songs and scenes are received by Government from time to time. No analysis is, however, available on the impact of such scenes on Indian society and culture.

(c) to (f). Detailed guidelines have been issued by Government to the Central Board of Film Certification in this regard. A statement showing these guidelines is laid on the Table of the House. These guidelines are under constant review.

The State Governments have been asked from time to time to ensure strict and vigorous implementation of the provisions of the law so that there is an effective check on blatant violations of the censorship provisions. The latest communication was on 20.8.1993.

STATEMENT

[TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE EXTRAORDINARY GAZETTE OF INDIA
PART II: SECTION 3,
SUB-SECTION (ii)]

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND
BROADCASTING

New Delhi dated the, 6th Dec., 1991

NOTIFICATION

S.O. 836(E) In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (2) of section 5B of the Cinematograph Act, 1952 (37 of 1952) and in supersession of the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting No. S.O. 9(E) dated the 7th January, 1978, except as respects things done or omitted to be done before such supersession, the Central Government, hereby directs that in sanctioning films for public exhibition, the Board of Film Certification shall be guided by the following principles:

1. The objectives of film certification will be to ensure that—

- (a) the medium of film remains responsible and sensitive to the values and standards of society;
- (b) artistic expression and creative freedom are not unduly curbed;
- (c) certification is responsive to social change;
- (d) the medium of film provides clean and healthy entertainment; and
- (e) as far as possible, the film is of aesthetic value and cinematically of a good standard.

2. In pursuance of the above objectives, the Board of Film Certification shall ensure that—

- (i) anti-social activities such as violence are not glorified or justified;
- (ii) the modus operandi of criminals, other visuals or

- words likely to incite the commission of any offence are not depicted;
- (iii) scenes-
- (a) showing involvement of children in violence as victims or as perpetrators or as forced witnesses to violence, or showing children as being subjected to any form of child abuse;
- (b) showing abuse or ridicule of physically and mentally handicapped persons; and
- (c) showing cruelty to, or abuse of, animals, are not presented needlessly;
- (iv) pointless or avoidable scenes of violence, cruelty and horror, scenes of violence primarily intended to provide entertainment and such scenes as may have the effect of desensitising or dehumanising people are not shown;
- (v) scenes which have the effect of justifying or glorifying drinking are not shown;
- (vi) scenes tending to encourage, justify or glamorise drug addiction are not shown;
- (vii) human sensibilities are not offended by vulgarity, obscenity or depravity;
- (viii) such dual meaning words as obviously cater to baser instincts are not allowed;
- (ix) scenes degrading or denigrating women in any manner are not presented;
- (x) scenes involving sexual violence against women like attempt to rape, rape or any form of molestation, or scenes of a similar nature are avoided, and if any such incident is germane to the theme, they shall be reduced to the minimum and no details are shown;
- (xi) scenes showing sexual perversions shall be avoided and if such matters are germane to the theme, they shall be reduced to the minimum and no details are shown;
- (xii) visuals or words contemptuous of racial, religious or other groups are not presented;
- (xiii) visuals or words which promote communal, obscurantist, anti-scientific and anti-national attitudes are not presented;
- (xiv) the sovereignty and integrity of India is not called in question;
- (xv) the security of the State is not jeopardised or endangered;

- (xvi) friendly relations with foreign States are not strained;
- (xvii) public order is not endangered;
- (xviii) visuals or words involving defamation of an individual or a body of individuals, or contempt of court are not presented;

EXPLANATION: Scenes that tend to create scorn, disgrace or disregard of rules or undermine the dignity of court will come under the term "contempt of Court" and

- (xix) National symbols and emblems are not shown except in accordance with the provisions of the Emblems and Names (Prevention of Improper use) Act, 1950 (12 of 1950).

3. The Board of Film Certification shall also ensure that the film

- (i) is judged in its entirety from the point of view of its overall impact; and
- (ii) is examined in the light of the period depicted in the film and the contemporary standards of the country and the people to which the film relates, provided that the film does not deprave the morality of the audience.

4. Films that meet the above-mentioned criteria but are considered

unsuitable for exhibition to non-adults shall be certified for exhibition to adult audience only.

5. (1) While certifying films for unrestricted public exhibition, the Board shall ensure that the film is suitable for family viewing, that is to say, the film should be such that all the members of the family including children can view it together.

(2) If the Board, having regard to the nature, content and theme of the film, is of the opinion that it is necessary to caution the parents/guardian to consider as to whether any child below the age of twelve years may be allowed to see such a film, the film shall be certified for unrestricted public exhibition with an endorsement to that effect.

(3) If the Board, having regard to the nature, content and theme of the film, is of the opinion that the exhibition of the film should be restricted to members of any profession or any class of persons, the film shall be certified for public exhibition restricted to the specialised audiences to be specified by the Board in this behalf.

6. The Board shall scrutinise the titles of the films carefully and ensure that they are not provocative, vulgar, offensive or violative of any of the above mentioned guidelines.

Amended by—

- (i) Notification No. 5/5/77-F(C) dated 27.1.79 published as S.O. 618 in the Gazette of India Part II Section 3 sub-section (ii) dated 17.2.79.
- (ii) Notification No. 805/2/83-F(C) dated 27.1.79 published as

S.O. 356(E) in the Gazette of India Extraordinary Part II Section 3 sub-section (ii) dated 7.5.83.

- (iii) Notification No. 805/4/89-F(C) dated 11.8.89 published as S.O. 2179 in the Gazette of India, Part II, Section 3 sub-section (ii) dated 9.9.89.

(File No. 805/1/90-F(C))

Sd/-

(S. LAKSHMI NARAYANAN)
JOINT SECRETARY TO THE GOVT.
OF INDIA
TELE. 383857

The Manager,
Government of India Press,
Mayapuri, Ring Road,
New Delhi.

SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL:
Mr. Speaker, Sir, I happen to be a Member of the Standing Committee on Communications. In one of the meetings the President of the Central Board of Film Certification, Shri Shakti Samant has admitted....

MR. SPEAKER: You cannot disclose those things. You are not expected to disclose them.

SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL:
Sir, he tacitly agreed that excessive depiction of sex and violence in the cinema is affecting the mind of the Indian youth in an adverse manner. Although the Censor Board for Film Certification consists of eminent personalities, it hardly meets once a year, sometimes it does not

meet even throughout the year. The real power of certification vests with the two Committees, one is the Examining Committee and the second is the Revising Committee. The President of the Film Censor Board is the Head of these two Committees and he belongs to the cine world also. I would like to know categorically from the hon. Minister whether he would stop this practice of having a man from the cinema world to head these two Committees, which are giving film certification, because it tentamounts to having a person interested sitting in judgement over the cause of the cinema.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: This is a question for examining and taking into consideration. The present term expires on the 7th of September. There have been eminent people before, who were also film makers. So, this is not the first time that a film maker has been made the Chairman of the Central Board for Film Certification. Definitely it is a suggestion for consideration.

MR. SPEAKER: May I caution the Minister that when you say, "it is a suggestion for consideration", it is an assurance on the floor of the House.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Sir, I am aware of it.

MR. SPEAKER: It is an assurance then. Okay.

SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL:
Sir, the Supreme Court of India in its recent judgement, which was delivered on the 6th of April, observed that films soaked in sex and violence induce the youth of today into the criminal world. Sir, the Supreme Court has also given a directive to the Film Censor Board to ensure that the new films, which are coming into the market and which are

being released, have a message to improve social values of life. On the other hand, we see that day after day films with excessive violence, vulgar dialogues and songs having double meanings, puns, like 'choli' song or 'sexy' song, are coming and they are really corrupting the mind of the youth of this country. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government envisages any plan to prevent this sort of erosion in moral values of Indian culture.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Sir, the hon. Member is very right. The Government is concerned and brought a Bill in the Rajya Sabha in 1992. That Bill is pending in the Rajya Sabha. The moment it is passed there, I will bring it to the Lok Sabha and we would like to benefit from the counsel of the hon. Members.

Secondly, the instance which he has cited, 'choli ke peechey', was also a subject matter in the Court and the Court has cleared it and it has also got the best song award. So, it is a question of perception and a question of opinion. There is no universal opinion on this. It is a fact that the Supreme Court has observed this. But it is a general observation. If there are specific instances, there are provisions where the Government can act.

[Translation]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we see that for the last 3-4 years, obscenity has increased in such a way in Indian films that whole society is worried over this issue. My private Member's Bill on this subject is also lying pending before the House. Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister that whether he is willing to envisage any plan

to make infrastructural changes into Cinematograph Act, 1952. to restrict the freedom obtained by the Censor Board. Earlier A-certificate was issued for pictures but for the last five years no A-certificate was issued to any Hindi films though these contain more dangerous and obscene scenes and songs than the films which were awarded A-certificate earlier. Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to know from the hon. Minister that whether the Government contemplates to make infrastructural changes in the law for making provision for stringent punishment for this offence or whether you are going to bring any such amendments through this House.

[English]

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Sir, the hon. Member is very right. Government would like to take more stringent measures. That is why the Bill is pending in the Rajya Sabha. I shall bring it here. If it is the combined wisdom to have it more stringent, than what has been suggested, we shall be receptive to the idea.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Sir, this is a very sensitive question and I think within this short time, it would not be possible to express the grievances. You will appreciate, Sir, that according to the Board of Film Certification, it is endorsed that anti-social activities such as violence are not justified and showing involvement of children in violence as victims or as perpetrators or as moot witness to violence or showing children as being subjected to any form of child abuse is prohibited. You know, Sir, the children's I.Q. is very strong nowadays. Because of this type of films, so many incidents take place all over the country. What is the song 'sexy-sexy', I do not know, but this

type of films affect our country like anything. The members of the Film Censor Board*... Therefore, I request the hon. Minister to investigate the matter properly and see that this type of films are not shown in our country because we have to protect our tradition, our culture and our values. We should not protect the interests of the anti-social elements and the criminals. That is why my question would be: Will the Minister bring a comprehensive law to protect the Indian tradition, the Indian values and the Indian culture and not protect the interests of a few people who are going to destroy our culture?

MR. SPEAKER: I think the words used against the members of the Censor Board may not form part of the record.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE:
Not all but a few members, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: Well, this does not convey any meaning if the first part is not there.

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO: Sir, the Government has been taking action whenever it has been brought to its notice, and scenes which consisted of gory, senseless and pointless presentation of violence and misdemeanour towards women, like molestation, rape etc. have been deleted. Over the last three years, it has been done.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is aware that the Centre's deficiency in the enforcement of anti-obscenity laws does not lie in the law itself, it lies in the enforcement of the law. Secondly, is the Government aware that even such portions of a film, as are excised by the Censor Board,

are then subsequently displayed in the cinema halls across the country, principally because the enforcement of this particular provision is in the hands of the State Governments, since law and order is a State subject. Therefore, I would like to ask the Government that instead of charging the producer of the film, will the Government consider the proposal or the suggestion that for any violation of the directions of the Censor Board, if found anywhere in the country, the first to be charged will be the hero and the heroine of the film and thereafter the producer? That will act... (*Interruptions*). Why not, Sir? The hero and the heroine are the ones who are displaying that obscenity, who is play-acting that obscenity.

AN HON. MEMBER: Maybe the side hero.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Maybe the side hero. Therefore, to overcome the hurdles of the enforcement of this provision which is the Central provision but has to be administered across the land, the only suggestion is for the Government to directly charge the hero or the heroine or the actor proper for violation of the obscenity laws. If you do that, then you will immediately be able to implement all your anti-obscenity laws.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Sir, the hon. member has given food for thought. His suggestion has to be examined. I would like to share the fact with the House that we have already convened a meeting with the Censor Board, the film industry and everyone very shortly, in the month of May.

I shall definitely put forward the views expressed by the hon. Members of this House and the other House and we shall come back to the House after we have a discussion.

MR. SPEAKER: Two of the heroes are absent in the House today. Otherwise....

AN HON. MEMBER: They would have objected. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: The sentiments of the House will definitely be conveyed. We are going to have a detailed discussion on it. This has been agitating the Members. This has been agitating outside the House also.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: It is a serious suggestion.

[Translation]

SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Now-a-days Hindi films are showing more violence which are being seen by the people of all categories. It is encouraging wrong tendencies in the society. All the stories of films are infaming the politicians, which is not good. Sir, I would like to say that stories of films should be assessed carefully as these are creating a wrong opinion about politician among the society. I do not know how much revenue is earned from TV but arrangements should be made for careful scrutiny of films shown in villages and cities through Zee TV etc. Members of Parliament should also be included in the committee to be constituted for this purpose... *(Interruptions)*...

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please come to the question. You should ask a question. What is your question? I have not understood.

[Translation]

SHRI DATTA MEGHE: In most of the films political parties are being as-

essed in a wrong way which is not good. It defames politicians.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not repeat what you have said. You just put your question.

[Translation]

SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Take care of story... *(Interruptions)*...

MR. SPEAKER: Are you contemplating some measures to stop defaming the politicians?

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Central Board of film certification has a provision for not to vilify any political person and Government could take action against it if such specific instance is brought to its notice... *(Interruptions)*...

[English]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Sir, it is a very serious question and you have rightly observed about it. The hon. Minister has said that evaluation has not been made so far about the impact on the society. Recently you must have seen that in England a study was conducted on the murder of an Asian couple. That is the impact of the films; that is creating this kind of situation in England also. If the evaluation has not been made, will you please make the evaluation?

MR. SPEAKER: Will you please make evaluation? That is the question.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: We are making it very soon.

MR. SPEAKER: Very good.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO: Sir, the guidelines mentioned by the hon. Minister are more observed in violation than implementation. That has been the experience throughout the country. The Malayalam cinema is occupying a very important position in the Indian cinema industry. They have bagged six national awards also. The image of the Malayalam cinema is very much tarnished all over the India and outside. The guidelines should apply not only to the producers but also to the unscrupulous distributors. They are adding obscene scenes to the films which are totally unrelated to the story and then that is being exhibited throughout the country.

Sir, we are shocked to know when we are travelling outside the country about the posters of Malayalam cinema which are exhibited outside. In how many such cases has action been taken? As suggested by Shri Jaswant Singh, the implementation is with the State Government. Only the guidelines are issued from here. The spirit of the whole question and the issue which is raised through this question is that the action is not adequate from the Government side. What action will the Government take for effectively implementing these guidelines? I also want to know in how many such cases of complaint has action been taken by the Government of India and by the State Governments?

MR. SPEAKER: What will you do to effectively implement the directions?

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Sir, we have to depend on the State Governments as far as the implementation and enforcement are concerned. But the Bill which has been introduced in the Rajya Sabha is wanting more stringent measures. If it is necessary to review and repeal the main Act, that is, the

Cinematograph Act, I am willing to be receptive to the idea. But at the moment there is no enforcement or implementing agency with the Central Government.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we, rural folks are already very worried to see the rising trend of violence and obscenity in Indian feature films and songs. A common villager becomes very sad on seeing wrong portrayal of rural culture as rural culture in our country has its glorious history. I would like to know whether the Government has contemplated any scheme to stop wrong portrayal of rural culture by the hero and heroine of films. If so, the time by which it will be implemented.

[English]

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Sir, film is a totally private affair. It is not within the control of the Government. But the sentiments of the hon. Members will be conveyed to the producers when we have the meeting in May that we must bring out our cultural heritage and especially the rural culture. We can issue directives on the guidelines, but there is no way by which we can tamper with the freedom of expression which is a fundamental right. It is the films produced by the Government which are subject to the All India Radio and Doordarshan code or the Cinematograph Act. Those in the private sector have to go through the Central Board of Film Certification. But we shall convey the sentiments of the House.

[Translation]

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV: Sir, in spite of clear-cut guidelines of Government and defined categorically by various

courts of the country obscenity is not checked. Sir, after reviewing the directions given by the Government and defining the word 'obscenity' if it could not be checked, I would like to know from the Government whether is it needed to define it again and whether the Government envisages the plan to review the matter and take action on it.

[English]

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Sir, we can certainly review it.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Sir, you are aware of the fact that on 9th of March in the name of International Women's Day, all the women here protested against this kind of thing and the House was unanimous on that. Now the Minister says that he will take some future measures for the whole thing. Before all that I would like to know whether he will ask the Television which is the media in his own hand not to televise such films of sex and violence forthwith? Yesterday itself there was a film which was full of violence.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Sir, if we have a specific instance we can certainly give directions.

[Translation]

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV: One cannot divide water with a blow of stick. We all know it that the matter to which we are calling obscence, if checked will certainly affect the way of the worldly life...(Interruptions)... You cannot check to which you are calling obscene.

[English]

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO: Sir, what is the question? I have not understood the question.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Obscenity is a part of life. Life cannot go without it.

[English]

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Sir, it is a hypothetical question. Am I competent to answer that?

[Translation]

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to amend a little bit what you have said.

MR. SPEAKER: I have said nothing I repeated what you have said.

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say that anything without which we cannot exist and which is defined in our culture in so many ways....

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This is not correct. This is not a lecture Hour; this is Question Hour.

[Translation]

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV: My humble submission was... (Interruptions)...

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This is not going on record.

(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat now.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am very much grateful to you for allowing me to ask a supplementary question. The Government has given guidelines on 6th December, 1991 regarding the control of vulgarity and obscene scenes in cinema. In the guidelines issued under No. 4, the Minister has stated two things, one for adults and the other for children below 12 years of age. I want to know whether the two things can go simultaneously and whether the Minister has experienced that children should be prevented to see a film if adult scenes are shown in that feature film. I want to know whether the Minister is considering to give one guideline both for adult films and the films for children.

MR. SPEAKER: You have to ask a question. You are lecturing to us.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: Sir, I am asking the question whether the hon. Minister is considering to give one such guideline and whether these two things can go simultaneously.

MR. SPEAKER: You are in a better position to understand his question.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Sir, the hon. Member has given some very valuable suggestions which require deep analysis.

National Highways

+

*403. **DR. ASIM BALA:**
KUMARI MAMATA
BANERJEE:

Will the Minister of **SURFACE TRANSPORT** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any special programme has been launched for the development of National Highways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds allotted for the development of National Highways during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(d) the names of the States which have not utilised the funds so far and the quantum thereof; and

(e) the total budgetary allocation for the National Highways during the current financial year, State-wise?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e). A statement, indicating the details, is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha. Broadly, most of the States have utilised the funds allocated for development of National Highways. For 1993-94, it is too early to indicate since final accounts are yet to be reconciled.

STATEMENT

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	State/U.T.	Allotment (1991-92)	Surrendered amount during 1991-92	Allotment (1992-93)	Surrendered amount during 1992-93	Allotment (1993-94)	Surrendered amount during 1993-94	Proposed Allotment (1994-95)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2455.00	—	2600.00	—	4580.00	The	3250.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	48.00	—	80.00	—	100.00	final	80.00
3.	Assam	1225.00	—	1275.00	—	1400.00	expen-	1400.00
4.	Bihar	1142.00	—	1385.00	216.9	1920.00	diture	1700.00
5.	Chandigarh	28.00	3.11	25.00	7.07	25.00	incurred	25.00
6.	Delhi	550.00	—	700.00	314.5	550.00	upto	100.00
7.	Goa	930.00	—	850.00	—	570.00	31.3.94	300.00
8.	Gujarat	4770.00	—	4650.00	862.02	6350.00	is yet	5000.00
9.	Haryana	1060.00	—	1870.00	—	3200.00	to be	4600.00
10.	Himachal Pradesh	1140.00	—	1150.00	—	1200.00	reported	1200.00
11.	J & K	50.00	26.26	50.00	6.6	40.00	by the	40.00
12.	Karnataka	1775.00	—	1880.36	32.33	2900.00	States	2450.00
13.	Kerala	1120.00	—	1400.00	—	3089.00		3100.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1850.00	—	1915.00	—	1850.00		1550.00
15.	Maharashtra	3358.00	—	3280.00	—	3080.00		2600.00
16.	Manipur	250.00	21.18	250.00	—	300.00		300.00
17.	Meghalaya	450.00	—	387.00	128.52	470.00		400.00
18.	Nagaland	48.00	33.91	50.00	—	45.00		15.00
19.	Orissa	1384.00	—	1375.00	—	1350.00		3200.00
20.	Pondicherry	120.00	—	44.64	—	50.00		50.00

Sl.State/U.T.	Allotment (1991-92)	Surrendered amount during 1991-92	Allotment (1992-93)	Surrendered amount during 1992-93	Allotment (1993-94)	Surrendered amount during 1993-94	Proposed Allotment (1994-95)
21. Punjab	2850.00	—	2800.00	—	2200.00	—	2200.00
22. Rajasthan	1800.00	—	3095.00	—	4200.00	—	4100.00
23. Tamil Nadu	1422.00	—	1600.00	—	3150.00	—	1700.00
24. Uttar Pradesh	6025.00	—	4995.00	—	4750.00	—	8300.00
25. West Bengal	1634.00	—	2230.00	—	3500.00	—	2800.00

DR. ASIM BALA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the traffic population in the country has increased by 77 times and the road length has increased by only five times during the last 40 years of our Independence. The share of the road transport sector in the country's total Plan outlay has been increasing over time and period since the First Five Year Plan outlay.

The Outlay has come down from 7.5 per cent in the First Plan to 4.7 per cent in the Seventh Plan and further it has come down to 3.7 per cent of the total outlay in the Eighth Plan.

My question is whether the Central Government will increase the fund allocation and, if so, please state specifically and inform the House immediately.

The hon. Minister has stated categorically that our State fund was decreasing in the Eighth Plan. It is an example of the policy of the Government.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: For the Eighth Plan, we had asked for the funds to be given to us to the tune of Rs. 7,703 crores, but when the Budget was presented, we got an outlay of Rs. 2,460 crores

and we have got practically over Rs. 2,400 crores for works which are on-going. I would like to inform the Members that we had asked for some more funds under the Scheme of CRF by the Hon. Speaker and had also commented on what has happened to that. I would like to inform you that I am also looking for more funds. So, we have also privatised but I have gone to the Cabinet constituted a Committee of Ministers and we are at the final stage. I hope that once that decision is taken, I will be able to get some more funds and then I will be able to allocate some more funds to the State Government.

DR. ASIM BALA: I have also come to know from the Press that the Central Government had formed a six Member Committee headed by our Commerce Minister to augment the Central Road Fund. I would like to know whether that Committee has recommended anything and, if so, what are those recommendations and whether Government has accepted or implemented those recommendations.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: I just told you. To be honest with you, I am not

aware of any Committee being formed on this. But a resolution in the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha was adopted for the enhancement of cess on petrol and diesel on which I had told you we had a Committee of Ministers formed.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: I support the views expressed by Dr. Asim Bala that more funds should be allocated to the State of West Bengal. The National Highways are important in our country. In our State, three important National Highways are there. The condition of village roads is very worse. Their condition is very horrible. I am not going to discuss village roads. But Government is spending money on National Highways. People are saying that now, instead of going to cultivate fish on the ponds, it is better to cultivate fish on the National Highway because of the deep holes on every National Highway in my State. I do not know about other States. I have visited Maharashtra and other States. They are maintaining the National Highways very well.

My question is whether Government is going to give the money, whether Government has any monitoring system and whether this money is going to be utilised for the maintenance of National Highways properly or not. You are giving the money in the month of March for the maintenance of National Highways but in the month of June, after the rainy season, every month you have to provide money to build the roads because of the middle-man, the contractor. For the money they are getting, there is no monitoring system for the Central Government. Half of the money they are giving for Party fund and 50 per cent of it they are utilising for the road. Instead of giving the best material, they are giving the bad material. Will the Hon. Minister see that the money given is properly spent?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: I would like to react to the first part of the question. It is true that in spite of quite a number of achievements in respect of roads, the network still continued to suffer because of the deficiency and we have calculated in the Ministry that at present, to cover the deficiencies, we require Rs. 52,000 crores today.

I had informed the hon. Members earlier that I am not even getting a fraction of it.

Regarding the second part of the question about monitoring of the funds which are given to the States, it is true that some cases have been brought to us saying that funds were not being properly utilised. We have created a National Highways Authority. We are very seriously considering to take the help of the States to build the roads, repair the roads directly under the National Highways Authority.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: When the National Highways Authority Bill was being discussed in this House, a number of suggestions were made. One such suggestion was that the funds allocated for the maintenance and repair of national highways should be released well in advance and not in the month of March. In spite of that suggestion, still funds are being released in the month of March, at the fag end of the financial year.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Basudeb Acharia, the time is very limited. Please come to the question.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: The National Transport Policy Committee made such a recommendation that for the repair and maintenance of the national highways, funds should be released well in advance. I would like to know whether the

Government will consider this proposal so that the State Government or the National Highways Authority which is looking into the repairs and maintenance works of the national highway is capable of repairing the highways; whether the funds will be released before the end of the financial year.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: I would like to inform the House, through you, Sir, that we have taken a decision because we have been getting complaints and queries that the funds are not being released in time. I have taken a decision on an experimental basis. I take the whole Ministry to the State Governments. As an experiment, I myself have taken my Secretary, Joint Secretary, Director (Roads), (Bridges) to Karnataka. We took the decision. We sat in front of the Chief Minister, Chief Secretary and ordered that all the funds which are available for the projects should be sanctioned; the funds which are available should be released. Now it is for the State Governments to see how quickly they release the funds, use the funds properly.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am sorry that I have a sore throat. Sir, through you I would like to know from the hon. Minister that the construction of national highway from Delhi to Agra is going on but why the construction of link road between Mathura and Jaipur via Bharatpur has not been taken up. I have written several letters to hon. Minister in this regard but have received the same reply everytime that information will be sent after inquiry into the matter. But I feel that no inquiry has been conducted so far as I have received no reply to that effect. I would like to tell the hon. Minister through you that all the trucks running between Mathura and

Jaipur are passing through Bharatpur. This road is not smooth and thus prone to accidents. So I request the hon. Minister to make provision for immediate construction of national highway from Jaipur to Mathura via Bharatpur.

[*English*]

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: I would like to inform the hon. Member that an agreement was signed with the Overseas Economic Corporation, Japan in January, 1992 for the loan amount of 4855 million yens for the project to forelaning of the Mathura-Agra section. I have no plans for the hon. Member's request as yet. Subject to the availability of funds, we can consider whether the funds must be made available to it.

L.D.P.T. System

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*405. SHRI SYED
SHAHABUDDIN:
SHRI D. VENKATESH-
WARA RAO:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made a study of the working of the long distance public telephones system in rural areas;

(b) if so, the main findings and conclusions thereof;

(c) whether the Multi-Access Rural Radio System has been found functioning satisfactorily in the rural areas;

(d) the proposed outlay on providing telephone connections to all gram panchayats and many villages during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(e) the number of panchayat villages and other villages covered by March 31, 1994 and the villages which remain uncovered; and

(f) the total expenditure incurred so far under the scheme with break-up by capital investment and recurring expenses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The Government has not made any detailed study in this respect. However, a sample study on the working of Multi-Access Rural Radio Systems was carried out by the Economic Research Unit of the Department.

(b) The main findings of sample study by Economic Research Unit are listed in the attached Statement.

(c) The performance of some of the older generation of Multi-Access Rural Radio Systems working in rural areas has not been fully satisfactory.

(d) An outlay of Rs. 4050 crores has been provided in Eighth Five Year Plan for connecting all Gram Panchayats and additionally 1.5 lakh villages.

(e) (i) Panchayat villages covered	1,31,245
(ii) No. of other villages covered	8,079
(iii) Villages remaining uncovered	4,41,378

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

STATEMENT

The main findings of the study are:

- (i) Technical snag in the equipment supplied, resulting in break down of the system or in erratic performance.
- (ii) Inadequate organisational/infrastructural support resulting in poor maintenance of the system.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the sample survey, the sample study on the working of the Multi-Access Rural Radio Systems carried out by the Economic Research Unit of the Department itself has revealed technical snags, erratic performance, break-down of the system, inadequate organisation, inadequate infrastructural support and poor maintenance. I really wonder what more it could say! Therefore, my question to the hon. Minister is this. I would like to know when the sample survey has exposed such basic defects and lacuna why he has not ordered a detailed study. That is my first question. I would like to know whether he is going to have a study, a detailed study very soon.

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: This MARR System is based on 2/15 Equipment and it is a wireless system which works on Very High Frequency (VHF). Only two companies were manufacturing this initially. One is MACE in Andhra Pradesh and the other is ARM, Hyderabad.

MR. SPEAKER: The simple question is, it is not working properly. Would you inquire into it in more detail? That is the question.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: I would like to know whether you are going to have a detailed study. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: As already mentioned in the reply, the sets produced by MACE have been found to be defective. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: It is in a mess.

SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: They have been asked to come up with the latest model. They have already submitted the samples and they have been approved. The other one is working well. Wherever MACE product has been installed, there have been complaints and they are being looked into. In fact, after the submission of the report, it has been decided to test centrally from the base station all the faults that are detected and recorded in the parent exchange. It has been proposed to evolve the practice of group maintenance for rectification of these faults. This group maintenance will be headed by a JTO and assisted by a number of telephone mechanics. It has also been proposed to provide stamped cards to agents duly addressed to the Incharge, Maintenance of these telephones. They are able to inform the Incharge of Faults by using cards through post. The idea is to have a team of technically qualified people to look after these telephones in a central place as the PT's. They are spread over in a number of villages. From the base exchange, connections are given to ten to twelve villages. At the base exchange, a team of officers will be kept ready to go to the village with transport from wherever any complaint is received.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: This is not done.

SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: It has to be done. It is supposed to be done.

Secondly, the person incharge of telephones in rural areas is also given some cards which are pre-paid so that he can post the card to the base station on receiving the complaint and the person incharge can proceed to the village. Some of our villages are in very remote areas and are very far off, even twenty to thirty kilometres away from the base station. They have to go there and repair the phones and come back. Efforts are being made. I am aware of the faults particularly in the rural telephone sector. We are trying to rectify this.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: It appears that after the sample study, the Minister has moved to corrective action and, therefore, perhaps, he does not consider that a detailed survey is necessary. My second Supplementary is that under the Eighth Five Year Plan, of which two years have already passed, we had a target to connect all gram panchayats and additionally 1.5 lakh villages. Now from a rough calculation that I have made, it appears that as of now only two out of nine designated villages have been connected.

We know how badly they have been connected. My question is that even assuming that at the beginning of the Eighth Five Year Plan not a single village was connected, two out of nine villages having been connected in three years, can the Minister assure us that in the two years that remain he will be able to cover seven out of nine villages which remain to be connected?

MR. SPEAKER: The numbers are a little confusing.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: They are not confusing, Sir; they are very clear.

MR. SPEAKER: Let us go to the exact number of villages.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: I will make it clear; please give me half a minute, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: That is all right, the Minister will give the reply.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: It is very clear.

SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: Sir, there are 5,80,702 villages in our country as per 1991 Census. Out of this, 1,39,324 villages have been covered with telephone facilities. Some of them are panchayat villages, some of them are non-panchayat villages. All the 2,36,218 panchayat villages are expected to be covered by 1995. But due to paucity of funds and due to lack of equipment this programme is likely to spill over to next year also, upto 1996.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: By how much? Will he cover even half of the villages?

MR. SPEAKER: He said paucity of funds is one of the reasons for this.

SHRY SHED SHAHABUDDIN: Whatever be his reasons, he should admit that he is not able to connect all the villages and that he shall not be able to meet plan target.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Sir, it seems even the well intentioned Minister is merely complicating the problem. He says that if there is any trouble at telephoning, they can inform via the post office. If it is to be

informed via the post office, the information may never reach them. There is a kind of practice that in the urban areas or elsewhere, the VIP telephones are contacted everyday in the morning to find out whether the telephone is in order. Will it be possible for the department to do so in respect of all the panchayat headquarters? That is part A of my question. The second is, is it possible to say, despite the quality of the technology introduced in these panchayat villages, that any difficulty which is noted would be cured within a fixed period of time as it is sometimes promised in different metros of the country? If so, by which time he proposes to correct this?

SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the suggestion given by the hon. Membe is very good and probably, we could pass it on to the level down below.

MR. SPEAKER: Please read it as "that many VIPs living in all the villages."

SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: Even if there is no VIP, there is absolutely no difficulty in contacting the panchayat telephone, once in a while, to find out whether it is working or not.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: They should contact the telephone at the panchayat headquarters everyday to find out whether it is working or not.

MR. SPEAKER: He is on a different thing; this question is totally on a different issue.

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN: I am again on the question of equipment. With regard to this 2/15 multiple-access radio equipment, the Minister has agreed that the first design of MACE has been

found faulty. I would like to ask whether there has been a design snag and if so whether rectification has been carried out or if the basic equipment cannot be rectified, will he order replacement of all the sets manufactured by MACE of Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: Sir, we have requested MACE to come up with new equipment. They have already come up with new equipment and that has been tested and found suitable. As regards the units already supplied in the first phase, they have agreed to repair those units; some of them have been repaired. If they cannot be repaired, they will be replaced.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in respect of the figures given and functioning of MARR system in rural areas, I would like to know from the hon. Minister that whether he is in a position to conduct an inquiry into this matter by some impartial agency other than his department. Telephones are really not working in that area.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in respect of the figures given and functioning of MARR system in rural areas, I would like to know from the hon. Minister that whether he is in a position to conduct an inquiry into this matter by some impartial agency other than his department. Telephones are really not working in that area. Sometimes the battery is not available and sometimes other equipments are not available with them. This reveals the hollowness of his statement that telephones are working in every village. Only installation of poles will not work. I would like to know from the hon. Minister that whether the telephones installed in rural areas are really in

working condition. Put aside the matter of rural areas but in metropolitan cities like Bareilly, after several assurances to set up a telephone Exchange having the capacity of ten thousand lines has not yet installed. If you wish to install telephones in rural areas but the machines installed in cities will not function then how one will be able to send information at district centres. I would like to know from the hon. Minister that will he make this telephone system running smoothly.

[English]

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: Sir, regarding the first question, we have already given an assurance that action will be taken to repair these telephones. But if the hon. Member has any specific instance where only towers have been put up without installing the equipment, we will definitely get the phone installed.

DR. R. MALLU: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to from the hon. Minister what are the guidelines for selecting the villages for giving radio telephones.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member wants to know what are the guidelines.

DR. R. MALLU: I have been given to understand that in my constituency villages adjacent to the national highway have been provided with these telephones instead of the remote villages.

MR. SPEAKER: You have asked the question. Please sit down now and get the reply.

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: Sir, the criterion is that they should be sensitive border areas, tribal and hilly areas and industrial growth centres.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NIHOR RAI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, today telephone system is being developed for villages in the country. I would like to tell that I had been a member of Parliament since 1991. Telephone installed at my house is still out of order. I have written several times for it. It is said that telephones of VIPs are repaired immediately but I would like to say that after a long correspondence with the officials of the department my telephone is still out of order. They have several excuses like battery is not available with them or sometimes some other equipment is not available. I request the hon. Minister to conduct an inquiry into the case of telephone installation in the cities of Mirzapur, Sonbhadra and Banaras etc. in Uttar Pradesh. Inquiry should be conducted by some private agency or someone other than a person of Telephone Department to find out that why my telephone or telephones in the area are not working. I would like to say that inquiry should be conducted in my case.

[English]

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have noted the complaint of the hon. Member.

MR. SPEAKER: That is all right; you have replied to him.

[Translation]

SHRI LAXMI NARAIN MANI TRIPATHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, telephones are being installed in rural areas but reality is that you do not have skilled persons to repair them. At one place there is single person for this work and at another place there may be ten and thus most of the telephones are not in working condition. I would like to know from the

hon. Minister as to whether he is planning to double the number of skilled persons for repairing telephones in those districts where these are lying out of order for a long period. And if it is so then by what time it will be done?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Do you have enough manpower for this purpose?

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: We do not have enough manpower for this purpose.

MR. SPEAKER: If you do not have, what will you do to have it?

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: We are trying to increase the staff strength wherever necessary.

Cochin Shipyard

*407. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ships built annually in Cochin Shipyard;

(b) whether the ship-building activity in the Shipyard has come to a halt since 1992;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to resume the ship-building activity in the Shipyard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (d). A *Statement* is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) The Cochin Shipyard Limited has been building, on an average, one ship of 75000/86000 DWT capacity once in two years;

(b) and (c) Cochin Shipyard Limited had an order for three 86000 DWT crude oil tankers from Shipping Corporation of India (SCI). The first tanker was delivered in Oct. '90 and the second in Oct. '92. The revised price for the 3rd tanker has been provisionally fixed at Rs. 163.50 crores as agreed to between Cochin Shipyard Limited and Shipping Corporation of India. A proposal based on the revised price is being submitted for consideration of the Government.

(d) The following steps have been taken/are under consideration for resuming shipbuilding activity in the shipyard;

- (i) Upward revision of the price of the 3rd tanker (Hull No. 009) is under consideration.
- (ii) Capital restructuring of Cochin Shipyard Limited has been approved and orders issued on 24.3.94. This involve conversion of loans amounting to Rs. 119.14 crores into 7% non-cumulative preference shares, conversion of accumulated interest at normal rate amounting to Rs. 136.35 crores into interest-free loans etc.
- (iii) A package of reliefs to shipbuilding industry has been announced on 8.9.93 giving a revised pricing policy, soft financing for acquisition of ships from Public Sector Yards etc.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: The statement is quite lengthy. The reply to the

shipyard is deplorable, the statement also I do not say is deplorable, but it has not given the full factual position of the state of affairs of the shipyard. It is not clear from the statement that the shipyard is a sick industry. I would like to know from the hon. Minister what is the accumulated loss over the years to this shipyard and whether the Government has conducted any study on the basic reasons for this shipyard and the shipping industry being sick. Not only this particular shipyard, the whole shipping industry is not picking up when this industry is very vital for our economic development.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: I would like to correct the hon. Member. The shipyard is not in a bad shape. Maybe, it was in a bad shape two years ago; but it is not now. Two years ago, I remember, the hon. Member had asked the question when the shipyard was practically closing down. Today it has shown after a long time, profit and the shipyard is bubbling with a lot of orders. I would like to inform the hon. Member that the Tanker 009 for the Shipping Corporation of India with a double hull and 86,000 deadweight tonnes, an order has been there. One tug for Tuticurin Port of 32 tonnes is there. Two tugs for New Mangalore Port, both of 32 tonnes are there. Also it has gone in a big way into the ship repairing. I would like to inform the Member that it is the workers and the management who have put in a lot of efforts in the last two years and the shipyard is in a working condition. I do not want them to be demoralised by saying that things are in a bad shape. No doubt, the shipyard had been in a very poor shape.

The capital restructuring has been done. It has been cleared by the Cabinet. I would like to inform the hon. Member that the accumulated interest at the normal rate of Rs. 136.35 crore was there net of net subsidy of Rs. 37.56 crore up to 31st March 1993. This will be converted

into interest-free loan to be repaid in ten equal instalments from 6th year onwards, that is 1.4.1998. We have also conversion of loan sanctioned up to 31.03.1993 amounting to Rs. 119.14 crore into 7% non-cumulative preference shares. Loans to be taken in future will be repaid with interest as per stipulations contained in the sanction order. Waiver of the penal interest amounting to Rs. 38.65 crore has already been allowed. 7% non-cumulative preference shares will be redeemed progressively after the interest-free loans are paid. So this is the capital restructuring we have done at the Cochin Shipyard.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: He has not answered my basic question. My basic question was what was the accumulated loss over the years. I asked what are the basic reasons for this accumulated loss. Of course, he has explained the capital restructuring. That is all good. That is only readjustment of loans and repayment of interest and all. That is all peripheral. But there is some basic disease because of which this industry has become sick. I would like to know what are the basic reasons for this sickness and what is the accumulated loss over the years.

I am happy that this shipyard is recovering and I congratulate the Minister on that. What has happened to the 3rd tanker? There are orders, but the hon. Minister did not say whether these orders are being executed, whether actually ship building activity is going on and whether the three orders they got have been implemented in time by constructing the ships according to the specification. These questions are not answered.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: The first thing I answered was that third order has been given for a tanker which is 009 by the Shipping Corporation of India with a double hull and capacity of 86,000 dead-weight tonnes. There have been reasons

which the hon. Member has been asking for the poor performance and the condition where the shipyard had been. There has been delay in completing facilities which were far beyond the date envisaged, the problem of delays in respect of material which was imported, frequent and prolonged power-cuts and layoffs during the period there was a total power-cut, low productivity levels, lack of orders because nobody was wanting to give orders. Even the third order which the Shipping Corporation today has given, they had withdrawn this once. Only after we negotiated the price, the third order has been given to the shipyard.

12.00 hrs.

There was a financial constraint. Smoother flow of fund was not coming. So, these are the reasons for the poor performance of the shipyard. The accumulated loss about which the hon. Member wanted to know, is Rs. 188.97 crore.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*Translation*]

GSI Survey

*402. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Geological Survey of India has conducted any survey to identify deposits of minerals in Bihar recently;

(b) if so, the areas surveyed in the State; and

(c) the details of various mineral deposits identified?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Geological Survey of India (GSI) is carrying out regional exploration for coal in Rajmahal, Auranga, South Karanpura and East Bokaro Coalfields, for copperlead-zinc in Hasatu-Belbethan belt in Banka, Deoghar and Jamui district and Singhbhum Copper belt in Singhbhum district, for gold in Dalma Volcanic belt, Dhanjori Basin in Singhbhum and Ranchi districts and for Apatite and Rare Earth Elements in Ranchi district, Bihar.

CNN Agreement with Doordarshan

*404. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY:
SHRI SANAT KUMAR
MANDAL:

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

(a) whether the Cable News Network (CNN) has offered entertainment programmes from its repertoire to Delhi Doordarshan on commercial basis;

(b) if so, whether the top executive of CNN recently visited India and held discussions with the Government for joint ventures;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the terms and conditions laid down for such joint ventures; and

(d) the advantage likely to accrue to India from this arrangement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Entertainment programmes are regularly received from various quarters

by Doordarshan for telecast. One such offer for supply of entertainment programmes has been received from CNN also.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). Doordarshan buys foreign programmes including entertainment programmes keeping in view its programme requirement, at a negotiated price, from time to time.

[English]

Non-Energy Minerals

*406. DR. RAJAGOPALAN SRIDHARAN: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of non-energy minerals exploited by domestic and foreign firms during the last three years State and Union-Territory-wise;

(b) the total quantity and value of these minerals mined annually during 1991-92 and 1992-93 State-wise;

(c) the royalty received by the Government annually in 1991-92 and 1992-93;

(d) the countries to which these minerals were exported during the last three years; and

(e) the quantity exported and the foreign exchange earned therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b). A *Statement* is laid on the Table of the House.

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

STATEMENT

Production of Major Metallic and non-metallic minerals, State-wise during 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93

(Source : Indian Bureau of Mines)

Mineral/ State	Unit of Qty.	1990-91		1991-92		1992-93	
		Value (in Rs.)	Qty.	Value (in Rs.)	Qty.	Value (in Rs.)	Qty.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Metallic Minerals							
<i>Bauxite</i>							
Bihar	Tonnes	61355	874797	91897	1084268	99667	1109529
Goa	Tonnes	410	14475	1362	34111	2049	45190
Gujarat	Tonnes	62622	856350	92313	815299	67980	575517
Karnataka	Tonnes	5496	57944	1574	18884	1373	13178
Madhya Pradesh	Tonnes	94101	583823	108795	528438	114636	488472
Maharashtra	Tonnes	44263	543034	52104	566368	50956	551060
Orissa	Tonnes	330064	1912114	346767	1866851	406022	2277861
Tamil Nadu	Tonnes	9104	141944	6164	98806	2448	42207
<i>Chromite</i>							
Andhra Pradesh	Tonnes	260	284	326	507	391	438
Karnataka	Tonnes	25058	46478	31027	38420	32051	37262
Manipur *	Tonnes	114	130	42	64	95	158
Orissa	Tonnes	1532864	892705	2025549	1043078	2016082	1031454
<i>Copper Ore</i>							
Bihar	Tonnes	681898	1245862	756752	1187860	849709	1328067
Karnataka	Tonnes	31280	100925	34439	106591	30242	93865
Madhya Pradesh	Tonnes	441832	2081460	638751	2050761	641703	2060239
Orissa@	Tonnes	4417	1227	4046	1124	3240	900
Rajasthan*	Tonnes	535552	1825239	741766	1860140	683651	1727295
Sikkim%	Tonnes	4691	408	5137	436	5078	431

@ Relates to copper concentrates.

* Includes production of copper concentrates reported by Hindustan Zinc Ltd. Rajpura Derabari mine i.e. 1990-91 - 443 tonnes valued at Rs. 1595000, 1991-92 - 108 tonnes valued at Rs. 389000 and 1991-92 - 1610 tonnes valued at Rs. 5796000.

% Relates to copper concentrates.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<i>Gold</i>							
Andhra Pradesh	Kg.	206691	292	213832	280	231857	304
Bihar †	Kg.	50006	192	91267	284	105816	291
Karnataka%	Kg.	544003	1521	544621	1477	472170	1245
<i>Iron Ore</i>							
Andhra Pradesh	000 t	8316	184	9191	157	6755	149
Bihar	000 t	835196	8352	1007414	10049	1095193	9902
Goa	000 t	968181	13318	1074929	13286	1304620	12615
Haryana	000 t	247	3	716	8	1384	15
Karnataka	000 t	1742142	12342	2380988	12360	1703296	11043
Madhya Pradesh	000 t	1562309	12346	1859277	13826	2051737	14176
Maharashtra	000 t	38427	645	15975	260	3888	43
Orissa	000 t	715913	8367	899258	8554	966510	7846
Rajasthan	000 t	2436	34	2611	34	1790	29
<i>Manganese Ore</i>							
Andhra Pradesh	Tonnes	7753	46994	15725	63415	20125	76414
Bihar	Tonnes	3703	23526	3208	16821	5466	22960
Goa	Tonnes	9397	27293	11280	31824	5075	19279
Karnataka	Tonnes	208999	345245	257637	35094	309489	394723
Madhya Pradesh	Tonnes	179682	267542	245763	285910	402731	353048
Maharashtra	Tonnes	161462	275644	245572	303700	333689	335222
Orissa	Tonnes	181383	505486	259381	587100	311486	668737
<i>Lead concentrates</i>							
Andhra Pradesh	Tonnes	40570	3675	43296	3437	45213	4096
Orissa	Tonnes	95025	8467	102626	8392	96150	7836
Rajasthan	Tonnes	237173	32005	266085	41306	351504	48652
Sikkim	Tonnes	149	90	215	120	174	120

† Gold is recovered as by-product from copper slime.

% Includes gold recovered from ore obtained to prospecting and exploratory operations.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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*Tungsten**Concentrates*

Rajasthan	Kg.	3863	20881	1422	7755	671	3696
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*Tin**Concentrates*

Madhya Pradesh	Kg.	11070	156998	2421	107011	3720	62067
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Orissa	Kg.	1110	17073	525	8074	232	3570
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Silver

Andhra Pradesh**	Kg.	74528	11074	101000	13931	34119	5113
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Bihar%	Kg.	100030	14856	122914	17133	106395	15610
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Karnataka@	Kg.	744	140	719	135	667	127
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Rajasthan*	Kg.	60109	8912	31298	4317	171563	25710
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Non-Metallic Minerals*Agate*

Gujarat	Tonnes	211	589	251	616	245	601
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Apatite

Andhra Pradesh	Tonnes	2668	2938	2442	2571	2027	2485
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West Bengal	Tonnes	1405	12863	1555	14424	4142	14442
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Zinc

Concentrates **It is recovered from Vizag Zinc Smelter from lead concentrates produced in Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan.

Rajasthan %In Dhanbad District it is recovered at Tundoo Lead Smelter of H.Z.L. from lead concentrates produced in Rajasthan. In Singhbhum Dist. it is recovered at Moubandar smelter of HCL from copper Slime.

@It is recovered during refining of gold.

*In Udaipur (Rajasthan) it is recovered at Derabari Zinc Smelter of H.Z.L. from Zinc concentrates produced in Rajasthan and in Jhunjhunu district is received from HCL against shipment of anode slime abroad from Khetri Copper Complex for tou-smelting.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<i>Phosphorite</i>							
Madhya Pradesh	Tonnes	99540	141952	95739	135837	32718	61127
Rajasthan	Tonnes	391661	372112	435645	300432	53070	447314
Uttar Pradesh	Tonnes	45875	153557	59768	149606	47884	108980
<i>Bapytes</i>							
Andhra Pradesh	Tonnes	198205	299659	224522	627223	100861	366093
Himachal Pradesh	Tonnes	182	1512	112	935	129	1063
Madhya Pradesh	Tonnes	8	280	3	23	8	39
Rajasthan	Tonnes	4139	7942	3165	6968	2636	4901
<i>Asbestos</i>							
Andhra Pradesh	Tonnes	12992	1399	15953	1550	16552	1379
Karnataka	Tonnes	3	59	3	59	2	41
Rajasthan	Tonnes	3595	36181	4023	37831	4287	42368
<i>Ballalay</i>							
Andhra Pradesh	Tonnes	6102	80812	6118	70066	6768	64748
Gujarat	Tonnes	15	401	9	106	1	5
Rajasthan	Tonnes	18041	209863	20335	237330	13179	186975
Tamil Nadu	Tonnes	23	150	75	500	—	—
<i>Calcite</i>							
Andhra Pradesh	Tonnes	68	937	10	243	28	489
Madhya Pradesh	Tonnes	369	4051	94	1302	65	405
Rajasthan	Tonnes	13422	65416	16663	86731	11907	61700
<i>Chalk</i>							
Gujarat	Tonnes	25664	132311	25292	137189	19681	97460
Rajasthan	Tonnes	4	28	6	37	6	35

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<i>Clay</i>							
Andhra Pradesh	Tonnes	564	20112	811	25459	737	20298
Gujarat	Tonnes	221	18420	272	22639	283	28279
Madhya Pradesh	Tonnes	39	1290	26	862	8	287
West Bengal	Tonnes	55	2727	27	1370	24	1195
<i>Corundum</i>							
Andhra Pradesh	Kg.	52	1782	54	16705	24	6144
Karnataka	Kg.	13	16900	8	10000	2	3300
Madhya Pradesh	Kg.	962	331	1603	405	1895	519
Maharashtra	Kg.	295	162515	29	16460	18	10000
Rajasthan	Kg.	5	1130	3	615	—	—
<i>Diamond</i>							
Madhya Pradesh	Carat	62075	17976	107866	18213	83794	18752
<i>Diaspore</i>							
Madhya Pradesh	Tonnes	3273	6571	4243	8147	3451	5894
Uttar Pradesh	Tonnes	878	1718	3360	5605	4867	6978
<i>Dolomite</i>							
Andhra Pradesh	Tonnes	19102	64310	32917	115785	36453	123873
Bihar	Tonnes	19470	116393	24935	149061	30687	184247
Gujarat	Tonnes	19447	442520	19628	362817	13728	302763
Karnataka	Tonnes	194	4742	257	5965	367	4232
Madhya Pradesh	Tonnes	73245	633815	93816	815991	100102	704621
Maharashtra	Tonnes	2667	27699	2833	23945	2733	24343
Orissa	Tonnes	137157	1216125	152163	1308403	223213	1566288

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Rajasthan	Tonnes	238	4019	218	2796	52	517
Uttar Pradesh	Tonnes	2435	51522	3918	56321	3337	39171
West Bengal	Tonnes	4721	86777	5713	91074	6530	101135
<i>Emerald</i>							
Rajasthan	Kg.	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Felspar</i>							
Andhra Pradesh	Tonnes	2416	25921	2487	26521	2138	22361
Bihar	Tonnes	378	3636	345	3226	361	4975
Gujarat	Tonnes	3	++	3	++	1	++
Rajasthan	Tonnes	2229	34507	2263	31350	2890	41951
Tamil Nadu	Tonnes	1888	9064	1677	8320	593	2691
<i>Fireclay</i>							
Andhra Pradesh	Tonnes	1666	19960	1775	21151	1628	21445
Bihar	Tonnes	2205	35536	3156	49506	3610	53089
Gujarat	Tonnes	2244	127466	3091	132795	1937	77372
Karnataka	Tonnes	1173	5411	703	4870	943	4047
Madhya Pradesh	Tonnes	2506	60384	2210	53096	1062	43536
Maharashtra	Tonnes	302	5566	332	6220	332	6836
Orissa	Tonnes	13497	71364	16968	77767	14034	80680
Rajasthan	Tonnes	7833	82475	6155	62260	4822	59159
Tamil Nadu	Tonnes	2118	80541	1950	65912	1292	39436
West Bengal	Tonnes	2199	47718	3044	57878	2522	53137
<i>Felsite</i>							
Karnataka	Tonnes	688	1023	633	1004	593	999

++ Negligible

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<i>Fluorite (graded)</i>							
Gujarat	Tonnes	152	30	495	98	222	60
Maharashtra	Tonnes	2444	3491	675	659	272	388
Rajasthan	Tonnes	10216	3902	7287	2937	7302	2371
<i>Fluorite concentrates (Total)</i>							
Gujarat	Tonnes	116356	25045	111095	23454	95784	19598
<i>Garnet (abrasive)</i>							
Andhra Pradesh	Tonnes	83	267	134	399	59	189
Rajasthan	Tonnes	105	341	61	133	65	242
Tamil Nadu	Tonnes	4929	26638	3359	15017	4709	22605
Garnet (gem)	Kg.	90	1639	89	1206	32	543
<i>Graphite (R.O.M.)</i>							
Andhra Pradesh	Tonnes	234	677	105	290	40	114
Bihar	Tonnes	1246	7978	1113	5651	1606	8020
Orissa	Tonnes	15912	51759	22108	67656	17953	57706
Tamil Nadu	Tonnes	1010	3365	963	3210	890	2579
<i>Gypsum</i>							
Gujarat	Tonnes	349	2788	671	5308	80	621
J and K	Tonnes	941	13744	1033	14125	2105	18212
Rajasthan	Tonnes	138881	1524624	155545	1503264	192357	1561562
Tamil Nadu	Tonnes	3816	40797	5505	53717	4971	42321
Uttar Pradesh	Tonnes	626	7074	520	5779	318	3521
<i>Jasper</i>							
Rajasthan	Tonnes	843	5018	687	4908	595	4337
<i>Kaolin (Total)</i>							
Andhra Pradesh	Tonnes	3313	51272	3199	50420	3195	53454

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Bihar	Tonnes	13933	37887	14418	38843	13998	29554
Gujarat	Tonnes	9637	66770	10103	58925	12390	58004
Haryana	Tonnes	1401	19633	2074	28725	4433	47164
Karnataka	Tonnes	864	6263	1069	7192	2381	9598
Kerala	Tonnes	95028	91348	109915	102775	198153	111502
Madhya Pradesh	Tonnes	1196	27483	1500	28983	987	21967
Maharashtra	Tonnes	94	2519	167	4211	218	3984
Orissa	Tonnes	2971	17442	2926	16268	2491	15312
Rajasthan	Tonnes	6881	217960	8520	265686	6622	153559
Tamil Nadu	Tonnes	284	2985	68	715	145	1160
West Bengal	Tonnes	19350	122336	23155	120179	16800	103630
Delhi	Tonnes	3064	59754	4855	76320	2701	40168
<i>Kyanite</i>							
Bihar	Tonnes	28524	21155	10707	10116	4946	5374
Karnataka	Tonnes	56	555	54	540	158	700
Maharashtra	Tonnes	8529	14868	6109	9118	1887	3632
Rajasthan	Tonnes	34	172	27	134	37	185
<i>Sillimanite</i>							
Kerala	Tonnes	11719	7787	10367	7150	14897	10274
Maharashtra	Tonnes	1988	1894	4732	4542	9909	9333
Meghalaya	Tonnes	9216	2244	7187	1649	2740	620
Orissa	Tonnes	1495	996	722	336	—	—
<i>Laterite</i>							
Andhra Pradesh	Tonnes	3141	157882	4453	168741	5642	173852
Gujarat	Tonnes	38	851	16	284	49	1107
Madhya Pradesh	Tonnes	1012	82096	1061	71591	1429	63114
Maharashtra	Tonnes	7603	84967	11356	141543	9292	116795

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Rajasthan	Tonnes	1042	56593	1774	96547	1694	96635
Tamil Nadu	Tonnes	64	4404	117	8045	231	9999
<i>Limestone</i>							
Andhra Pradesh	000 t	660377	12589	757285	13837	663733	13959
Arunachal Pradesh	000 t	74	3	71	3	41	1
Assam	000 t	21012	264	19019	236	15883	188
Bihar	000 t	226544	1402	289051	1429	240481	1303
Gujarat	000 t	291022	7828	335470	7631	280127	7358
Haryana	000 t	50593	624	49792	582	44700	552
Himachal Pradesh	000 t	84169	1549	112242	1573	74520	1545
J and K	000 t	3629	93	4654	106	4331	98
Karnataka	000 t	257183	4234	359961	6933	367866	7012
Kerala	000 t	60366	380	51286	323	50298	423
Madhya Pradesh	000 t	976860	18413	1360543	20674	1314571	20636
Maharashtra	000 t	196850	5135	257113	5907	229618	5580
Meghalaya	000 t	22184	271	18951	232	10450	164
Orissa	000 t	342271	2186	325294	2089	301361	2005
Rajasthan	000 t	384563	7312	568342	8256	557369	8362
Tamil Nadu	000 t	432339	5770	525247	6329	471809	6345
Uttar Pradesh	000 t	121826	1072	145441	1038	136462	1081
West Bengal	000 t	8	—	84	2	86	5

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<i>Limkankar</i>							
Andhra Pradesh	Tonnes	1437	25560	3027	52514	2404	43755
Haryana	Tonnes	868	36223	2331	72714	526	15520
<i>Limeshell</i>							
Andhra Pradesh	Tonnes	1000	6656	474	3838	128	1588
Karnataka	Tonnes	4717	49371	6344	59492	4019	35873
Kerala	Tonnes	13635	67415	10557	54768	13628	62089
Tamil Nadu	Tonnes	502	2906	179	984	116	484
<i>Calcareous sand</i>							
Gujarat	Tonnes	13858	199379	8422	121174	5774	83069
<i>Magnesite</i>							
J and K	Tonnes	205	1024	370	2010	51	278
Karnataka	Tonnes	20898	36045	25335	39827	25057	38929
Tamil Nadu	Tonnes	246439	411897	254347	403279	274606	430321
Uttar Pradesh	Tonnes	30736	79695	37632	85444	42184	100222
<i>Mica (crude)*</i>							
Andhra Pradesh	Tonnes	12461	1611	12423	1409	11005	1166
Bihar	Tonnes	15032	1944	15197	1887	7195	1176
Rajasthan	Tonnes	4558	527	2755	297	3	3
<i>Mica (waste & scrap)</i>							
Andhra Pradesh	Tonnes	NA	640	NA	624	NA	494
Bihar	Tonnes	NA	988	NA	680	NA	550
Rajasthan	Tonnes	NA	1738	NA	1060	NA	446
<i>Ochre</i>							
Andhra Pradesh	Tonnes	308	5946	543	10614	436	7679

*Includes mine waste and waste obtained while dressing of crude mica at mine site.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Bihar	Tonnes	32	376	15	167	6	90
Gujarat	Tonnes	81	1053	140	1452	153	2283
Karnataka	Tonnes	1305	19130	1410	21584	713	12288
Madhya Pradesh	Tonnes	1496	23857	2202	31120	1973	31669
Maharashtra	Tonnes	63	1793	119	2766	82	1702
Rajasthan	Tonnes	1303	67963	3905	58390	4486	69555
<i>Pyrites</i>							
Bihar	Tonnes	42207	105518	56833	130650	56691	130325
<i>Pyrophyllite</i>							
Madhya Pradesh	Tonnes	8765	37227	4173	42458	3476	32338
Maharashtra	Tonnes	317	1681	802	4266	1087	5943
Orissa	Tonnes	1794	16838	2132	19247	2180	17294
Rajasthan	Tonnes	1237	11189	1108	11023	501	7057
Uttar Pradesh	Tonnes	2151	15470	2009	14571	1269	16804
<i>Quartz</i>							
Andhra Pradesh	Tonnes	4780	72435	4270	66604	4999	72411
Bihar	Tonnes	280	3502	98	953	212	2633
Gujarat	Tonnes	83	3252	86	3019	2	91
Karnataka	Tonnes	5701	57766	5892	41840	7508	43884
Madhya Pradesh	Tonnes	—	—	Negligible	6	74	1837
Maharashtra	Tonnes	305	4925	316	4984	131	6069
Rajasthan	Tonnes	2812	54474	2718	49311	3452	59648
Tamil Nadu	Tonnes	3624	16788	5066	24831	1860	9742
<i>Silica sand</i>							
Andhra Pradesh	Tonnes	1868	75536	2368	94148	2275	69041
Bihar	Tonnes	10608	69567	10389	79674	10824	73458

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Gujarat	Tonnes	2004	71607	2290	67309	1607	37117
Haryana	Tonnes	20366	528558	16703	482512	14318	279736
Karnataka	Tonnes	4338	123930	5912	125809	3864	81863
Kerala	Tonnes	3962	70936	4721	77027	4434	65521
Madhya Pradesh	Tonnes	491	8307	759	6941	865	8437
Maharashtra	Tonnes	8717	196805	11025	246154	7254	160390
Rajasthan	Tonnes	15943	207117	17870	221815	16466	189846
Tamil Nadu	Tonnes	174	359	215	5380	20	55
Uttar Pradesh	Tonnes	5266	104352	5007	90887	4006	65546
<i>Salt (rock)</i>							
Himachal Pradesh	000 t	1740	3000	1941	3130	1751	2902
<i>Shale</i>							
Andhra Pradesh	Tonnes	1929	54391	1450	40851	2600	73259
Karnataka	Tonnes	5732	244638	2790	120870	2867	124220
Maharashtra	Tonnes	59	11860	211	35120	176	29272
<i>Slate</i>							
Andhra Pradesh	Tonnes	90	1006	103	1046	77	784
Haryana	Tonnes	4650	5279	4245	4347	5791	6379
Madhya Pradesh	Tonnes	1622	18765	1998	15989	854	6850
<i>Steatite</i>							
Andhra Pradesh	Tonnes	2643	20312	3756	25007	2803	23330
Bihar	Tonnes	260	4313	296	4812	214	3600
Gujarat	Tonnes	20	515	21	591	22	445
Karnataka	Tonnes	87	1527	63	1020	38	492
Madhya Pradesh	Tonnes	49	974	121	2294	95	1792
Orissa	Tonnes	145	1654	395	3609	161	1781

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Rajasthan	Tonnes	112326	382495	118440	377240	103371	318858
Tamil Nadu	Tonnes	225	4225	145	2073	153	2905
Uttar Pradesh	Tonnes	2116	15272	6029	35242	4729	28489
<i>Sulphur*</i>							
Haryana	Tonnes	11180	3310	14522	3662	13166	4558
Punjab	Tonnes	16104	4809	29248	7540	26003	8148
Uttar Pradesh	Tonnes	6990	2417	9179	3016	5732	1875
<i>Vermiculite</i>							
Andhra Pradesh	Tonnes	131	739	225	896	83	339
Gujarat	Tonnes	22	80	40	144	47	167
Tamil Nadu	Tonnes	796	865	928	761	1059	868
Wollastonite	Tonnes	21398	59722	31492	62493	28680	55461

*Obtained as by-product from fertilizer plant.

[Translation]

Production and Prices of Minerals

*408 SHRI RAJESH KUMAR:
SHRIMATI SHEELA
GAUTAM:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of reserves of metallic and non-metallic minerals and the production thereof during 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94, State-wise;

(b) whether market prices of miner-

als have increased over the last five years; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) A *Statement* is laid on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c). Market prices of different metals and in turn of minerals are influenced substantially by the price trends in the International market. Therefore, as in case of other commodities the prices have gone up during this period for most of the minerals; those of some others would have come down in response to the trend in the international market.

STATEMENT
Recoverable Reserves and mineral production of important minerals during 1991-94

Name of the mineral	Recoverable Reserves		Total recoverable reserves	Unit	Production		
	Name of the State	Unit			1991-92 quantity	1992-93 quantity	Apr. 93- Jan. 94 quantity
1. Chromite	Orissa	thou. tonnes.	86,391	Tonnes	1082069	1069603	797096
	Karnataka		846				
	Maharashtra		472				
	Others		641				
2. Iron Ore	Bihar	-do-	29,66962	000 tonnes	58534	55818	45774
	Orissa		2666,763				
	M.P.		2045,311				
	Others		1922,885				
3. Magnetite	Karnataka	-do-	2518237	tonnes	530591	569954	320460
	A.P.		417,870				
	Goa		164,556				
	Others		42,073				
4. Gold	Karnataka	tonne	11262722 (ore)	Kg.	2041	1050	1666
	A.P.		5858810 (ore)				
	M.P.		567000 (ore)				
	Others		7200 (ore)				
5. Manganese	Karnataka	thous. tonnes	64548	tonne	1039715	1870383	1300138
	Orissa		40836				
	Goa		23559				
	Others		47534				

Name of the mineral	Recoverable Reserves		Total recoverable reserves	Unit	Production		
	Name of the State	Unit			1991-92 quantity	1992-93 quantity	Apr. 93-Jan. 94 quantity
6. Bauxite	Orissa A.P. M.P. Others	-do-	1442276 592001 140791 350270	-do-	5013025	5103014	4262626
7. Copper	M.P. Bihar Rajasthan Others	-do-	180033 113833 89346 32007	-do-	5207012	5210796	4178078
8. Lead-Zinc	Rajasthan Gujarat Others	1000 tonnes	168159 7875 10282	-do-	305795	362141	280122
9. Phosphate/ Phosphorite	Tamil Nadu M.P. U.P. Others	-do-	9303930 36638 36553 13066	-do-	585875	617421	831367
10. Asbestos	Rajasthan Karnataka Others	tonnes	1861276 289752 143513	-do-	39440	43788	33726
11. Barytes	Rajasthan A.P. Others	-do-	2357732 67053540 735287	-do-	635149	372095	433608

12. Fireclay	Rajasthan	1000 tonnes	214068	-do-	531457	438737	351133
	M.P.		104635				
	Orissa Others		107948 270065				
13. Graphite	Orissa	-do-	946897	-do-	77084	68419	61162
	Bihar		533247				
	Kerala Others		515500 1112998				
14. Limestone	Karnataka	1000 tonnes	17253164	000 tonnes	77180	76614	68442
	A.P.		14295009				
	Rajasthan Others		9793269 35104564				
15. Vermiculite	Tamil Nadu	-do-	162058	tonnes	1801	1415	1295
	A.P.		83292				
	Karnataka Others		41746 25358				
16. Fluorite	Gujarat	-do-	1076560	tonne	3694	2819	3263
	Rajasthan		967936				
	Others		103997				
17. Pyarite	Bihar	-do-	52000	tonne	130650	130325	94717
	Rajasthan		34350				
	Others		5171				
18. Gypsum	J&K	-do-	113886	-do-	1582193	1626237	1318610
	Rajasthan		93952				
	Others		31474				

[English]

Rural Electrification

*409. SHRI ARVIND
TRIVEDI:
SHRI PRABHU DAYAL
KATHERIA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the targets fixed for electrification of villages during the Seventh Five Year Plan and the targets fixed therefor for the Eighth Plan, State-wise;

(b) the extent of targets achieved during the Seventh Plan and the Eighth Plan so far separately, state-wise;

(c) whether the targets have not been achieved to the full extent; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken to achieve the desired targets at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N.K.P. SALVE): (a) to (c). The targets and achievements for electrification of villages during the 7th Five Year Plan are given in the attached statement. The 8th Five Year Plan envisages electrification of 50,000 villages including 10,000 villages through Non-Conventional Sources.

While 7th Plan targets were fully achieved, there has been marginal short-fall in the achievement of targets during the first year of the 8th Five Year Plan. Final figures for the year 1993-94 are awaited from the State Governments.

(d) In order to achieve the targets, the Plan allocation for Rural Electrification in the current year has been increased to Rs. 1002.11 crores. The implementation of RE programmes is also being monitored regularly.

STATEMENT

Statewise target and achievement during Seventh Plan (1985-90) and Eighth Five Year Plan in respect of villages electrified on Annual Plan basis

S. No.	States	1985-90		1992-93	
		Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3580	4504	—	@
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	415	534	185	134
3.	Assam	9954	9178	15	17
4.	Bihar	14642	12798	365	258
5.	Goa	82 (*)	23	—	@

1	2	3	4	5	6
6.	Gujarat	2188	1757	—	@
7.	Haryana	—	(+)14	—	@
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1395	2147	—	@
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	925	412	5	5
10.	Karnataka	2822	2854	—	@
11.	Kerala	—	(-)49	—	@
12.	Madhya Pradesh	14700	19552	650	605
13.	Maharashtra	2150	5888	—	@
14.	Manipur	659	655	180	60
15.	Meghalaya	1013	908	50	69
16.	Mizoram	270	273	50	50
17.	Nagaland	180	419	—	NIL
18.	Orissa	6353	6324	860	200
19.	Punjab	—	(+) 216	—	@
20.	Rajasthan	4827	6402	390	689
21.	Sikkim	176	174	—	@
22.	Tamil Nadu	17	(+) 113	—	@
23.	Tripura	731	763	80	200
24.	Uttar Pradesh	17405	17283	980	947
25.	West Bengal	10356	7191	430	435
Total (States)		94840 *	100333	4240	3669
Total (UTs)		112	173	—	@
Total (All-India)		94952 *	100506	4240	3669

* Includes 80 wadas in Goa State.

@ Cent per cent villages electrified.

(+) & (-) Signs against the figures show the increase/decrease on account of changes in total number of inhabited villages in 1981 Census.

**Raids by Indian Police Party In
Nepal**

***410. SHRI MOHAN SINGH
(DEORIA):
SHRI SRIKANTA JENA:**

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Indian police party had conducted raids in Nepal during the last week of March 1994;

(b) if so, the full details thereof;

(c) whether the Government of Nepal have reacted to the incident;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have ordered any inquiry into the incident;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the measures taken/proposed to be taken to prevent recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Government of India is unable to confirm or investigate events that occurred on the territory of India's friendly sovereign neighbour Nepal. From information available with the Government of India and from His Majesty's Government of Nepal it would appear that prima facie a small party of police personnel from India exceeded their orders and authority and pursued certain wanted persons into Nepal.

(c) and (d). The matter was raised with the Government of India by HMGN formally on March 29th, 1994.

(e) and (f). Government of India have ordered an immediate investigation into this matter and disciplinary action is being taken against the police personnel who are found responsible.

(g) Government of India have already issued instructions to the concerned agencies to follow scrupulously and adhere to the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of Nepal and respect for territorial integrity and sovereignty of Nepal.

Video piracy

***411. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL :**
Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a ban on release of the video of a film for three months after its release;

(b) whether video piracy in the country is on the increase;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government propose to take steps to check video piracy; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) No, Sir. The Government has not imposed any ban.

(b) to (e). Government have been receiving complaints about video piracy from time to time. Since the release of feature/video films is controlled by the film industry which is in the private sector and advanced duplication technology is available with them, it has become easy to

transfer and duplicate these films from the cine to the video format. Proposals for amendment of the Copyright Act, 1957, are already before Parliament. An organisation called Indian Federation Against Copyright Theft (INFACT) was established in December, 1988. This organisation was promoted by the National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) with participation from the Film Federation of India (FFI) and other trade bodies. INFACT carries out raids to check the menace of piracy with the help of police, from time to time all over India.

Cheese

*412. SHRI C. SREENIVASAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a growing demand in the country for natural and processed cheese;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to meet this rising demand;

(c) whether the best quality Mosoralla cheese is being produced in India; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken for its export?

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

(a) Yes, Sir. The demand for processed cheese in the country is growing. The growing demand in natural cheese is not monitored.

(b) In order to encourage manufacture of milk products including cheese, the Government have delicensed manufacture of milk products.

(c) Some Mozzarella cheese is being manufactured in the small sector.

(d) Government have decanalised the export of milk products including cheese to encourage export.

Speed post services

*413. PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any decline in the performance of "International Speed Post Services" and "Inland Speed Post Services" since its inception;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to improve the performance of these services?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) To improve the performance of Speed Post Service, several measures have been taken. These include free pick up services from either the office or the residential premises of customers who book more than three articles. Under the 'book now pay later' scheme, credit facilities are given to clients whose credentials are known, like Nationalised Banks etc. Rebate is also given to bulk mailers for articles booked upto 500 kms. at the rate of Rs. 2/- per article and for articles beyond 500 kms, at the rate of Rs. 4/- per article. In case of delay, the Department refunds the entire cost of booking of the article to the customer. At certain select centres, the customer is given the facility of booking an article for

24 hours. To make the service more customer-friendly, a Customer Service Wing has been established in Speed Post Centres. For augmenting the growth and traffic of Speed Post, a Marketing Wing is located at Major Speed Post Centres. To cater to specific demands for Speed Post Services, the Department offers contractual Speed Post service also for a regular user on a specific route. The Department proposes to instal a Computerised Track and Trace System for Speed Post articles.

The Department constantly monitors the transmission of Speed Post articles and accordingly rectifies any shortcomings noticed in the quality of service.

[*Translation*]

Transport Projects

*414. SHRI GUMAN
MAL LODHA:
SHRI MANORANJAN
BHAKTA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether several transport projects are under construction as on March 31, 1994;

(b) if so, the total number of such projects and the number of those projects among them which are behind the stipulated schedule and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the cost of construction of these projects has escalated due to delay in their completion;

(d) if so, the percentage of escalation project-wise;

(e) the names of projects for which funds were raised as loan but the loan

could not be utilised for their construction; and

(f) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to expedite the delayed projects?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There are 31 projects out of which 18 are behind schedule. The reasons for delay are mainly serious cash flow problems, litigations, non-availability of steel, slow progress by contractors, power cuts etc.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Escalation varies from 32% to 157% in some projects while in some it is too early to compute.

(e) There are five such projects relating to National and State Highways viz.

- (i) World Bank Package-I (ii) World Bank Package-II (iii) Asian Development Bank Package-I (iv) Asian Development Bank Package-II and (v) OECF Japan, Package-I.

(f) Progress of projects is closely monitored by this Ministry and the Ministry of Programme Implementation.

[*English*]

Post Offices in Villages

*415. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any plan to open post offices in all eligible villages of urban areas;

(b) if so, the details of the plan formulated for implementation during the Eighth Plan alongwith allocation of funds for the same, State-wise; and

(c) the total provision of funds for development of communication network in Goa during the Eighth Plan with break up for development activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c). Government's objective is to provide post offices in those areas where such facility does not exist, subject to the fulfilment of departmental norms in this regard and availability of resources. In urban areas, department sub-post offices are accordingly being opened in newly developed project areas, industrial estates, industrial

townships, satellite colonies developed in the periphery of cities, etc.

During the Eighth Plan period, it is proposed to open 3600 extra departmental branch post offices and 650 departmental sub post offices. The total allocation of funds for opening post offices during this period is Rs. 23.65 crores. Circle-wise targets and allocations are being made annually. Details of targets achieved and the allocations made in the first two years of the Plan period are given in the attached statement I and II respectively. In the current year, it is proposed to open 800 extra departmental branch post offices and 150 departmental sub post offices. The total allocation in this regard is Rs. 5.30 crores. No separate allocation has been made for Goa, which is a part of the Maharashtra Circle.

STATEMENT-I

Circle-wise Break-up for opening of post offices during 1992-93 and 1993-94

S. No.	Name of Circle	Target 1992-93		Sanctioned 1992-93		Target 1993-94		Sanctioned 1993-94	
		BO*	SO**	BO	SO	BO	SO	BO	SO
1.	Andhra Pradesh	19	5	6	9	17	5	10	7
2.	Assam	27	3	27	3	25	3	26	6
3.	Bihar	70	8	70	3	90	8	90	2
4.	Delhi	nil	5	-	9	-	6	-	8
5.	Gujarat	25	5	30	5	20	8	15	5
6.	Haryana	10	3	10	4	10	5	16	5
7.	Himachal Pradesh	15	1	15	1	15	2	90	2
8.	J & K	5	1	5	-	5	1	23	1

S. No.	Name of Circle	Target 1992-93		Sanctioned 1992-93		Target 1993-94		Sanctioned 1993-94	
		BO*	SO**	BO	SO	BO	SO	BO	SO
9.	Karnataka	15	5	15	7	15	6	15	8
10.	Kerala	10	3	15	7	20	3	30	5
11.	Maharashtra	55	10	62	20	80	5	80	19
12.	Madhya Pradesh	55	5	55	7	35	11	30	5
13.	North East	35	5	35	1	40	4	40	4
14.	Orissa	40	5	40	8	35	4	41	4
15.	Punjab	10	3	10	3	10	3	7	7
16.	Rajasthan	60	6	60	9	30	5	30	5
17.	Tamil Nadu	14	7	10	5	10	4	8	4
18.	Uttar Pradesh	75	10	100	11	93	12	93	13
19.	West Bengal	60	10	70	4	50	5	20	2
Total:		600	100	635	116	600	100	664	112

* Branch Post Office.

** Sub Post Office.

STATEMENT-II

Circle-wise allocation of funds for opening of Post Offices during 1992-93 and 1993-94

S. No.	Name of Circle	Amount in thousand of Rs. 1992-93	Amount in thousand of Rs. 1993-94
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1,90	9,00
2.	Assam	2,25	7,00
3.	Bihar	4,40	19,00

S. No.	Name of Circle	Amount in thousand of Rs. 1992-93	Amount in thousand of Rs. 1993-94
4.	Delhi	-	5,00
5.	Gujarat	2,29	10,00
6.	Haryana	7	5,00
7.	Himachal Pradesh	2,70	4,00
8.	J & K	-	2,00
9.	Karnataka	50	9,00
10.	Kerala	2,40	7,00
11.	Madhya Pradesh	1,60	23,00
12.	Maharashtra	2,00	14,00
13.	North East	-	8,00
14.	Orissa	2,86	12,00
15.	Punjab	2,60	4,00
16.	Rajasthan	1,65	16,00
17.	Tamil Nadu	1,78	6,00
18.	Uttar Pradesh	8,00	25,00
19.	West Bengal	3,00	15,00
Total:		40,00	2,00,00

Visit of US Deputy Secretary of State

*416. SHRI BOLLA BULLI
RAMAIAH:
SHRI S.B. SIDNAL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the US Deputy Secretary of State paid a visit to India during the first week of April, 1994;

(b) if so, the purpose of the visit;

(c) the names of Indian leaders with whom he held discussions and the subjects discussed at those meetings;

(d) the outcome of the visit;

(e) whether the issue of NPT also figured in the talks; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) to (f). US Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbott visited New Delhi from April 6-8, 1994. He was accompanied by Assistant Secretary of State Robin Raphel, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Robert Einhorn, Executive Assistant Victoria Nuland and Special Assistant John Withers.

Mr. Talbott came with the purpose of holding consultations on ways to give new impetus and new scope to Indo-US relations. Mr. Talbott underlined the US Government's resolve to turn over a new leaf in bilateral relations with Indian in the post-Cold War scenario.

Mr. Talbott held discussions with the Foreign Secretary and called on the Prime Minister, External Affairs Minister and Finance Minister. A lunch was hosted in honour of Mr. Talbott by Minister of State for External Affairs Shri Salman Khursheed.

During the course of discussions, both sides expressed a common desire for closer ties, better understanding and cooperation, both regionally and globally, between India and the US.

Both sides agreed to build on the many areas of positive convergence and to continue a frequent dialogue on all issues where differences in perception continue.

Government conveyed India's deep concern at the US proposal to transfer

F-16s and other military equipment to Pakistan in return for a clearly verifiable cap on the production of fissile material in Pakistan. India's consistent position on maintenance of its territorial integrity and its security concerns was emphatically stated. It was emphasized that, as per past precedent, sophisticated military acquisitions by Pakistan had been used only against India and, therefore, the induction of more sophisticated weapon systems into our region was a matter of grave concern to India. The US side was informed that Government would have to take steps to counter this enhanced threat from Pakistan.

With respect to the US proposal for multilateralisation of the Indo-US bilateral dialogue on security issues, it was reiterated that India continued to support measures on disarmament and security which were universal, comprehensive, non-discriminatory and verifiable. It was agreed that consultation on these matters would be continued.

Mr. Talbott reiterated President Clinton's invitation to the Prime Minister to visit the US and conveyed that the US President saw the visit as opening a new chapter in Indo-US relations. It was agreed that the visit would take place at a mutually convenient time.

Relations with Australia

*417. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY:
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any talks were held with Australia recently;

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

(c) whether any agreements were signed between the two countries;

(d) if so, the salient features thereof, agreement-wise;

(e) whether relations with Australia have further been strengthened; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Third Meeting of the India Australia Joint Ministerial Commission was held in Sydney on February 4, 1994. The Indian delegation was led by Shri Kamaluddin Ahmad, MOS for Commerce and the Australian delegation was led by Senator Bob McMullan Minister for Trade of Australia. The two sides discussed matters of importance pertaining to bilateral economic and commercial relations. India and Australia also had a useful exchange of views on the global economic situation focussed particularly on regional economic developments.

Consultations at the official level were also held between the Ministry of External Affairs and Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Australia on February 2 and 3, 1994 in Canberra where the two sides exchanged views on a wide gamut of issues including our expanding bilateral ties, the changing international situation, relations with our neighbours, regional cooperation and security, multilateral issues, disarmament and non proliferation. The talks were fruitful.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Not applicable.

(e) and (f). Yes, Sir. Discussions at both the JMC and the Official Level Consultations afforded the two sides an opportunity to obtain a clearer understanding and appreciation of each other's priorities and perceptions in the rapidly evolving international scenario as also to explore opportunities for mutually beneficial relations. The talks thus contributed to strengthening the cordial and friendly relations existing between India and Australia.

Cash and Carry System between NTPC and SEBs

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

(a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation has urged the Union Government to enforce a system of 'Cash and Carry' by the State Electricity Boards at the earliest to ensure the flow of power commensurate with the payment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the other schemes adopted to reduce the huge arrears due from the State Electricity Boards?

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

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

(d) The steps adopted to reduce the huge arrears due from the State Electricity Boards (SEBs) include:-

(i) Signing of Bulk Power Supply Agreements (BPSAs) with SEBs.

- (ii) Permitting NTPC to shut off or restrict power supply from its concerned power stations wherever physically and technically feasible in case of non-compliance with agreed financial and commercial terms, including the opening of Letters of Credit (LCs) as per BPSA with SEBs.
- (iii) SEBs would also be charged penal rates for drawal of power exceeding LC coverage.
- (iv) Recovery of NTPC's dues through Central Appropriation from the Central Plan Assistance of the concerned defaulting States.
- (v) Persuasion of defaulting SEBs to clear their outstanding dues at a faster pace as also regularly pay their current bills.

Ship Repair Facilities

*419. SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government-owned or controlled workshops have devised a suitable strategy for improving their performance in the ship repair field;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the measures proposed to be taken to overcome the declining trend in the repair work entrusted to these workshops during the Eighth Plan period;

(d) whether the Government propose to issue instructions to the Shipping Corporation of India to give repair work to Government-owned or controlled workshops in preference to the private workshops; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) In order to improve the performance of the Shiprepair Yards in the Public Sector, the following strategy has been evolved:-

- (i) Aggressive marketing efforts with the shipowners.
- (ii) Improvements with respect to certain facilities in the repair docks to achieve faster turn around of the commercial ships docked, by augmenting the facilities in the repair field.

(c) There is no declining trend in the repair work entrusted to Public Sector Shiprepair Units during the Eighth Plan period as may be seen from the data given below regarding shiprepair work carried out by Cochin Shipyard Limited, Cochin (CSL) and Hindustan Shipyard Limited, Visakhapatnam (HSL) during the last 4 years:

Year	(Rs. in crores)	
	Turnover at CSL	Turnover at HSL
1990-91	22.44	8.41
1991-92	48.70	10.12
1992-93	70.00	17.63
1993-94	62.4 (provisional)	31.58 (provisional)

(d) Government does not propose to issue instructions to the Shipping Corporation of India (SOI) to give repair work to Public Sector Yards in view of the liberalisation policy and also as SCI has

to get their ships repaired at the most competitive rates to operate profitably and competitively in the International market.

However, SCI has been entrusting a fair amount of shiprepair work to the two major public sector shipyards, viz., Cochin Shipyard Limited and Hindustan Shipyard Limited, as indicated below:

No. of SCI ships repaired at

	<i>Cochin Shipyards</i>	<i>Hindustan Shipyards</i>
1992-93	15	2
1993-94	11	6

(e) Does not arise.

G-15 Summit

*420. SHRI SULTAN
SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:
PROF. M. KAMSON:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether G-15 Summit was held in New Delhi recently;

(b) if so, the countries which participated therein;

(c) the subjects discussed and the decisions arrived at during the Summit;

(d) the role played by India in the outcome of the Summit;

(e) the follow-up steps to be taken by the member countries on the outcome;

(f) whether the issue of restructuring and reorientation of the UN was discussed during the Summit; and

(g) if so, the decisions arrived at in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Argentina, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nigeria, Senegal and Zimbabwe in addition to India were represented by their Heads of State/Government. Special Envoys at ministerial level were sent by the Heads of State/Government of Algeria, Brazil, Egypt, Jamaica and Venezuela. Peru and Chile were represented by the Personal Representatives of their Heads of State/Government.

(c) The subjects discussed at the Summit included evaluation of the international situation and its implications for developing countries including the role of the United Nations, its restructuring and reorientation; South-South Cooperation; North-South dialogue including the G-15 dialogue with G-7 countries and future organisation of the work and activities of the G-15.

The main decisions taken at the Summit were as follow:

(i) It broadened the scope of intra G-15 cooperation through the establishment of a Committee on trade, investment and technology transfer which will facilitate evolution of trans-regional arrangements on trade liberalisation, facilitation and promotion to increase intra G-15 trade, investment, joint ventures etc. In this effort, the Committee will involve the private sector and draw inputs from related G-15 projects.

(ii) A meeting of the Business Forum including representatives of the

private sector of the G-15 countries was also held alongside the Summit. If identified specific areas and modalities of expanding intra G-15 cooperation in trade, investment, financial services, joint ventures, transport, telecommunications, tourism, sustainable development etc.

- (iii) It decided to establish a Group to evolve appropriate recommendations to promote intra G-15 telecommunications and media link-ups so that balanced and timely information on and to G-15 countries becomes available.
- (iv) It extended full support through appropriate projects for cooperation in the setting up of a small scale industries, especially in Africa.
- (v) It reaffirmed support for the continuing operation of South Investment, Trade and Technology Data Exchange Centre (SITTDEC) and recommended that SITTDEC should be commercially-oriented and accept subscribers directly from all developing countries.
- (vi) It approved two new projects i.e. a Project on Transfer of Technology and Development submitted by Sehegal, and a Project on South - South Renewable Energy Promotion Centre submitted by Egypt.
- (vii) It decided that the G-15 would use ministerial and other consultative mechanisms to coordinate its approaches on specific global issues of common concern. It was agreed that the G-15 initiative on a constructive and focussed dialogue with the G-7 which has been on

going for the last two years would be carried forward.

(d) India as host of the 4th Summit, played its role in giving a new dynamism to the G-15 to enable it to serve the interests of its constituents through greater and more productive South - South Cooperation and North - South dialogue.

(e) The Summit decided to reinforce the consultative mechanism of the Group through meetings of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Trade, Agriculture, Environment and Science & Technology on a regular basis in the Inter-Summit period to ensure implementation and follow up of Summit level decisions. The mechanism of the Troika i.e. Ministers and Personal Representatives of Argentina (Chairman), India (past Chairman) and Zimbabwe (future Chairman) would also play a catalytic role in this regard.

(f) Yes, Sir.

(g) The views of the G-15 countries on this question are recorded in paragraph 16 of the Joint Communiqué. The relevant extracts are as follow:

"We take the view that the United Nations should be restructured to take account of the significant changes that have taken place in the post-war system. The restructuring should rest on the principles of democratization and transparency in decision making in the United Nations and all its agencies. The General Assembly should be revitalized, in its roles and functions. A suitable formula should be devised to establish appropriate and dynamic interactions between the Council and the Assembly. Both reform and expansion aspects of restructuring of the UN Security Council including its

decision making processes and procedures should be examined as an integral part of a common package. The Permanent and non-Parmanent Membership of the Security Council should be expanded on democratic principles having regard to the various proposals by developing countries for their representation on the Council".

[Translation]

Vacant Reserved Posts

4514. SHRI N.J. RATHVA:
SHRI LALIT ORAON:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes,

which are lying vacant in his Ministry and in its subordinate offices;

(b) the dates from which these posts are lying vacant and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken or proposed to be taken to fill up the said posts at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SON-TOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c). The following vacancies in the Ministry of Steel (including its attached and subordinate offices) are reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes:

Sl. No.	Grade	Number of vacancies reserved for		Since when vacant
		SC	ST	
i)	Private Secretary (merged grades 'A' & 'B' of the Central Sectt. Stenographers' Service)	—	ST	April, 1993
ii)	Assistant	1	2	Between October and December, 1993

- Appointments to these reserved vacancies are required to be made on the basis of nominations made by the Department of Personnel and Training (DPT).
- Although these reserved vacancies were already communicated as per the usual procedure, nominations of candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are still awaited from DPT. The reserved vacancies, therefore, remain unfilled. DPT has been requested to expedite the nominations.

[English]

Performance of DTC

4515. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN:
Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the losses suffered by Delhi Transport Corporation as on March 31, 1994 and the reasons therefor; and

(b) the steps proposed to be taken to check the losses and also to DTC buses on profitable routes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The losses suffered by DTC, as on 31-3-1994 are as under:-

	(Rs. in crores) (Provisional)
Working loss (excluding interest and depreciation)	84.51
Net loss	281.36

The main reasons for these losses are:

- (i) Un-economic fare structure
- (ii) Rising cost of labour and material inputs.
- (iii) Concessions given to the students and weaker section of the society through concessional passes.
- (iv) Heavy interest burden on the loans advanced to DTC.

(v) The operation of nearly 3000 redline buses on city routes.

(vi) Operation of many un-remunerative routes on special consideration e.g. university and rural routes etc.

(b) Government have been continuously monitoring the performance of DTC with a view to improve its functioning. Increase in fuel efficiency and tyre life, reduction in the number of break-downs by better maintenance practices and economy in expenditure have been some of the measures undertaken. Plugging leakage of revenue is another measure which DTC undertakes through effective checking. Speedy disposal of scrap, route rationalisation are other steps being taken to augment the DTC revenues.

Rationalising the size of DTC fleet to 3500 buses and withdrawal of DTC buses from loss making routes after STA, Delhi has issued permits to private operators on these routes, are amongst the proposals contained in the inter-connected package being finalised by the Government for rehabilitation of DTC to ensure its long term viability.

[Translation]

Lucknow Passport Office

4516. SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH:
Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications lying pending in Lucknow Passport Office till December, 1993;

(b) the reasons for delay in clearance of these applications and the steps

taken to fix the minimum time limit to dispose of pending applications;

(c) whether the Government are aware of the seizure of fake and stolen passports from the possession of recruitment agents in Lucknow;

(d) if so, the details in this regard;

(e) whether any officials of the passport office have been found involved in this racket; and

(f) if so, the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) and (b). The number of pending applications in Passport Office, Lucknow as of December 31, 1993 was 68231, of which 66301 were pending for over one month. Reasons for delay in issue of passports included shortage of staff, shortfall of booklets, incomplete applications and receipt of adverse police reports.

The Government has taken various steps to bring down the time taken for issue of passports including, inter-alia, increase in the supply of passport booklets, augmentation of staff, review of passport issuing procedures and the introduction of a productivity-linked incentive scheme. The backlog at Lucknow was reduced by over 19,000 between the end of December 1992 and December 1993.

(c) No Sir.

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

Air/Doordarshan Kendras in Uttar Pradesh

4517. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the locations in the Uttar Pradesh where Doordarshan and Akashvani Kendras are proposed to be set up during the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(b) the steps being taken by the Government to cover rural areas of the State of Doordarshan and Akashvani network?

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

(b) Upon completion of the projects under implementation/envisaged, the area wise coverage of the State by Doordarshan and Akashvani Kendras will increase from 79.0% and 88.0% to 82.8% and 93.0% respectively. This will cover the rural and the urban areas of the State.

STATEMENT

The locations in Uttar Pradesh where Doordarshan Kendras and All India Radio Stations are proposed to be set up during 8th Five Year Plan

Doordarshan

Sl. No.	Location
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1.	Mau
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2.	*Balrampur
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Sl. No.	Location	Sl. No.	Location
3.	*Banda	24.	**Bagokar
4.	*Lakhimpur	25.	Bageshwar
5.	*Sitapur	26.	Chamoli
6.	Almora	27.	Chaukhatia
7.	Auraiah	28.	Didihat
8.	Champawat	29.	Joshimath
9.	Ganj Dundwara	30.	Dev Prayag
10.	Haldwani	31.	Lansdown
11.	Kotdwar	32.	Pratap Nagar
12.	Mahoba	33.	Binsar
13.	Mauranipur	34.	Basot/Bhikiasen
14.	Muhammadabad	35.	Kaljikkhal
15.	Naugarh	36.	Saahiya
16.	New Tehri	37.	Khait Parvat
17.	Sikanderpur	38.	Fateh Parvat
18.	Rudauli	39.	Gajja
19.	Kasganj	40.	Rajgarhi
20.	Karn Prayag	41.	Sirakot/Vakunthdham
21.	Nau Para	All India Radio	
22.	Etah	1.	Chamoli (Gopeshwar)
23.	Lalganj	2.	Pauri/Srinagar

Sl. No.	Location
3.	Pithoragarh
4.	Uttarkashi
5.	Aligarh
6.	Mussoorie.

Note:- * Schemes to be formally sanctioned
 ** Location to be confirmed.

[English]

Films produced by NRIs

4518. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Government have set up any Committee for selection of films produced by NRIs;

(b) the criteria adopted for selection of films produced by NRIs; and

(c) the number of films submitted by NRIs during the last three years and the number of films selected out of them?

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

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

Newspapers published from Kerala

4519. SHRI KODIKKUNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Daily newspapers, periodicals and weeklies published from Kerala; and

(b) the circulation of each daily newspaper, periodical and weekly in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b). As per the information compiled by the Registrar of Newspapers for India for its Annual Report, 'Press in India-1993', there were 178 dailies, 167 weeklies and 1031 other periodicals published from Kerala as on 31.12.1992. The circulation figures of all these newspapers/periodicals are not available with RNI as only 104 newspapers/periodicals out of the total of 1376 have furnished their annual statement indicating the circulation.

F.M. Channels

4520. SHRI BHERU LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of F.M. stations functioning in the country, their range and duration of broadcast;

(b) whether any private agencies are permitted to broadcast programmes on F.M. Channels; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF

THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Details are given in the attached *Statements-I* and *II*.

(b) and (c): Yes, Sir. Details are given in the attached *Statement-III*

STATEMENT-I

Details of F.M. Stations functioning in the country

S. No.	Place	State	Category Scheme	Range
1.	Kottagudam	Andhra Pradesh	2x3 NRS	60 (Kms)
2.	Warangal	Andhra Pradesh	2x5 LRS	67 (Kms)
3.	Nizamabad	Andhra Pradesh	2x3 LRS	60 (Kms)
4.	Tirupati	Andhra Pradesh	3 LRS	30 (Kms)
5.	Ananthpur	Andhra Pradesh	2x3 LRS	60 (Kms)
6.	Kurnool	Andhra Pradesh	2x3 LRS	60 (Kms)
7.	Markapuram	Andhra Pradesh	3 LRS	30 (Kms)
8.	Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh	3 VB/CBS	50 (Kms)
9.	Jorhat	Assam	2x5 LRS	67 (Kms)
10.	Haflong	Assam	3 LRS	30 (Kms)
11.	Nowgong	Assam	3 LRS	30 (Kms)
12.	Daltonganj	Bihar	2x5 LRS	67 (Kms)

S. No.	Place	State	Category Scheme	Range
13.	Hazaribagh	Bihar	3 LRS	30 (Kms)
14.	Purnea	Bihar	2x3 LRS	60 (Kms)
15.	Singhbhum	Bihar	2x3 LRS	60 (Kms)
16.	Sasaram	Bihar	2x3 LRS	60 (Kms)
17.	Patna	Bihar	3 VB/CBS	50 (Kms)
18.	Panaji	Goa	2x3 Stereoxn	60 (Kms)
19.	Surat	Gujarat	2x3 LRS	60 (Kms)
20.	Godhra	Gujarat	2x3 LRS	60 (Kms)
21.	Kurukshetra	Haryana	2x3 LRS	60 (Kms)
22.	Kasauli	Himachal Pradesh	2x5 R.C.	60 (Kms) (Min.) & 150 (Kms) (Max.)
23.	Hamirpur	Himachal Pradesh	2x3 LRS	60 (Kms)
24.	Dharamshala	Himachal Pradesh	2x5 NRS	67 (Kms)
25.	Jammu	Jammu & Kashmir	3 YV	30 (Kms)
26.	Kathua	Jammu & Kashmir	2x3 LRS	60 (Kms)
27.	Hassan	Karnataka	2x3 NRS	60 (Kms)
28.	Hospet	Karnataka	2x5 LRS	60 (Kms)
29.	Chitradurg	Karnataka	2x3 LRS	60 (Kms)

S. No.	Place	State	Category Scheme	Range
30	Raichur	Karnataka	2x3 LRS	60 (Kms)
31.	Mercara	Karnataka	2x3 LRS	60 (Kms)
32.	Karwar	Karnataka	3 LRS	30 (Kms)
33.	Cannanore	Kerala	2x3 NRS	60 (Kms)
34.	Cochin	Kerala	2x3 LRS	60 (Kms)
35.	Idukki	Kerala	2x3 LRS	60 (Kms)
36.	Khandwa	Madhya Pradesh	2x3 LRS	60 (Kms)
37.	Betul	Madhya Pradesh	2x3 LRS	60 (Kms)
38.	Bilaspur	Madhya Pradesh	2x3 LRS	60 (Kms)
39.	Shivpuri	Madhya Pradesh	2x3 NRS	60 (Kms)
40.	Chhindwara	Madhya Pradesh	2x3 LRS	60 (Kms)
41.	Shahdol	Madhya Pradesh	2x3 NRS	60 (Kms)
42.	Balaghat	Madhya Pradesh	2x3 LRS	60 (Kms)
43.	Raigarh	Madhya Pradesh	2x3 LRS	60 (Kms)
44.	Guna	Madhya Pradesh	3 KW (INT) LRS	30 (Kms)
45.	Sagar	Madhya Pradesh	2x3 LRS	60 (Kms)
46.	Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh	3 KW VB/CBS	50 (Kms)

S. No.	Place	State	Category Scheme	Range
47.	Indore	Madhya Pradesh	3 KW VB/CBS	50 (Kms)
48.	Beed	Maharashtra	2x3 LRS	60 (Kms)
49.	Ahmednagar	Maharashtra	2x3 LRS	60 (Kms)
50.	Nanded	Maharashtra	2x3 LRS	60 (Kms)
51.	Akola	Maharashtra	2x3 LRS	60 (Kms)
52.	Kolhapur	Maharashtra	2x3 NRS	60 (Kms)
53.	Yeotmal	Maharashtra	2x3 LRS	60 (Kms)
54.	Satara	Maharashtra	2x3 LRS	60 (Kms)
55.	Chanderpur	Maharashtra	2x3 LRS	60 (Kms)
56.	Pune	Maharashtra	2x3 VB/CBS	40 (Kms)
57.	Nagpur	Maharashtra	2x3 VB/CBS	60 (Kms)
58.	Bombay	Maharashtra	5 FM Chan.	60 (Kms)
59.	Dhule	Maharashtra	2x3 LRS	60 (Kms)
60.	Baripada	Orissa	2x3 LRS	60 (Kms)
61.	Behrampur	Orissa	2x3 LRS	60 (Kms)
62.	Bolangir	Orissa	3 (INT) LRS	30 (Kms)
63.	Bhatinda	Punjab	2x3 LRS	60 (Kms)

S. No.	Place	State	Category Scheme	Range
64.	Patiala	Punjab	2x3 LRS	60 (Kms)
65.	Jalandhar	Punjab	2x5 FM Chan.	60 (Kms)
66.	Alwar	Rajasthan	2x3 LRS	60 (Kms)
67.	Nagaur	Rajasthan	2x3 LRS	60 (Kms)
68.	Banswara	Rajasthan	2x3 LRS	60 (Kms)
69.	Chittorgarh	Rajasthan	3 (INT.) LRS	30 (Kms)
70.	Sawai Madhopur	Rajasthan	3 (INT.) LRS	30 (Kms)
71.	Churu	Rajasthan	2x3 NRS	60 (Kms)
72.	Jhalawar	Rajasthan	2x3 LRS	60 (Kms)
73.	Jaisalmer	Rajasthan	2x5 NRS	60 (Kms)
74.	Kailashahar	Tripura	3 LRS	30 (Kms)
75.	Belonia	Tripura	3 LRS	30 (Kms)
76.	Madras	Tamil Nadu	5 FM Chann.	50 (Kms)
77.	Bareilly	Uttar Pradesh	2x3 LRS	60 (Kms)
78.	Faizabad	Uttar Pradesh	2x3 LRS	60 (Kms)
79.	Jhansi	Uttar Pradesh	2x3 LRS	60 (Kms)
80.	Obra	Uttar Pradesh	2x3 NRS	60 (Kms)
81.	Murshidabad	West Bengal	2x3 LRS	60 (Kms)

S. No.	Place	State	Category Scheme	Range
82.	Calcutta	West Bengal	5 GM Chann.	50 (Kms)
83.	Delhi	Union Territory	2x5 FM. Chann.	60 (Kms)

Legend

LRS	:	Local Radio Station
NRS	:	New Radio Station
CBS	:	Commercial Broadcasting Service
VB	:	Vividh Bharati
YV	:	Yuva Vani
RC	:	Relay Centre

STATEMENT-II*List of F.M. Air stations alongwith transmission hours*

S. No.	Name of Station	Transmission Hours	Freq. of Operation (Mzs)
1.	Godhra	5.00 to 11.00 p.m.	102.2
2.	Jhalawar	5.00 to 11.00 p.m.	103.2
3.	Satara	5.00 to 11.00 p.m.	103.1
4.	Jhansi	5.00 to 11.00 p.m.	103.0
5.	Sawai Madhopur	5.00 to 11.00 p.m.	101.5
6.	Shivpuri	5.28 to 11.10 p.m.	100.2

S. No.	Name of Station	Transmission Hours	Freq. of Operation (Mzs)
7.	Surat	5.00 to 11.00 p.m.	101.1
8.	Beed	5.00 to 11.00 p.m.	102.9
9.	Sasa Ram	5.00 to 11.00 p.m.	103.4
10.	Bilaspur	5.30 to 11.00 p.m.	103.2
11.	Jalandhar	5.00 to 11.00 p.m.	102.7
12.	Dalton Ganj	5.00 to 11.00 p.m.	103.0
13.	Guna	5.30 to 10.00 p.m.	102.3
14.	Nagpur	4.55 to 11.00 p.m.	103.7
15.	Bareilly	5.00 to 11.00 p.m.	100.4
16.	Churu	5.00 to 11.10 p.m.	100.7
17.	Raichur	5.00 to 11.05 p.m.	102.1
18.	Medikeri	5.25 to 11.00 p.m.	103.1
19.	Markapuram	5.00 to 11.00 p.m.	101.5
20.	Warangal	5.00 to 11.00 p.m.	103.5
21.	Obra	5.30 to 11.10 p.m.	102.7
22.	Halfong	4.30 to 10.30 p.m.	100.2
23.	Ahmednagar	5.00 to 11.00 p.m.	100.1

S. No.	Name of Station	Transmission Hours	Freq. of Operation (Mzs)
24.	Raigarh	4.30 to 11.00 p.m.	100.7
25.	Sagar	5.30 to 11.00 p.m.	102.6
26.	Yawatmal	5.00 to 11.00 p.m.	102.7
27.	Chittorgarh	5.00 to 11.00 p.m.	102.9
28.	Chaibasa	5.00 to 11.00 p.m.	101.7
29.	Betul	4.30 to 11.00 p.m.	103.1
30.	Bhatinda	3.00 to 9.15 p.m.	101.1
31.	Kurukshetra	4.30 to 10.30 p.m.	101.4
32.	Khandawa	5.00 to 11.10 p.m.	101.2
33.	Murshidabad	5.00 to 11.00 p.m.	102.2
34.	Karwar	5.00 to 11.00 p.m.	102.3
35.	Hasan	7.35 to 09.05 a.m. 6.25 to 11.05 p.m.	102.2
36.	Nizamabad	5.00 to 11.00 p.m.	103.2
37.	Akola	5.00 to 11.00 p.m.	102.4
38.	Hospet	5.00 to 11.00 p.m.	100.5
39.	Kailashahar	4.00 to 10.00 p.m.	103.2

S. No.	Name of Station	Transmission Hours	Freq. of Operation (Mzs)
40.	Kolhapur	5.00 to 11.10 p.m.	102.7
41.	Purnea	5.00 to 11.00 p.m.	102.3
42.	Alwar	4.55 to 11.00 p.m.	103.1
43.	Kothagudem	6.00 to 9.00 a.m. 6.00 to 11.10 p.m.	100.1
44.	Berhampur	5.00 to 11.00 p.m.	100.6
45.	Faizabad	5.00 to 11.00 p.m.	101.9
46.	Banswara	5.00 to 11.00 p.m.	101.3
47.	Balonia	4.00 to 10.00 p.m.	103.7
48.	Anantpur	5.00 to 11.00 p.m.	101.7
49.	Baripada	5.00 to 11.05 p.m.	102.9
50.	Cochin	5.00 to 11.00 p.m.	102.3
51.	Tirupati	5.00 to 11.00 p.m.	103.2
52.	Chitradurga	5.30 to 9.30 p.m.	102.6
53.	Bolangir	5.00 to 11.00 p.m.	101.9
54.	Kurmool	5.00 to 11.00 p.m.	102.4
55.	Madras	6.55 to 10.00 a.m. 01.00 to 3.00 p.m. 5.00 to 11.00 pm	107.1

S. No.	Name of Station	Transmission Hours	Freq. of Operation (Mzs)
56.	Bombay	6.55 to 10.05 a.m. 12.30 to 3.00 p.m. 5.00 to 10.00 p.m.	107.1
57.	Calcutta	7.00 to 11.10 p.m.	107.1
58.	Hazaribagh	5.00 to 11.00 p.m.	102.1
59.	Balaghat	5.00 to 11.00 p.m.	101.3
60.	Chhindwara	4.53 to 11.00 p.m.	102.2
61.	Nanded	4.55 to 11.10 p.m.	101.1
62.	Jorhat	4.30 to 10.30 p.m.	103.4
63.	Kathua	5.00 to 11.00 p.m.	106.4
64.	Patiala	3.00 to 9.00	100.2
65.	Chanderpur	5.00 to 11.00 p.m.	103.0
66.	Panaji	6.00 to 9.00 p.m.	105.4
67.	Kasauli	It is only a relay centre which relays National Channel programme from 7.00 p.m. to 6.10 a.m.	107.2
68.	Delhi	6.00 a.m. to 0000 Hours	102.6
69.	Shahdol	6.30 to 9.00 a.m. 12.30 to 2.30 p.m. 5.30 to 10.30 p.m.	102.0

1	2	3	4
70.	Cannanore	5.55 to 9.00 a.m. 12.30 to 2.10 p.m. 6.00 to 11.05 p.m.	101.5
71.	Jammu	It carries Vividh Bharati Programme 6.30 to 10.00 a.m. 12.00 to 12.30 p.m. (Saturday and Holidays) (12.30 to 5.30 p.m. on all other days)	100.3
72.	Nagpur	6.15 p.m. to 11.00 p.m.	100.6
73.	Patna	6.15 p.m. to 11.00 p.m.	102.5
74.	Indore	6.15 p.m. to 11.00 p.m.	101.6
75.	Bhopal	6.15 p.m. to 11.00 p.m.	103.5
76.	Pune	6.15 p.m. to 11.00 p.m.	101.0
77.	Hyderabad	6.15 p.m. to 11.00 p.m.	102.8
78.	Nowgaon	4.28 to 10.30 p.m.	102.7
79.	Hamirpur	04.58 to 11.10 p.m.	101.8
80.	Dharamshala	4.55 to 11.10 p.m.	103.4
81.	Idukki	17.50 to 21.30 Hrs.	101.4
82.	Dhule	4.58 to 11.10 p.m.	100.5
83.	Jaisalmer	4.55 to 09.30 p.m.	101.8

STATEMENT-III

Details of private agencies who are permitted to broadcast programmes on F.M. Channels, Madras

Time Slot	Firm/Banner	Period of Allotment		Day(s) of Broadcast
		From	To	
7 AM to 8 AM	Select Direct Marketing Communications	1.9.93	14.8.94	Daily
8 AM to 9 AM	Priya Vision	1.9.93	14.8.94	Daily

Time Slot	Firm/Banner	Period of Allotment		Day(s) of Broadcast
		From	To	
9 AM to 10 AM	VRG Agencies	15.3.94	14.8.94	Daily
1 PM to 2 PM	Karuna Educational Trust	5.12.93	14.8.94	Sundays only
	M.S. Karthikeyan	17.12.93	18.2.94	Fridays only
	Malar Publications	25.2.94	14.8.94	Fridays only
	VRG Agencies	15.2.94	14.8.94	Except Sundays
2 PM to 3 PM	S.S. International	15.2.94	14.8.94	Daily
6 PM to 7 PM	Neyam Visual Associates	15.12.93	14.8.94	Fridays & Saturdays
	Malar Publications	15.2.94	14.8.94	Monday to Thursday
7 PM to 8 PM	BennettColeman & Co.	1.9.93	14.8.94	Daily
8 PM to 9 PM	Malar Publications	15.9.93	14.8.94	Daily
9 PM to 10 PM	S.S. International	15.11.93	14.8.94	Daily
Bombay				
7 AM to 8 AM	Star Entertainment Co.	15.8.93	14.8.93	Daily
8 AM to 9 AM	Midday Publication	15.8.93	14.8.94	Daily
9 AM to 10 AM	Bennett Coleman Co.	15.8.93	14.8.94	Daily
1 PM to 3 PM	Bennett Coleman Co.	15.8.93	14.8.94	Daily
6 PM to 7 AM	Midday Publications	15.8.93	14.8.94	Daily
7 PM to 10 PM	Bennet Coleman & Co.	15.8.93	14.8.94	Daily
Delhi				
7 AM to 8 AM	Bennet Coleman & Co.	15.8.93	14.8.94	Daily
8 AM to 9 AM	Vaishali Udyog Pvt. Ltd.	15.8.93	14.8.94	Daily
9 AM to 10 AM	Bennett Coleman & Co.	15.8.93	14.8.94	Daily

Time Slot	Firm/Banner	Period of Allotment		Day(s) of Broadcast
		From	To	
1 PM to 2 PM	Bennett Coleman & Co.	15.8.93	14.8.94	Daily
2 PM to 3 PM	Bennett Coleman & Co.	15.8.93	14.8.94	Daily
6 PM to 7 PM	Good Media Pvt. Ltd.	16.11.93	14.8.94	Except Fridays
	Intercard India Ltd.	1.10.93	29.7.94	Fridays only
7 PM to 10 PM	Bennett Coleman & Co. Merged	18.8.93	14.8.94	Daily

Salem Steel Plant

4521. SHRI B. DEVARAJAN: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the total investment made on SAIL's Salem Steel Plant, its annual capacity utilisation and maintenance expenditure during the last three years;

(b) whether there are proposals for better capacity utilisation and reduction in production costs of the Steel;

(c) if so, the details thereof and since when those have been under consideration; and

(d) the monetary consequences of the delay in taking decisions in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The investment in Salem Steel Plant since inception in various phases is as under:-

Phase I (Cold Rolling Complex)	Rs. 181.19 crores
Phase II (2nd Cold Rolling Mill)	Rs. 76.27 crores
Phase III (Hot Rolling Complex)	Rs. 664.60 crores*

*Scheme is under implementation and amount spent till March'94 is Rs. 188.67 crores (provisional).

Installed capacity of the plant is 70,000 tonnes. Actual production and maintenance expenditure during the last three years was as under:

Year	Production (T)	Capacity Utilisation (%)	Maintenance Expenditure (Rs./Lakhs)
1991-92	41524	59	84.44
1992-93	36082	51.5	79.86
1993-94 (Prov.)	45793	65.4	87.00

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). For 1994-95 SSP has planned 55,000 tonnes of production (75% capacity utilisation). Reduction in the production cost has been attempted through optimisation of raw material mix, higher capacity utilisation and better techno-economic performance. These are part of the company's continuing exercises for improving the plant's performance. There is no delay in taking decisions in this regard.

[*Translation*]

News Bulletins

4522. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the quality of Hindi news telecast of Doordarshan is not good as compared to English news;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to improve the quality of telecast of Hindi news on Doordarshan?

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

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

[*English*]

Protection of EEZ against Pollution

4523. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Exclusive Economic Zone on our coastal frontier is also used

by foreign ships-tankers carrying petroleum and other chemicals;

(b) if so, whether there are international or domestic laws in vogue to regulate the conduct of such vessels in course of its passage to protect our EEZ against pollution;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether there are provisions for securing compensation in penalty in the event of any vessel causing pollution in our sea Zone or violation of regulations/laws; and

(e) if so, the number of incidents of pollution by foreign vessels in our sea detected during the last three years and the amount of compensation/penalty realised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT: (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 (Domestic law) and International Conventional for Prevention of Pollution from Ships 1973/1978, International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage, 1969, International Convention relating to Intervention on High Seas in Cases of Oil Pollution Casualties, 1969 and International Convention on the Establishment of an International Convention on the Establishment of an International Fund for Compensation for Oil Pollution Damage, 1971 are in vogue to regulate the conduct of such vessels in the course of their passage to protect our EEZ against pollution.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The number of such incidents is three. So far an amount of Rs. 3,56,849 has been realised as compensation.

AIR/Doordarshan Coverage

4524. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of population and area covered by Doordarshan and AIR in the country, State-wise;

(b) the time by which the target of cent-percent coverage is likely to be achieved; and

(c) the details of the efforts taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND

BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Details are given in the attached *Statement*.

(b) and (c). Cent-percent T.V. coverage of the country has already been achieved by the satellite services of Doordarshan. However, the terrestrial coverage is expected to go upto 91.8% populationwise on commissioning of all the ongoing schemes of Doordarshan.

The primary grade day-time coverage of All India Radio Network is expected to go upto 97.5% populationwise with the completion of all the ongoing schemes. However, shortwave support service is expected to cover the whole country on completion of all the ongoing schemes.

Further expansion of T.V. and A.I.R. coverage would depend upon availability of resources and inter-se priorities.

STATEMENT**Statewise T.V. and Radio (day-time) coverage in the country**

Sl. No.	States/ Union Territories	Existing Coverage in percentage			
		Doordarshan		All India Radio	
		Area	Population	Area	Population
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	70.5	79.8	98.0	99.0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	11.0	44.4	77.0	77.0
3.	Assam	74.0	82.0	86.0	85.0
4.	Bihar	92.3	91.7	99.0*	99.0*
5.	Goa	100.0	100.0	99.0*	99.0*
6.	Gujarat	65.5	77.0	99.0*	99.0*
7.	Haryana	96.6	98.5	99.0*	99.0*
8.	Himachal Pradesh	37.2	58.7	45.0	75.0
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	26.7	90.4	30.0	85.0

1	2	3	4	5	6
10.	Karnataka	59.0	68.8	94.0	95.0*
11.	Kerala	84.0	86.3	91.0	93.0
12.	Madhya Pradesh	64.4	69.7	95.0	97.0
13.	Maharashtra	70.8	82.7	98.0	98.5
14.	Manipur	31.3	66.4	99.0*	99.0*
15.	Meghalaya	94.6	97.2	96.0	96.0
16.	Mizoram	42.1	53.1	82.0	82.0
17.	Nagaland	43.4	47.2	95.0	95.0
18.	Orissa	73.7	78.7	97.0	98.0
19.	Punjab	100.0	100.0	99.0*	99.0*
20.	Rajasthan	38.8	61.6	90.0	98.0
21.	Sikkim	36.6	63.1	44.0	74.0
22.	Tamil Nadu	91.2	91.3	98.0	98.0
23.	Tripura	93.3	93.3	99.0*	99.0*
24.	Uttar Pradesh	79.0	92.4	88.0	97.0
25.	West Bengal	95.4	96.0	99.0*	99.0*
26.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	23.0	99.0	80.0	80.0
27.	Chandigarh	100.0	100.0	99.0*	99.0*
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	40.0	43.6	99.0*	99.0*
29.	Daman & Diu	100.0	100.0	99.0	99.0
30.	Delhi	100.0	100.0	99.0*	99.0*
31.	Lakshadweep &	99.0	99.0	99.0*	99.0*
32.	Pondicherry	100.0	100.0	99.0*	99.0*

Note:

- Doordarshan:**
1. Coverage figures are inclusive of fringe areas (elevated antennae & boosters are required for satisfactory reception in fringe areas).
 2. Terrain conditions not taken into consideration.
 3. Based on 1981 census.

AIR:

4. * Coverage in these States can normally be taken as 100% i.e. without taking into consideration the special requirement of certain situations.

Modernisation Programme of Shipping Corporation of India

4525. SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Shipping Corporation of India has a massive expansion and modernisation plan during the Eighth Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of old, damaged, obsolete and ineffective ships under the Shipping Corporation of India at present; and

(d) the action being taken to dispose of these ships?

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

(b) During the Eighth Plan period, Shipping Corporation of India's acquisition programme envisages acquisition of 79 ships of 2.8 Million DWT.

(c) At present, there are 126 vessels in Shipping Corporation of India fleet. Three ships have been identified as technically and/or commercially unsuitable for trading.

(d) The Shipping Corporation of India is taking action as per Government guidelines to dispose of these three vessels.

Doordarshan and AIR Programmes

4526. DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to take steps to improve the

quality of the Doordarshan and AIR programmes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b). It is the constant endeavour of Doordarshan and All India Radio to bring about improvement in the quality of programmes subject to programme requirements and viewers'/ listeners' response.

[Translation]

Propagation of Hindi Abroad

4527. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the budget provisions made for his Ministry for the Propagation of Hindi abroad for the year 1994-95;

(b) the steps being taken by Indian Embassies for the propagation of Hindi; and

(c) the number of letters written/ correspondences made in Hindi to various Indian Embassies by the Ministry during 1993-94?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) A provision of Rs. 43 lakhs has been made for propagation of Hindi abroad in the budget estimates of the Ministry of External Affairs for 1994-95.

(b) Indian Missions are required to make all possible efforts to promote Hindi in the countries of their accreditation. Accordingly, they maintain regular contacts with local educational institutions, voluntary organisations and individuals

engaged in the teaching of Hindi. In certain specific Missions-Georgetown, Kathmandu, London, Paramaribo, Port Louis and Port of Spain-where there are greater opportunities for the propagation of Hindi, special Hindi Officers are based. Missions also liaise the deputation of Hindi professors to several universities through the Government of India. In some cases, Missions run Hindi classes for children of local residents as well as of the Mission staff.

(c) During 1993-94, approximately 1540 letters were written in Hindi to various Indian Missions abroad.

[English]

Post and Telegraph Services in North East Region

4528. SHRI NURUL ISLAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to improve the Telephone, Post and Telegraphic services in the North-East Region of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the comparative figures in respect of revenue earned by the Government during 1990-91 to 1993-94 State-wise?

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

(b) The information is given in the attached *Statement-I*.

(c) The information is given in the attached *Statement-II*.

STATEMENT-I

The improvements in the Telecom, Posts and Telegraphic services in North-

Eastern Regions of the country is given below:-

I. Telecom Services

1. Full automatization of Telephone exchanges have already been achieved in 91-92.
2. All the Electro-Mechanical exchanges have been replaced by Electronic exchanges except five (Assam-1, Tripura-4).
3. During March, 94, 3766 numbers of DELs and 6793 Switching capacity have been added in North Eastern Telecom. Circle and 1609 DELs and 3752 Switching capacity have been added in Assam Circle.
4. For better rural telecom services, 12 numbers MARR system have been provided in NE Circle and six MARR system have been commissioned in Assam Circle during March 94.
5. A reliable transmission media has been provided during March 94 for telecom services as given below:

1) NE Telecom. Circle

- a) 12 Chl UHF analogue system between Lekhabali & Dibrugarh,
- b) 12 Chl UHF analogue system between Aijmal & Tinsulthia
- c) 6 Chl UHF system between Kailasahar & Vangmun
- d) 6 Chl UHF system between Kailasahar & Dharmanagar
- e) 23 Chl TDM VFT between Siichar & Aizawl and between Shillong

and Aizawl have been commissioned.

(Arunachal-5, Meghalaya-1, Mizoram-1 and Nagaland-4)

II) Assam Circle

- a) 120 Chl Digital UHF equipped with 30 Chls between Lala-Hailakandi.

2. Assam Telecom. Circle:

- a) 3 CTOs and 26 DTOs are functioning in the State covering all the 23 District headquarters for Telegraph facilities.
- b) 448 Combined Offices are functioning in the rural areas to extend Telegraph facilities to remote places.
- c) 9 Telecom centres are operating at different places extending the STD/SD FAX, Telex, Telegraph facilities to Public.

II. Telegraph Services

1. North Eastern Circle:

- a) One 32 Line SFMSS system is going to be installed in CTO Shillong during 1994-95.
- b) 20 SBRIN Terminals are proposed to be installed.
- c) FAX facility is proposed to be installed at three district Headquarters during 1994-95 (Bomdila, Pasighat Churachandpur).
- d) Telecom Centres are proposed to be opened at 11 districts headquarters during 1994-95

III. Postal

Priority is given for opening of post offices in the hilly, tribal and inaccessible areas of the country. During the first two years of the Eighty Five Year Plan, 75 extra departmental branch post offices and 5 departmental sub-post offices have been sanctioned in the North East Region of the country.

STATEMENT-II

Statewise revenue earned by the Government during 90-91 to 93-94 is as follows:-

North East Region

Sl. No.	State	Year-wise Revenue Earned (in Lakhs) by Telecommunication Department.			
		90-91	91-92	92-93	93-94
1.	Assam	3162.00	4329.00	5392.00	7025.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	205.6	258.0	430.8	535.8
3.	Mizoram	164.8	209.6	257.2	388.5
4.	Meghalaya	490.3	762.7	790.1	1036.1

Sl. No.	State	Year-wise Revenue Earned (in Lakhs) by Telecommunication Department			
		90-91	91-92	92-93	93-94
5.	Nagaland	301.3	379.5	580.4	689.8
6.	Tripura	286.5	383.6	472.7	501.9
7.	Manipur	288.	337.6	443.5	596.8

*[Translation]***Agreement with Private Sector**

4529. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH:
DR. LAL BAHADUR
RAWAL:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreement has been reached with NRIs for the setting-up of steel plants in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). Dr. Swraj Paul, Chairman, Caparo Group, U.K. has offered to set up a steel plant in Orissa. This plant, under the name of 'Kalinga Steels (India) Limited' is proposed to be set up in pursuance of a Memorandum of Understanding signed between Dr. Swraj Paul & Government of Orissa. Central Government's approval was accorded for manufacture of 1.5 million tonnes per annum of hot rolled steel coils and 0.42 million tonnes per annum of pig iron, with a total project cost of Rs. 6400 crores. Recently Kalinga Steels (India) Limited has submitted a revised application to the Industrial Development Bank of India, as per which the plant is projected to produce 1.25 million

tonnes per annum of hot rolled steel coils, at an estimated cost of Rs. 4650 crores. The proposal is under the appraisal of the IDBI.

**T.V. Transmitters and AIR Stations
in Madhya Pradesh**

4530. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the locations in Madhya Pradesh where T.V. transmitters/AIR stations are presently functioning and the transmission capacity thereof alongwith the area covered by them;

(b) the names of the various places identified to set up high power T.V. transmitters in the State and the progress made in this regard so far;

(c) the total expenditure incurred thereon so far; and

(d) the time by which the construction work of the remaining T.V. transmitters are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Details are given in the attached *Statement*.

(b) Three high power TV Transmitters are envisaged to be set up at Ambikapur, Guna & Shahdol in Madhya Pradesh, subject to formal sanctioning of the schemes for which action has already been initiated to identify suitable sites.

(c) Since, the schemes are yet to be sanctioned, no expenditure has been incurred so far.

(d) A nominal lead time of 3 to 4 years would be required for implementation of the schemes after their formal approval.

STATEMENT

Details of TV Transmitters/AIR Stations presently functioning in the State of Madhya Pradesh

I. TV Transmitters

- (i) Area of the State covered by TV Service: 64.4% (including fringe areas)
- (ii) Location of TV Transmitters along with their Power.

Sl. No.	Location	Power
1	2	3
1.	Bhopal	10 KW
2.	Gwalior	10 KW
3.	Indore	10 KW
4.	Jabalpur	10 KW
5.	Jagdalpur	1 KW

1	2	3
6.	Raipur	10 KW
7.	Ambikapur	100 W
8.	Bailadilla	100 W
9.	Balaghat	100 W
10.	Betul	100 W
11.	Bhind	100 W
12.	Bilaspur	100 W
13.	Burhanpur	100 W
14.	Chanderi	100 W
15.	Chhatarpur	100 W
16.	Chhindwara	100 W
17.	Damoh	100 W
18.	Dungargarh	100 W
19.	Guna	100 W
20.	Harda	100 W
21.	Jaora	100 W
22.	Itarsi	100 W
23.	Jhabua	100 W
24.	Kanker	100 W
25.	Khandwa	100 W
26.	Khargaon	100 W
27.	Korba	100 W
28.	Kurasia	100 W

1	2	3
29.	Kurwai	100 W
30.	Malanjkhanda	100 W
31.	Mandla	100 W
32.	Mandsaur	100 W
33.	Manindergarh	100 W
34.	Murwara	100 W
35.	Nagda	100 W
36.	Narsimhapur	100 W
37.	Neemuch	100 W
38.	Panchmarhi	100 W
39.	Panna	100 W
40.	Raigarh	100 W
41.	Rajgarh	100 W
42.	Rajhara Jharandili	100 W
43.	Ratlam	100 W
44.	Rewa	100 W
45.	Sagar	100 W
46.	Satna	100 W
47.	Seoni	100 W
48.	Shahdol	100 W
49.	Shajapur	100 W
50.	Sheopur	100 W
51.	Shivpuri	100 W

1	2	3
52.	Sidhi	100 W
53.	Singrauli	100 W
54.	Tikamgarh	100 W
55.	Singrauli	100 W

II. All India Radio

(i) Area of the State covered by Radio Service: 95% (including fringe areas)

(ii) Location of Radio Transmitters along with their Power.

Sl. No.	Location	Power
1	2	3
1.	Ambikapur	20 KW MW Tr.
2.	Bhopal	1 KW MW Tr. 3 KW FM Tr.
3.	Chhatarpur	20 KW MW Tr.
4.	Gwalior	10 KW MW Tr.
5.	Indore	100 KW MW Tr. 1 KW MW Tr. 3 KW FM Tr.
6.	Jabalpur	200 KW MW Tr.
7.	Jagdalpur	20 KW MW Tr.
8.	Raipur	100 KW MW Tr.
9.	Rewa	20 KW MW Tr.
10.	Khandwa	2x3 KW FM Tr. (LRS)

1	2	3
11.	Betul	2x3 KW FM Tr. (LRS)
12.	Bilaspur	2x3 KW FM Tr. (LRS)
13.	Shivpuri	2x3 KW FM Tr.
14.	Chhindwara	2x3 KW FM Tr. (LRS)
15.	Raigarh	2x3 KW FM Tr. (LRS)
16.	Shahdol	2x3 KW FM Tr.
17.	Balaghat	2x3 KW FM Tr. (LRS)
18.	Guna	3 KW FM Tr.
19.	Sagar	2x3 KW FM Tr. (LRS)

Legend

LRS : LOCAL RADIO STATION

Use of Mahua in Food Processing Industry

4531. SHRI SIMON MARANDI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the States and Union Territories where Mahua trees are found in abundance;

(b) the efforts made by the Government to encourage the use of Mahua in the Food Processing Industry; and

(c) the processed food items in which Mahua is used as a raw material?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOT): (a) Mahua is a common tree of the deciduous forests of States like Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal etc.

(b) Government has issued a number of Letters of Intent for manufacture of potable alcohol based on non-molasses raw materials, including Mahua flowers.

(c) Mahua flowers are used mainly for the manufacture of potable alcohol.

Newspapers Published from Bihar

4532. SHRI LALIT ORAON: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the daily, weekly, fortnightly and monthly newspapers/magazines being published from Bihar; and

(b) the names of the newspapers/magazines out of them which have been registered permanently, provisionally and only the title of which have been registered respectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b). There were 379 dailies, 627 weeklies, 124 fortnightlies and 204 monthlies from Bihar registered with the Registrar of Newspapers for India (RNI) as on 31.12.1992. Their names and other details are available in the Annual Report of RNI titled 'Press in India-1993', copy of which is available in the Parliament House Library. All these periodicals have been registered with RNI permanently.

Expenditure on National Highways

4533. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Maharashtra has requested the Union Government that in view of the heavy expenditure incurred on National Highways

the Union Government should bear its due share;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). Due to constraint of resources, the requirement of funds for development and maintenance of National Highways in Maharashtra could not be met in full. A sum of Rs. 3080.00 lakhs was allotted for development and Rs. 1815.54 for Maintenance and Repair for National Highways in Maharashtra for 1993-94.

[English]

Doordarshan coverage in Gujarat

4534. DR. AMRITLAL KALIDAS PATEL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the places in Gujarat State which are not covered by Doordarshan network so far;

(b) whether the Government have received representations from the social organisation of the State as well as from the state Government for the extension of Doordarshan Network in the State; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Whereas satellite derived service of Doordarshan is available throughout the country, terrestrial transmission is

available, wholly or partially, in all the districts of Gujarat.

(b) Yes, Sir. Representations have been received from various quarters.

(c) To strengthen TV service, 22 TV transmitters of varying powers are under implementation/envisaged to be set up in the State. On completion of these projects coverage is expected to increase from existing 77% population of 65.5% area to 94% population & 89.7% area of the State.

[Translation]

Theft of Parcels in M.P.

4535. SHRI BARE LAL JATAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Unstarred Question No. 1506 on December 13, 1993 and state;

(a) whether the information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) No case of stealing of Foreign Parcels from General Post Offices in Madhya Pradesh during 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 has been reported. However, disposal of 114 V.P. parcels after their receipt at Jabalpur Head Office during the following period has not been forthcoming.

1992-93	—	59
1993-94	—	55

Departmental enquiries have been conducted. Shri P.K. Das, Postal Assistant, Jabalpur Head Office has been suspended. C.B.I., Jabalpur has registered a criminal case on 29-10-93.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Telephones out of orders in Delhi

4536. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephones went out of order during April, 1994, datewise in the Chanakyapuri Telephone Exchange and how does this compare with other exchanges, exchange-wise, in the capital;

(b) the reasons for the telephones going out of order so frequently;

(c) the time taken to set the telephones right at Chanakyapuri and how does that compare with other exchanges;

(d) the reasons for taking undue long time in attending to the defective telephones and the steps taken to tone up the working of the said exchange; and

(e) the steps taken not to charge any rent for the period the telephones remained out order?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Number of telephones which went out of order is given in the *Statement* attached. Comparative data for other exchanges in the system is also indicated therein.

(b) There is normally no case of telephone going faulty frequently. Tele-

phones reported faulty are attended to properly and service verified with the subscribers. Repeat faults if any are thoroughly looked into and corrective action taken for providing satisfactory service to the customers.

(c) About 80% of the faulty telephones are set right in 24 hours.

The data for the last three months for Chanakyapuri Exchange and other exchanges in the system is indicated below:-

Percentage of faults cleared in 24 hours

	Chanakyapuri Exchange	All exchanges
January 94	89.0%	75.6%
February 94	88.5%	77.5%
March	76.8%	72.0%

(d) There is no undue long time in attending to the defective telephones as is evident from the statistics at (c) above. Delay in rectification occurs in cases of cable thefts and other cable damages when restoration of service would be 3 to 7 days depending upon the extent of damage.

Following steps have been initiated to tone up the working of Chanakyapuri Exchange:-

1. Sample check of cleared faults by way of redialling to the customers to ascertain his satisfaction about quality of work done.
2. Extensive routine testing of exchange equipment.

3. Locking of cabinets/pillars and DPs.

4. Monitoring of fault rectification process at the highest level.

(e) Departmental rules provide not to charge any rent from the customers if the telephone remains out of order for 7 days or more. This is already being implemented.

STATEMENT

Faults in Chanakayapuri Exchange & Cooperative statement for faults/100 stns. in chy and Delhi Telephone System

Faults for 100 Stations

Date	Net Faults in Chy. Exchange	For Chanakayapuri Exchange	For other Exchanges in the system
1.4.94	279	0.61	0.66
2.4.94	206	0.45	0.62
3.4.94	183	0.41	0.40
4.4.94	557	1.22	0.87
5.4.94	371	0.82	0.89
6.4.94	258	0.57	0.88
7.4.94	224	0.49	0.91
8.4.94	329	0.72	0.88
9.4.94	329	0.72	0.79
10.4.94	63	0.13	0.38
11.4.94	346	0.76	0.87
12.4.94	297	0.65	0.91
13.4.94	224	0.49	0.85
14.4.94	348	0.77	0.63
15.4.94	102	0.41	0.83
16.6.94	225	0.49	0.78
17.4.94	34	0.07	0.40

Steel Producers' Forum

4537. SHRI LOKANATH CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether an integrated Steel Producers' Forum has been formed; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SON-TOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). In August, 1993 the three integrated steel producers viz. SAIL, TISCO and RINL had decided to hold seminars all across the country mainly with the objective of emphasizing the quality and reliability aspects of steel produced by the integrated steel plants. For this purpose it was decided to constitute a Core Group consisting of representatives from the three integrated steel plants. These seminars were to be held under the aegis of a forum viz. Integrated Steel Producers' Forum. However, no such seminar has been organised till date.

Ilmenite deposits in Kerala

4538. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Geological Survey of India has located fresh deposits of Ilmenite in the coastal region of Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b). As a result of survey carried out by Geological Survey of India (GSI), occurrences of

Ilmenite and Monazite have been reported in the coastal sands at Varkala, Chavara and Neendakara in Kollam district, Blangoo to Poonani in Malappuram district, between Kumla and Mangalore in Kannur district and Vizhinjam Kovalam Veli, Pachalur in Thiruvananthapuram district of Kerala. Further work in these areas is in progress.

Mining in Bihar

4539. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of plans submitted to IBM by Mine owners in Bihar from 1991 to 1994 till date;

(b) the number of plans received back from the IBM after necessary approval;

(c) whether there is inordinate delay on the part of IBM in the clearance of these plans;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps being taken for earliest approval of the Plans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b). As reported by Indian Bureau of Mines, during the years 1990-91 to 1993-94 (upto 20.3.94) 174 mining plans submitted by mine-owners in Bihar were received by Regional Office of Indian Bureau of Mines, Ranchi (Bihar). Out of these, 13 mining plans were withdrawn by parties concerned. The Indian Bureau of Mines approved 92 mining plans and 43 mining plans were rejected by Bureau during this period. 31 mining plans are pending with parties concerned after

scrutiny done by IBM for modification. 4 mining plans are pending with Director General, Mines Safety for comments and only 1 mining plan of 1993-94 is pending with Indian Bureau of Mines for disposal.

(c) to (e). No, Sir. However, in a few cases, delay occurred in approval of mining plans due to (i) late submission of modified mining plans by Recognised Qualified Persons (RQPs), (ii) delay in submission of modified mining plans by RQPs on the basis of essential and technical deficiencies pointed out by IBM. The steps taken by IBM for expeditious disposal of mining plans include (i) proper directions to RQPs through relevant circulars issued from time to time by IBM (ii) proper guidance given during field visits by IBM officials to RQPs and mine-owners on preparation of mining plans and the removal of technical deficiencies (iii) organisation and conducting of training programmes for RQPs in IBM for giving them due exposure on requirement and preparation of mining plans.

Bread Prices

4540. SHRI BHEEM SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently increased bread prices in Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that some retail traders are charging more than the prescribed price;

(d) if so, the action being taken by the Government in this regard; and

(e) the measures adopted to ensure the quality of the bread?

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

(a) No, Sir. The bread prices have been decontrolled in Delhi since October, 1991.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No such complaints have been received in the Ministry of Food Processing Industries.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Quality of bread is covered under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act 1954 and Rules 1955.

[Translation]

Investments in Deep Sea Fishing Units

4541. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of deep sea fishing units functioning under the administrative control of the Government; and

(b) the investments made by the Government in these units and profit being earned therefrom, unit-wise?

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

(a) and (b). There are no commercial deep sea fishing units under the administrative control of Government of India. However, some Government institutions operate deep sea fishing vessels for survey, research, training etc. These institutions are not commercial organisations and therefore the question of profit or loss does not arise.

[English]

Production of Milk Powder

4542. SHRI M.G.REDDY:
SHRI DHARMA-
BHIKSHAM:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government buy milk from small milk producers for preparing milk powder;

(b) if so, whether these milk producers have not been paid their dues;

(c) if so, the steps proposed by the Union Government to compensate the poor milk producers;

(d) the number of memoranda received from entrepreneurs in 1993-94 for setting up milk products manufacturing units;

(e) the number of such applications pending with the Government; and

(f) the steps being taken to expedite their disposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGO): (a) to (c). Although milk powder is manufactured by cooperatives, public sector and private sector units; only Maharashtra Government run dairies produce milk powder from milk procured from the farmers. This Ministry has not received any complaint on non-payment of dues.

(d) to (f). In the year 1993-94, 65 Industrial Entrepreneurs Memoranda have

been filed by the entrepreneurs for setting up of milk product manufacturing units. Milk product manufacturing has been delicensed and no application is pending in this Ministry in this regard.

Bhakra-Beas Management Board

4543. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the control of Ropar, Harike and Ferozepur head works should be with Bhakra-Beas Management Board as per the provisions of Punjab Reorganisation Act;

(b) whether these head works have been transferred by the Punjab Government to the Bhakra-Beas Management Board;

(c) the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Union Government now propose to direct Punjab Government to transfer these head works to Bhakra-Beas Management Board; and

(e) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (e). The Punjab Reorganisation Act, 1966 (31 of 1966) provides for the administration, maintenance and operation of, inter-alia the irrigation headworks at Ropar, Harike and Ferozepur by Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB). The control of these headworks remains to be transferred to BBMB by Punjab Government. Punjab Government had, however, confirmed supplies of water to Rajasthan and

Haryana based on the principles of distribution decided by the Technical Committee of the BBMB.

Global Data Net Work

4544. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian organisations are subscribing to the global data net work of the South Investment Trade and Technology Data Exchange Centre;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the financial implications of India by subscribing to the said Global network?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The South Investment Trade and Technology Data Exchange Centre is a G-15 project coordinated by Malaysia. The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) is the National Focal Point for developing the necessary in-house infrastructure to link up with SITTDEC in Malaysia. FICCI has already launched this project in India and has registered 150 Indian users of SITTDEC database as on 31st December, 1993.

(c) India made a voluntary contribution of US Dollars Twenty Five Thousand towards the setting up of SITTDEC. It is proposed to make SITTDEC commercially sustaining by enabling it to accept

subscribers directly from developing country members.

Assistance to Deep Sea Fishing Vessel Owners

[*Translation*]

4545. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the subsidy provided in 1993-94 for the setting up of shrimp processing plants;

(b) whether Marine Products Export Development Authority provides assistance to the primary producers of deep-sea shrimp; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries and the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) provided an amount of Rs. 67.50 lakhs and Rs. 130.29 lakhs respectively as grant-in-aid/subsidy during 1993-94 for setting up/modernisation of fish processing plants including the processing of shrimps.

(b) The Marine Products Export Development Authority has taken several steps to promote production and export of products through deep sea fishing. Assistance is available to all deep sea fishing vessel operators including deep sea fishing vessels exploiting deep sea shrimps.

(c) The details are given in the enclosed *Statement*.

STATEMENT

At present, the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) operates the following schemes to promote deep sea fishing:-

(1) *Equity Participation*

MPEDA participates in the share capital of companies for production of value added marine products, deep sea fishing and prawn farming.

(2) *HSD Price Reimbursement Scheme*

Under the scheme, MPEDA reimburses a part of the cost of HSD consumed by deep sea fishing vessels, subject to certain conditions.

(3) *Assistance for Diversified Fishing (Above 20 M. OAL)*

Under this Scheme, MPEDA subsidises the cost of conversion/modification of deep sea fishing vessels (above 20 M OAL) for undertaking diversified fishing.

(4) *Assistance to small mechanised vessels (Below 20 M OAL) (Pilot Scheme)*

To encourage mechanised fishing vessels to operate in deeper waters (50-100M depth) and to undertake multi-day fishing, MPEDA subsidises 30% of the cost of modification work (maximum Rs. 1.50 lakhs per vessel) based on a Pilot scheme.

Hindustan Copper Limited

[English]

4546. SHRI RAMDEW RAM: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to convert the outstanding loan of Hindustan Copper Limited into Equity Capital and to provide financial assistance for pollution control schemes of this Corporation;

(b) whether the Government also propose to provide additional finances for increasing the production capacity of mines under this corporation;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) since when the Government are providing capital assistance to this Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BAL-RAM SINGH YADAV): (a) to (d). Hindustan Copper Limited (HCL) has proposed the conversion of its entire outstanding loan of Rs. 165.56 crores and interest thereon of Rs. 83.00 crores as on 31.3.93 into equity. It has been decided to keep the proposal of the Company in abeyance. The Company is implementing the pollution control schemes from its own resources. The Government has provided financial assistance of Rs. 1.00 crore during 1992-93 for preparation of Techno Economic Feasibility Report for integrated development of Malanikhand Copper Project (MCP). A provision of Rs. 25.00 crores under Plan schemes has been made in the Budget proposals for 1994-95 for HCL. Due to financial constraints, it has not been possible for Government

to extend further financial assistance to the Company.

(a) the number of Telecom centres with STD and Telex-facilities in the country as on February 28, 1994, Circle-wise; and

Telecom Centres

4547. SHRI A. VENKATESH
 NAIK:
 SHRI PETER G. MARBANI-
 ANG:
 SHRI PHOOL CHAND
 VERMA:

(b) the number of such centres proposed to be opened during 1994-95, Circle-wise?

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). The information is provided in the attached *Statement*.

STATEMENT

Telecom Centres with STD & Telex facility

S. No.	Name of Circle	No. of Telecom Centres as on 28-2-94		No. of such centres proposed to be opened during 94-95
		With STD facility	With STD/Telex facilities	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	134	11	16
2.	Assam	4	5	8
3.	Bihar	53	2	21
4.	Delhi	—	—	Nil
5.	Gujarat	Nil	42	5
6.	Himachal Pradesh	1	1	10
7.	Haryana	1	2	Nil
8.	J & K	Nil	2	4
9.	Kerala	24	54	25
10.	Karnataka	17	5	7
11.	Madhya Pradesh	112	Nil	14
12.	Maharashtra	Nil	40	8
13.	North East	4	4	11
14.	Orissa	17	7	39

S. No.	Name of Circle	No. of Telecom Centres as on 28-2-94		No. of such centres proposed to be opened during 94-95
		With STD facility	With STD/Telex facilities	
15.	Punjab	6	8	25
16.	Rajasthan	11	16	45
17.	Tamilnadu	33	27	50
18.	Uttar Pradesh	221	10	12
19.	West Bengal	15	4	34
				341

Sponge Iron plant in Karnataka

4548. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a Sponge Iron Plant in Mangalore, Karnataka;

(b) if so, the estimated cost and capacity of the proposed project; and

(c) the time by which the plant is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c). The Central Government do not propose to set up a Sponge Iron Plant in Mangalore, Karnataka. The new industrial policy announced in July, 1991, has removed 'iron and steel' from the list of industries reserved for the public sector and also exempted it from the requirements of compulsory licensing. No Industrial Licence is, therefore, required for establishment of iron and steel plants in the private sector at locations not within 25 kms. of

a city with a population in excess of 10 lakhs as per the 1991 census.

Training in Modern Technology

4549. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of personnel from Department of Telecommunications sent abroad for training in modern technology during the last three years, year-wise and Circle-wise;

(b) the number of personnel out of them who completed their training;

(c) whether their services have been utilised; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) 395 personnel of Department of Telecommunications were sent abroad for training in modern

technology during the last 3 years. The details, circle-wise and year-wise, are given in the enclosed *Statement*.

(b) Out of 395 personnel, 377 have completed training and 18 are still under-going training.

(c) and (d). Services of 360 personnel have been utilised. The services of 10 personnel will be utilised on receipt of relevant equipment and the services of remaining 7 personnel are also proposed to be utilised in due course for similar equipment.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Name of Circle	1991-92 No. of persons sent abroad for trg. in new Tech.	1992-93 No. of persons sent abroad for trg. in new Tech.	1993-94 No. of persons sent abroad for trg. in new Tech.
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1	3	11
2.	Bihar	1	Nil	6
3.	Gujarat	2	Nil	20
4.	Haryana	Nil	3	Nil
5.	Himachal Pradesh	Nil	Nil	Nil
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	Nil	Nil	1
7.	Karnataka	Nil	1	15
8.	Kerala	1	1	8
9.	Maharashtra	4	1	13
10.	Madhya Pradesh	3	1	7
11.	North East	2	Nil	Nil
12.	Orissa	1	1	Nil
13.	Rajasthan	Nil	Nil	Nil
14.	Punjab	2	Nil	9
15.	Uttar Pradesh	5	1	19
16.	Tamil Nadu	1	1	8
17.	West Bengal	1	Nil	1

Sl. No.	Name of Circle	1991-92 No. of persons sent abroad for trg. in new Tech.	1992-93 No. of persons sent abroad for trg. in new Tech.	1993-94 No. of persons sent abroad for trg. in new Tech.
18.	Assam	Nil	Nil	1
19.	Northern Telecom Region	3	2	Nil
20.	Eastern Telecom Region	4	Nil	Nil
21.	Western Telecom Region	3	Nil	Nil
22.	Southern Telecom Region	4	Nil	Nil
23.	Northern Telecom Project	1	Nil	1
24.	Eastern Telecom Project	Nil	Nil	2
25.	Western Telecom Project	1	Nil	Nil
26.	Southern Telecom Project	1	1	1
27.	MTNL New Delhi	2	5	31
28.	MTNL Bombay	2	4	28
29.	Calcutta Telephones	2	Nil	6
30.	Madras Telephones	2	2	12
31.	Quality Assurance	Nil	1	5
32.	Railway Electrification	Nil	Nil	Nil
33.	Telecom Factory, Bombay	Nil	Nil	Nil
34.	Telecom Factory, Calcutta	Nil	Nil	Nil
35.	Data Network, Noida	Nil	Nil	Nil
36.	Defence Network	Nil	Nil	Nil
37.	Advanced Level Telecom Training Centre, Ghaziabad	4	5	18
38.	North East Task Force	1	Nil	2
39.	Tech. & Dev. Jabalpur	1	Nil	13

Sl. No.	Name of Circle	1991-92 No. of persons sent abroad for trg. in new Tech.	1992-93 No. of persons sent abroad for trg. in new Tech.	1993-94 No. of persons sent abroad for trg. in new Tech.
40.	BRBRAITT, Jabalpur	1	1	5
41.	Telecom Factory, Jabalpur	1	Nil	Nil
42.	Telecom Commission H/OR.	6	4	24
43.	Telecom Engg. Centre	1	3	10
44.	National Centre for Elec. Switching	Nil	Nil	4
45.	Satellite Project, N. Delhi	Nil	1	Nil
Total		64	42	289

Grand Total : 395

[Translation]

AIR/Doordarshan

4550. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:
Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND
BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the stories filed in
Hindi after the setting up of Hindi Pool in
AIR and Doordarshan; and

(b) the number of the employees
working in Hindi Pool?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF
THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND
BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH
DEO): (a) Such information is not main-
tained centrally in a compiled form.
However, 20 to 25 new items are pre-

pared every day in the Hindi News Pool
functioning in the News Services Division
of All India Radio. Doordarshan does not
have a parallel set up but uses the copy
supplied by AIR.

(b) At present, nine regular employ-
ees are working in the Hindi News Pool
and in addition casual employees are
booked on daily basis, depending upon
the work load.

[English]

Inland water way schemes

4551. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR
GANGWAR: Will the Minister of SUR-
FACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of inland water way
schemes which have been accorded
approval during the last three years; and

(b) the details of the schemes alongwith the estimated total cost thereof, scheme-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). The following three important Inland Waterways schemes have been approved by the Govt. during the last three years:-

(i) The scheme for construction of terminal at Gaighat, Patna was sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs. 4.90 crores. On account of increase in the cost of construction, a revised cost estimate is under consideration.

(ii) A scheme for introduction of experimental-cum-promotional operation I.E. vessels by private operators was sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs. 84.00 lakhs. Under this scheme, 2 nos. of 600 T capacity vessels to be hired by the IWAI from CIWTC would be given to the Goa Barge Owners Association free of hire charges, for plying on National Waterway-I (The Ganga), shortly.

(iii) Another scheme sanctioned for promotion of IWT in National Waterways I & II was payment of compensation of 10 paise per river KMT of cargo moved for non-availability of infrastructural facilities. The scheme will be effective initially for a period of 5 years at an estimated cost of Rs. 5.00 crores. This scheme is under implementation.

National Channel of Doordarshan

4552. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:
SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN
SHARAN SINGH:
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH:

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

(a) whether there was a proposal to commission a National Channel of Doordarshan in joint sector;

(b) if so, whether the said proposal has been postponed; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) No provision has been made under the Eighth Plan of Doordarshan in view of non availability of resources.

Card-pay phone facility

4553. SHRIMATI DIPIKA
H. TOPIWALA:
SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:
SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN
SHARAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce card-pay-phone facility in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the proposed per call rate; and

(c) the places where the said facility is proposed to be provided?

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

(b) The details of the scheme are being worked out.

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

Joint Venture with Coca-Cola and Nestle

4554. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYA SADUL: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have cleared a joint venture of Coca-Cola and Nestle for 'Ready to Drink Iced Tea;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the expected period by which the same is to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUNGOGOI): (a) No, Sir.

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

[*Translation*]

STD/PCOs in States

4555. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether new S.T.D.s/P.C.O.s were allotted during 1992-93; and

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

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

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

STD/PCOs allowed during the year 1992-93

S. No.	Name of Circle/ Metro Districts	1992-93
1.	Andhra Pradesh	766
2.	Assam	201
3.	Bihar	242
4.	Gujarat	2801
5.	Jammu & Kashmir	46
6.	Kerala	1316
7.	Karnataka	788
8.	Madhya Pradesh	933
9.	Maharashtra	1914
10.	Orissa	276
11.	Haryana	397
12.	Himachal Pradesh	125
13.	Punjab	1642
14.	Rajasthan	1056
15.	North East	41
16.	Tamil Nadu	350
17.	Uttar Pradesh	1723
18.	West Bengal	3
<i>Metro Districts</i>		
19.	Calcutta	604
20.	Madras	471
21.	Delhi	1314
22.	Bombay	976

Telephone Connections

4556. SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA
KAUR (DEEPA)
SHRI HARISH NARAYAN
PRABHU ZANTYE:
SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:
SHRI SOBHANADREES-
WARA RAO VADDE:
SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA
RAJE:
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:
SHRI K. PRADHANI:
SHRI SIMON MARANDI:
PROF. RASA SINGH
RAWAT:
SHRI S.B. SIDNAL:
SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL:

years and current year, State-wise, and category-wise;

(c) the target fixed for 1993-94, State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to reduce the waiting list?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Information is given in Col. '3' of the attached *Statement*.

(b) Information is being compiled and will be placed on the Table of the House.

(c) Information is given in Col. 4 of the attached *Statement*.

(d) 8th Five Year Plan of Deptt. of Telecommunication envisages waiting period not to exceed two years in large telephone systems and telephone practically on demand in rural/tribal areas.

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons on the waiting list of telephone connections as on date, State/Union Territory-wise;

(b) the number of telephone connections released during the last three

STATEMENT

S. No. Name of the State		Waiting list as on 31.3.1994	DELs Target for 1993-94
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	155426	77000
2.	Assam	9820	13000
3.	Bihar	35544	27000
4.	Gujarat (Includes Dadar & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu, U.Ts.)	198808	81000
5.	Haryana	67335	41000
6.	Himachal Pradesh	18415	10000

1	2	3	4
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	18190	7000
8.	Karnataka	165886	62000
9.	Kerala (Includes Lakshdweep U.T.)	314442	53000
10.	Madhya Pradesh	52587	98000
11.	Maharashtra (Includes Goa State)	341529	156800
12.	North East (Includes Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland & Tripura)	5217	7300
13.	Orissa	4171	26000
14.	Punjab (Includes Chandigarh U.T.)	189462	51000
15.	Rajasthan	162571	62000
16.	Tamil Nadu (Includes Pondicherry U.T.)	310992	96700
17.	Uttar Pradesh	125496	115000
18.	West Bengal (Includes Sikkim State, Andaman & Nicobar Islands)	68083	93600
19.	Delhi	250901	76600

[English]

**Development of National Highways
In Assam**

4557. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN:
Will the Minister of SOURCE TRANS-
PORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of projects for devel-
opment of the National Highways in the
State sent by the Government of Assam
during last year;

(b) the number out of them cleared
or sent back for review; and

(c) the fund sanctioned for the
cleared projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF
THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANS-

PORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to
(c). 33 National Highway project propos-
als aggregating to Rs. 90.27 crores were
received from the Government of Assam
for Development of National Highways in
the State during the year 1993-94. Out of
these 21 projects aggregating to Rs. 4.48
crores have been sanctioned and 8
projects aggregating to Rs. 69.55 crores
have been sent back for review.

[Translation]

**Assistance for Identifying Investment
Potentials**

4558. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUD-
HARY: Will the Minister of FOOD PRO-
CESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to
state:

(a) the assistance provided by the
Government to organisations, for identi-

fying investment potential in the food processing zones during the last two years, State-wise; and

(b) the potentials identified by these Organisations?

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

(a) and (b). Under the plan scheme of the Ministry in last two years, assistance has been extended to organisations in the States of Assam, Bihar, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Manipur, Orissa, Pondicherry and West Bengal for studies/surveys for various aspects of the food processing industries which is likely to help in identifying the potentials in various sectors. Some of these reports already prepared indicate potentials for cereal, pulses and maize based products, edible oils, snack food, fruits and vegetable products, mushrooms, milk products and meat and poultry products in those States.

[English]

Posts and Telegraph Services in Gujarat

4559. SHRI GABHAJI MANGAJI THAKORE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to improve the Telephone, Posts and Telegraph Services in Gujarat;

(b) whether the revenue earned from these services in the State during 1992-93 and 1993-94 has been higher in comparison to other States;

(c) if so, the total expenditure incurred by the Government on these services during the above period in the State;

(d) the extent to which the posts, telegraph and telephone services are likely to be improved during 1994-95;

(e) whether all the villages are likely to be provided all these facilities during the current five year plan; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Details are given in the attached *Statement*.

(c) The amount spent on Telecom services in Gujarat for operation and maintenance is Rs. 130.22 crore for 1992-93 and Rs. 152.67 crore for 1993-94.

(d) Measures proposed are given below:

Telegraph Services

It is proposed to commission the following equipments:

- | | | |
|--|---|----|
| 1. Electronic Key Board concentrator | - | 10 |
| 2. Electronic Key Boards | - | 89 |
| 3. Teleprinter Concentrators | - | 04 |
| 4. Formatted Terminals | - | 64 |
| 5. SFMSS-128 at Ahmedabad (SFMSS-64 working at present will be upgraded) | | |
| 6. SFMSS-32 at Rajkot | | |

The following measures are proposed:

1. ALL MAX-III and some of the life expired MAX-II & MAX-I Exchanges totalling 35200 lines are proposed to be replaced by electronic exchanges.

2. Opening of 75 new exchanges
3. Addition of 2,38,200 lines in net equipped capacity
4. Provision of 1,50,000 new telephone connections
5. Extension of STD service to 200 more stations. all the taluka headquarters without STD are proposed to be provided with STD during 1994.-95.
6. Telephone service will be provided to remaining 4346 gram panchayat villages. With this all the 13421 gram Panchayat villages will be provided with telephone facility.

(e) and (f). As on 31-3-94, 9075 gram panchayat villates out of a total of 13421 have been provided with telephone facility. Remaining 4346 gram panchayat villages are planned to be provided with telephone facility during 1994-95. All the remaining villages in Gujarat are likely to be provided with telephone facility by the end of 8th Plan.

Postal

(a) Measures to improve postal facilities in Gujarat are being regularly taken in terms of expanding the existing postal network, providing more departmental buildings, upgrading the technology of equipments used in post and mail offices, provision of speedier delivery of mails through the Speed Post network, etc.

(b) and (c). In 1992-93 and 1993-94, the Circle earned revenue of Rs. 66.51 crores and Rs. 65.057 crores respectively. The amount incurred in running the service during the same period comes to Rs. 100.32 crores and Rs. 97.85 crores respectively.

While the postal revenue in the State of Gujarat for the year 1992-93 is higher than some of other States and for the year 1993-94, final shape to information has not yet been given. Therefore, no comparison can be made at present for the year 1993-94. However, no real comparison can be made because the revenue depends on the area of the State, its population, the state of industrial and agricultural development, the number of post offices and th enature of postal business in that area.

(d) to (f). In the first two years of the 8th Plan period, 56 post offices have been sanctioned in Gujarat Circle. Target for the year 1994-95 has not yet been finalised. There are 5183 Gram Panchayats in Gujarat which do not have any post offices at present. According to the Government's policy of giving priority for providing post offices in Gram Panchayats areas, where no such facility exists, these areas will be progressively covered, subject to availability of resources, allocation of target by the Planning Commission and satisfaction of norms.

STATEMENT

Revenue Earned by Gujarat Circle during 1992-93 and 1993-94 (upto Feb. '94) and other Circles is as under:

(In Crores of Rs.)

Sl. No.	Name of Circle	1992-93	1993-94 (Upto Feb. '94)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	365.43	404.16
2.	Assam	45.52	56.02

Sl. No.	Name of Circle	1992-93	1993-94 (Upto Feb. '94)
3.	Bihar	110.74	111.25
4.	Gujarat	410.26	499.10
5.	Haryana	82.89	92.47
6.	Himachal Pradesh	20.38	22.30
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	20.32	17.82
8.	Karnataka	356.40	430.30
9.	Kerala	206.85	248.39
10.	Madhya Pradesh	195.57	227.84
11.	Maharashtra	386.61	449.39
12.	North East	21.96	26.58
13.	Punjab	214.56	230.00
14.	Orissa	54.94	66.17
15.	Rajasthan	160.14	193.28
16.	Tamil Nadu	264.70	315.33
17.	Uttar Pradesh	276.40	312.71
18.	West Bengal	41.91	31.61
19.	Calcutta Distt.	257.90	334.96
20.	Madras Distt.	267.20	362.44

Telecom Project in Punjab

4560. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that memorandum of Understanding has been signed

by Deutsche Telepost Consulting Gumbit (Detecon) of Germany, Fujitsu Ltd., of Japan and Virgo Marketing Private Limited of New Delhi with Punjab State Industrial Development Corporation (PSIDC) for setting up telecom project in Punjab;

(b) if so, the details of the cost involved; and

(c) the location where the project is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Punjab State Industrial Development Corporation (PSIDC) have submitted an application to FIPB in March 94 for providing Telecom services in Punjab by a consortium consisting of PSIDC, Fujitsu Ltd., Detecon and Virgo Marketing Pvt. Ltd.

(b) The total proposed cost of the project is Rs. 1090.24 crores including a foreign exchange investment of Rs. 261.60 crores over a three year period.

(c) The project is proposed to be implemented in whole of Punjab Telecom Circle.

Rubberised Roads

4561. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the countries where rubberised road technology has been successfully used;

(b) whether such roads are more durable and safe;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Central Road Research Wing has taken cognizance of such roads;

(e) whether any research is being done in this respect;

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANS-

PORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). U.S.A. Canada, Malaysia and Singapore are some of the countries which are understood to have made use of rubber in road construction. The bitumen modified with rubber is found to possess improved properties.

(d) to (f). Two Research Schemes involving the use of rubber and other additives have been taken up.

One scheme has been entrusted to Highway Research Station, Madras and Gujarat Engineering Research Institute, Vadodara while the second Scheme to the Central Road Research Institute, New Delhi.

Gold Reserves in India

4562. SHRI A. PRATHAP

SAI:

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL

KATHERIA:

SHRI SUSHIL

CHANDRA VARMA:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated gold reserves available in the country at present;

(b) the annual production of gold and diamond in the country during the last three years;

(c) the States in which gold is extracted in the country;

(d) whether the Government propose to introduce any new technology for gold extraction; and

(e) the details of the public sector undertakings engaged in gold production and profits earned by each of the undertaking during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) The all-India total recoverable reserves of primary gold ore as on 1-4-1993 as per the national mineral inventory are around 18 million tonnes with a total gold content of about 67 tonnes.

(b) The total production of gold and diamonds during the last three years is as under:-

	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94 (Provisional)
Gold (Kgs.)	2036	1838	2076
Diamond (Carats)	18213	18752	15768**

**Upto Jan., 1994

(c) Gold is extracted in the country mainly in Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.

(d) Companies engaged in production of gold update their technology and equipment from time to time depending on their availability and company's resources.

(e) Bharat Gold Mines Ltd. (BGML) and Hutti Gold Mines Company Ltd. (HGML) are the only two primary producers of gold in the country. Profit earned/losses incurred by these companies are as under:-

(Rs. in crores; Profit + ; Loss -)

	Bharat Gold Mines Ltd.	Hutti Gold* Mines Co. Ltd.
1991-92	- 42.28	+21.55
1992-93	- 34.40	+1.50
(Provisional)	- 35.44	+ 5.32

*(Profitability related to gold operations only)

Import of Telecom Equipment by MNCs

4563. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether MNC's are importing the Telecom equipments in finished form instead of manufacturing it in India;

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

(c) whether Counter Vailing Duty (CVD) is being imposed on import of Finished Telecom Goods;

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

(e) whether Indian manufacturers are subjected to rigorous Procedures of Quality Assurance, TEC Type Approval Bulk Production clearance; Environmental tests etc.and in the process projects of Indian manufacturers get delayed;

(f) if so, whether MNCs are exempted from all these tests; and

(g) if so, the details with reasons therefor and the concrete steps taken by the Government to mitigate the difficulties of Indian manufacturers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). According to the Export - Import Policy announced by the Government of India, import of all Telecom. equipment except consumer telecom equipments is allowed without any permission or licence from the Government. The Indian Companies as well as the MNCs can import finished telecom. equipment.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Counter-vailing Duty has been imposed on the import of specified finished Telecom Equipment under Custom Notification No. 79/94 dated 1-3-94.

(e) Indigenous manufacturers are subjected to validation tests and Quality Assurance tests by the Department of Telecom to examine the conformance to the Specifications and quality. These tests are conducted in the minimum reasonable time.

(f) Validation tests are performed by the Department of Telecom on MNCs products also. The Switching Equipments of the new technology from MNCs have, however, not been subjected to any QA tests. All QA tests will be performed when these equipments are productionised in India.

(g) The present practice of conducting Quality Assurance tests in Factories is essential to get quality products and it cannot be treated as problems to manufacturers.

New Akashwani Stations

4564. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up new stations all over the country;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Details are given in the attached *Statement*.

STATEMENT

List of New Air Stations that are being set up in the country

Sl. No.	Location	State
1	2	3
1.	Ziro	Arunachal Pradesh
2.	Kokrajhar	Assam
3.	Tezpur	Assam
4.	Diphu	Assam
5.	Bhubri	Assam
6.	Dhanbad	Bihar
7.	Junagarh	Gujarat
8.	Hissar	Haryana
9.	Kinnaur	Himachal Pradesh
10.	Kullu	Himachal Pradesh
11.	Bhadarwah	Jammu and Kashmir
12.	Kargil	Jammu and Kashmir
13.	Poonch	Jammu and Kashmir
14.	Bijapur	Karnataka
15.	Nasik	Maharashtra
16.	Osmanabad	Maharashtra
17.	Churachandpur	Manipur
18.	Jowai	Meghalaya
19.	Lungleh	Mizoram
20.	Saiha	Mizoram (Yet to be approved)

1	2	3
21.	Mokokchung	Nagaland
22.	Fourkela	Orissa
23.	Puri	Orissa
24.	Jhoranda	Orissa
25.	Mount Abu	Rajasthan
26.	Ootacamund	Tamilnadu
27.	Kodaikanal	Tamilnadu
28.	Tuticorin	Tamilnadu
29.	Longtherai	Tripura
30.	Chamoli	Uttar Pradesh
31.	Pauri/Srinagar	Uttar Pradesh
32.	Pithoragarh	Uttar Pradesh
33.	Uttarkashi	Uttar Pradesh
34.	Aligarh	Uttar Pradesh
35.	Mussoorie	Uttar Pradesh
36.	Asansol	West Bengal
37.	Maldah	West Bengal
38.	Darjeeling	West Bengal
39.	Daman (Daman & Diu)	Union Territory
40.	Karaikal (Pondicherry)	Union Territory

Strike by Telecom Employees

4565. SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM:
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS
be pleased to state:

(a) whether the employees of the
Department of Telecom have decided to
go on indefinite strike shortly if their

demands were not met by the Govern-
ment;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Govern-
ment thereto; and

(c) the steps being taken by the
Government to avert the strike?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V.
RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir. Howev-
er, National Telecom. Staff Federation
and its affiliate unions (which are not
recognised service unions) have intimat-
ed that the employees of MTNL would be
going on indefinite tool down strike w.e.f.
26-4-94 in case their demands are not
met by the Government.

(b) The demands projected by
National Telecom. Staff Federation have
been examined and necessary action to
the extent possible within the frame work
of rules has been taken. The proposed
strike is totally uncalled for.

(c) Following steps have been taken
to avert the threatened strike in M.T.N.L.:-

(i) The demands have been exam-
ined and the action to the extent
feasible under the rules is being
taken. The position on each item
of demand has been intimated
by the Deptt. of NTSF.

(ii) CMD MTNL., has held dialogue
with the representatives of the
NTSF and has explained the
position on each item of de-
mand. An appeal to call off the
agitation has also been made by
him.

(iii) Conciliation proceedings under
the I.D. Act have been started by
the Regional Labour Commis-
sioner (Central).

- (iv) MOS(C) has taken a meeting with the representatives of the service unions concerned on 18-4-94. While assuring them that their demands would receive attention, he appealed to them to call off the proposed strike.

[*Translation*]

Foreign Media

4566. SHRI MOHAN SINGH (FEROZPUR): Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the foreign media is ignoring the Indian laws regulating the telecast of films/serials and news etc.; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) The contents of the programmes of foreign television network, transmitted through satellite, do not come within the ambit of regulations of Govt. of India.

(b) A number of changes in the programme on Doordarshan's Satellite Channels have been carried out to provide wholesome fare of predominantly Indian programming so as to sustain the interest of its viewers.

Damage to National Highways in Maharashtra

4567. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the sections of the national highways in Maharashtra which

are prone to damage on account of natural calamities; and

(b) the steps taken to protect them from the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). There is no specific section of National Highway in Maharashtra which is prone to damage on account of natural calamities. However, stretches that get damaged due to floods etc. are restored within the available funds for maintenance.

Mining of Dereserved Minerals by Foreign Firms

4568. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH:
SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN:
SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the effect of policy changes in the National Mineral Policy (1993-94) and the amendments to the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957, on the mining operations in India; and

(b) the main objectives behind the relaxation on foreigners holding equity in mining companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) As a result of these changes all non atomic and non fuel minerals can now be exploited by the private sector and exclusive reservation for exploitation by the public sector of some of these minerals has been done

away with. Similarly in case of joint sector companies earlier restrictions on equity participation by foreign partners have been relaxed. Further, mining rights can now be given to any company as defined in Sub Section I of the Section 3 of the Companies Act, 1956.

(b) The above changes have been made to attract investment and up-to-date technology in the mineral sector so as to speed up the pace of mineral development in the country.

[English]

Collection of Road Tax in Gujarat

4569. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the total revenue collected by way of Road Tax from the transport system on National Highways in Gujarat during the last five years; and

(b) the amount spent on the development and maintenance of National Highway No. 8 in Gujarat out of their revenue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Road Tax is collected for a particular period for plying a vehicle in a State or in the entire territory of the country. It is not collected on National-Highways basis.

[Translation]

Monographs of National Leaders

4570. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the national leaders the monographs of whom have

been published by the publications department;

(b) the names of various leaders of Bihar the monographs of whom have been published;

(c) whether any partiality has been shown in regard to publication of the monographs of leaders; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P SINGH DEO): (a) To date, Publications Division has published '85' biographies on great Indian personalities as per the *Statement* enclosed.

- (b) (i) Dr. Rajendra Prasad.
 (ii) Shri Sachchidananda Sinha
 (iii) Shri Krishna Singh
 (iv) Shri Mazharul Haque.

The publishing of the biographies of Lok Nayak Jayprakash Narayan and Babu Jagjivan Ram is under process.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

List showing the names of Great Indian Personalities whose biographies have been published by publications division of Ministry of Information & Broadcasting

1. Abul Kalam Azad
2. Annie Besant
3. Asutosh Mookerjee
4. Ananda K. Coomaraswamy

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| 5. Badruddin Tyabji | 36. K. Kamaraj |
| 6. Bankim Chandra Chatterjee | 37. K.M. Munshi |
| 7. Bhulabhai Desai | 38. Kandukuri Veeresalingam |
| 8. B.R. Ambedkar | 39. Lokamanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak |
| 9. Bipin Chandra Pal | 40. Lal Bahadur Shastri |
| 10. C. Shankaran Nair | 41. Lajpat Rai: Life & Work |
| 11. Charles Freer Andrews | 42. M.R. Jayakar |
| 12. C.V. Raman | 43. M. Visvesvaraya |
| 13. C. Subramaniam Iyer | 44. Madan Mohan Malaviya |
| 14. Dadabhai Naoroji | 45. Mahadeo Govind Ranade |
| 15. Deshbandhu Chittaranjan Dass | 46. Mazharul Haque |
| 16. Deshapriya Jatindra Mohan Sengupta | 47. Motilal Nehru |
| 17. Dewan Rangacharlu | 48. Madam Bhikhaji Cama |
| 18. Dhondo Keshav Karve | 49. Dr. N.S. Hardikar |
| 19. Dewan Sheshadri Iyer | 50. N.V. Gadgil |
| 20. Gopal Krishna Gokhale | 51. Pattabhi Sitaramayya |
| 21. Gandhi : His Life & Thought | 52. P.S. Sivaswami Aiyar |
| 22. Gopinath Bardoloi | 53. Pherozeshah Mehta |
| 23. Ganesh Shankar Vidyarthi | 54. R.N. Tagore |
| 24. Gangadhar Rao Deshpande | 55. Ramananda Chatterjee |
| 25. G.V. Mavalankar | 56. Rafi Ahmad Kidwai |
| 26. Hakim Ajmal Khan | 57. Raja Rammohan Roy |
| 27. Hanuman Prasad Poddar | 58. Rajendra Prasad |
| 28. Indira Gandhi | 59. Romesh Chander Dutt |
| 29. Jyoti Prasad Aggarwala | 60. Sarojini Naidu |
| 30. Iswar Chandra Vidyasagar | 61. Sayyid Ahmed Khan |
| 31. Jagdish Chandra Bose | 62. S. Srinivasa Iyenger |
| 32. Jarnalal Bajaj | 63. Sachchidananda Sinha |
| 33. Jamsetji Tata | 64. Subhas Chandra Bose |
| 34. Jawaharlal Nehru | 65. S. Satva Murti |
| 35. Kasturi Ranga Iyengar | 66. Surendranath Banerjee |
| | 67. Swamy Vivekananda |
| | 68. Sri Aurobindo |
-

69. Swami Dayananda Saraswati
70. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
71. Thakkar Bapa
72. Telo De Mascarenhas
73. Tej Bahadur Sapru
74. U. Tirot Singh
75. V.S. Srinivasa Sastri
76. Vithalbhai Patel
77. V.K. Krishna Menon
78. V.O.C. Pillai
79. Vinoba Bhave
80. Keshub Chunder Sen
81. Shreekrishna Singh
82. Govind Ballabh Pant
83. Acharya Narendra Dev
84. Kaka Saheb Kalelkar
85. S. Radhakrishnan

[English]

T.V. Kendras and Studios in West Bengal

4571. SHRI HARADHAN ROY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up T.V. Stations and T.V. Studios in West Bengal during the Eighth Plan period;

(b) whether there is also any proposal for the expansion of the existing T.V. Stations and Studios in the State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND

BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Besides construction of studio for 2nd channel at DDK Calcutta, two programme Generation Facility centres, and 7 transmitters of varying power are under implementation/envisaged to be set up in the State. On completion of these projects, the coverage is expected to increase from existing 95.4% area and 96% population to over 99% population and area of the State.

Economic relations with Gulf countries

4572. SHRI SHIVLAL NAGJIBHAI VEKARIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to explore the possibilities of strengthening economic relations with the Gulf countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether India and Oman have agreed to organise a business seminar in which potential entrepreneurs from the entire Gulf region are proposed to participate; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) Government continuously explores possibilities to strengthen economic relations with the Gulf countries.

(b) Steps such as meetings of joint economic commissions/committees and exchange of economic delegations where economic ties are reviewed and mutually beneficial proposals are discussed.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. It was proposed jointly to organise a seminar in Muscat (Oman) but was postponed by mutual consent.

Augmentation of C.R.F.

4573. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the composition of the group to which the question of the implementation of Central Road Fund resolution has been referred; and

(b) by when the group is likely to finalise the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The composition of the Group of Ministers is as under:-

- (1) Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Dy. Chairman, Planning Commission.
- (2) Dr. Manmohan Singh, Finance Minister.
- (3) Shri Vidyacharan Shukla, Minister of Water Resources & Parliamentary Affairs.
- (4) Shri Jagdish Tytler, Minister of State of the Ministry of Surface Transport.
- (5) Capt. Satish Sharma, Minister of State for Petroleum & Natural Gas.
- (6) Shri H.R. Bhardwaj, Minister of State in the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs.

(b) It is not possible to indicate the time by which the Government would finalise its recommendations.

[*Translation*]

Quarters for Telecom Employees in Delhi

4574. SHRI LALL BABU RAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether adequate number of quarters have been constructed for the employees of telecommunications in Delhi;

(b) if not, the extent to which the existing number of staff quarters are short of the requirement; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to construct adequate number of quarters for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) (i) D.O.T. - Yes, Sir. (ii) MTNL - No, Sir.

(b) (i) D.O.T. - Not applicable. MTNL - The Departmental Target is to achieve a 14% overall satisfaction level by end of the 8th Plan (1992-97). The shortfall on this basis is 2268 quarters.

(c) Efforts are being made by the D.O.T. to improve the satisfaction level. MTNL is also making suitable efforts to increase the no. of quarters depending upon availability of funds.

[*English*]

AIR/Doordarshan Kendras in Karnataka

4575. SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Doordarshan Kendras and All India Radio Stations functioning in Karnataka and the frequencies thereof; Kendra/Station wise;

(b) the area covered by each Kendra and AIR station;

(c) whether there is proposal to set up new Kendras and AIR stations in Karnataka during 1994-95; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to broadcast and telecast regional programmes from AIR stations and Doordarshan Kendras?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DFO): (a) and (b). Details are given in the attached *Statement*.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Regional programmes in Karnataka State are already being broadcast by AIR stations and telecast by Doordarshan Kendras in the Regional service.

STATEMENT

Details of All India Radio Stations and Doordarshan Kendras functioning in the State of Karnataka

S. Location No.	Frequency/ Band and Channel	Area Covered in sq. kms.
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Doordarshan

1. Bangalore	VHF/05	120
2. Dharwad	VHF/11	120
3. Shimoga	VHF/09	120

S. Location No.	Frequency/ Band and Channel	Area Covered in sq. kms.
4. Gulbarga	VHF/07	60
5. Athani	VHF/08	25
6. Bagalkot	UHF/12	25
7. Bantwal	UHF/30	15
8. Belgaum	VHF/09	25
9. Bellary	VHF/08	25
10. Bidar	VHF/09	25
11. Bijapur	VHF/10	25
12. Chickmagalur	VHF/07	25
13. Chitradurga	VHF/10	25
14. Chickodi	UHF/21	15
15. Davangere	UHF/7	25
16. Gadag Betgiri	VHF/05	25
17. Hassan	VHF/12	25
18. Hospet	VHF/10	25
19. Karwar	VHF/10	25
20. Kolar Gold Field	UHF/31	15

S. Location No.	Frequency/ Band and Channel	Area Covered in sq. kms.
21. Mandya	UHF/25	25
22. Mangalore	VHF/8	25
23. Medikere	VHF/11	25
24. Mysore	VHF/9	25
25. Raichur	VHF/6	25
26. Rani Bennur	UHF/21	15
27. Sandur	VHF/6	25
28. Sirsi	UHF/34	15
29. Tiptur	VHF/8	25
30. Udupi	VHF/6	25

All India Radio

1. Bhadravati	1359 KHz	13300
2. Dharwad	(i) 765 KHz (ii) 1350 KHz	122600 4700
3. Gulburga	1107 KHz	19400
4. Mangalore/ Udupi	(i) 1332 KHz (ii) 1089 KHz	800 2400
5. Mysore	1017 KHz	2300

S. Location No.	Frequency/ Band and Channel	Area Covered in sq. kms.
6. Bangalore	(i) 612 KHz (ii) 675 KHz	127900 5600
7. Hospet	100.5 MHz	11300
8. Hassan	102.2 MHz	11300
9. Chitradurga	102.6 MHz	11300
10. Raichur	102.1 MHz	11300
11. Merkara	103.1 MHz	2800
12. Karwar	102.3 MHz	2800

Certification of Films

4576. SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of films certified (foreign Indian feature and shorts) in different categories during the last three years; and

(b) the number of meetings of the Central Board of Film Certification held during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) The information is given in the attached *Statement*.

(b) Two meetings of the Central Board of Film Certification were held during the period 1991 to 1993.

STATEMENT

Number of Films (Celluloid) certified during the years 1991 to 1993

Sl. No.	Category	Number of Films Certified																
		1991			1992			1993			U	UA	S	Total				
		U	UA	S	Total	U	UA	S	Total	U					UA	S	Total	
1.	Indian feature films	615	94	201	-	910	611	88	137	88	137	-	836	609	79	124	-	812
2.	Foreign feature films	40	10	74	-	124	20	12	48	12	48	-	80	32	22	120	-	174
3.	Indian short films	1088	7	17	1	1113	878	6	11	6	11	-	895	836	34	41	-	911
4.	Foreign short films	187	-	23	-	210	80	11	25	11	25	-	116	77	23	75	-	175
	Total	1930	111	315	1	2357	1569	117	221	117	221	-	1927	1554	158	360	-	2072

NOTE:-

'U' Certificate Unrestricted public exhibition.

'A' Certificate For public exhibition restricted to adults.

'UA' Certificate For unrestricted public exhibition subject to parental guidance for children below the age of 12 years.

'S' Certificate For public exhibition restricted to specialised audience such as doctors etc..

[Translation]

(b) to (d).

Post and Telegraph Offices

4577. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) The targets fixed by the Union Government to open post and telegraph offices in the country during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) whether the above targets have been achieved;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether any targets in this regard have been fixed to be achieved during the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the progress made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c).

Post offices:

During the Seventh Five Year Plan, a target for opening 5350 post offices was fixed against which 4305 post offices were sanctioned.

Telegraph Offices:

There were no targets fixed for opening telegraph offices in the country during the Seventh Five Year Plan.

Telegraph offices:

Question does not arise in view of (a) above. Telegraph offices are opened on demand whenever there is a traffic justification.

Post Offices:

Since January 1984, the procedure for creation of posts was changed and the creation of such posts involved inter-Ministerial consultations. Consequently, the targeted number of post offices could not be opened during the Seventh Plan period.

(e) and (f).

Post Offices

During the Eighth Five Year Plan, it is targeted to open 3600 extra departmental branch post offices and 650 departmental sub post offices. The details of targets and achievements respect of first two years of the Eighth Five Year Plan, viz. 1992-93 and 1993-94 are given in the attached *Statement*.

Telegraph Offices:

No targets have been fixed for opening telegraph offices during the Eighth Five Year Plan as in (a) above.

The details of the progress made so far in respect of telegraph offices during the Eighth Five Year Plan are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Circle-wise break-up for opening of post offices during 1992-93 and 1993-94

Sl. No.	Name of Circle	Target 1992-93		Sanctioned 1992-93		Target 1993-94		Sanctioned 1993-94	
		BO*	SO*	BO	SO	BO	SO	BO	SO
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	19	5	6	9	17	5	10	7
2.	Assam	27	3	27	3	25	3	26	6
3.	Bihar	70	9	70	3	90	8	90	2
4.	Delhi	nil	5	—	9	—	6	—	8
5.	Gujarat	25	5	30	5	20	8	15	5
6.	Haryana	10	3	10	4	10	5	16	5
7.	Himachal Pradesh	15	1	15	1	15	2	90	2
8.	J&K	5	1	5	—	5	1	23	1
9.	Karnataka	15	5	15	7	15	6	15	8
10.	Kerala	10	3	15	7	20	3	30	5
11.	Maharashtra	55	10	62	20	80	5	80	19
12.	Madhya Pradesh	55	5	55	7	85	11	30	5
13.	North East	35	5	35	1	40	4	40	4
14.	Orissa	40	5	40	8	35	4	41	4
15.	Punjab	10	3	10	3	10	3	7	7
16.	Rajasthan	60	6	60	9	30	5	30	5
17.	Tamil Nadu	14	7	10	5	10	4	8	4
18.	Uttar Pradesh	75	10	100	11	93	12	93	13
19.	West Bengal	60	10	70	4	50	5	20	2
Total		600	100	635	116	600	100	664	112

* Branch Post Office

**Sub Post Office

Unauthorised Telephone Exchange

4578. SHRI N.K. BALIYAN:
 SHRI SATYA DEO
 SINGH:
 SHRI V. SREENIVASA
 PRASAD:
 SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:
 SHRI TARA SINGH:
 DR. RAMKRISHNA
 KUSMARIA:
 SHRI PRAKASH V.
 PATIL:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an unauthorised telephone exchange functioning in the Capital was recently unearthed as reported in the Statesman dated March 18, 1994;

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

(c) whether the Government have suffered losses worth crores of rupees due to functioning of this unauthorised telephone exchange; and

(d) if so, the details of the action taken by the Government against those found guilty?

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

(b) A group of persons had taken 11 telephone connections at a premises at Hanuman Road, New Delhi and used these telephone lines for providing subsidized international calls. The matters were tampered which resulted in non-billing of the calls availed on these lines. The suspected telephone lines were kept under observation, the print out of calls made on these telephone lines were

studied and surveillance of the suspected location made/kept. Thereafter raids were conducted on 16.2.94 and racket was busted. The case is under further investigation by CBI for necessary legal action against the racketeers.

(c) Although the Government has suffered losses, the assessment of the exact amount of loss is not possible.

(d) 4 employees of MTNL who are suspected to be involved were arrested by CBI. Further legal action will be taken by the CBI after investigations are completed.

[English]

Mattancherry bridge in Cochin Port

4579. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mattancherry bridge in Cochin Port has completed its safety/guarantee period;

(b) if so, the condition of the bridge now;

(c) whether a new bridge is proposed to be constructed in the place of old one; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Mattancherry Bridge which was constructed in 1938 has outlived its economical life.

(c) and (d). The question of reconstruction of the Mattancherry Bridge by Cochin Port is not under the consideration of the Central Government.

[*Translation*]

Food Processing Units

4580. DR. SAKSHIJI:

SHRI N.J. RATHVA:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state the States and Union Territories where food processing units are proposed to be set up under the modernisation and expansion programmes of the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): Ministry of Food Processing Industries does not set up Food Processing units directly in any State. However, assistance is provided under the developmental plan schemes of the Ministry to State Government (and Union Territories) Organisations/Co-operatives/Voluntary Agencies/Joint Sectors etc. for setting up/upgrading Food Processing Industries. Assistance has so far been extended to the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Goa, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Karnataka, Manipur, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Nagaland, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, U.P. and Lakshadweep etc. under the various plan schemes of the Ministry.

Radio Stations

4581. SHRI RAM SINGH
KASHWAN:
SHRI CHETAN P.S.
CHAUHAN:

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

(a) whether the Government are contemplating on a proposal to allow the

State Governments, Zila Parishads and other agencies to set up and run Radio Stations at local level;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of local radio stations which were planned to be set up by Akashvani during the Seventh Plan period and the number of those out of them, which have started functioning; and

(d) the time by which the remaining radio stations are likely to be made functional?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) During the 7th plan period, 73 Local Radio Stations were planned to be set up in the country, out of which 57 have been commissioned so far.

(d) Remaining 16 radio stations are expected to be completed during the 8th plan period.

[*English*]

**Inclusion of area under MTNL
Bombay**

4582. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether inclusion of entire Bombay Metropolitan Region from Virar to Panvel in the jurisdiction of MTNL, Bombay is under consideration; and

(b) if so, the expected time by which the above proposal is likely to be implemented.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). Information is being collected and would be placed on the Table of the House.

Visvesvaraya Iron and Steel Plant

4583. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

The details of losses suffered or profits earned annually by Visvesvaraya Iron and Steel Limited, Karnataka from 1987-88 to 1993-94?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SON-TOSH MOHAN DEV): Losses suffered by Visvesvaraya Iron and Steel Limited for 1987-88 to 1992-93 are as under:-

Year	Losses (Rs. in crores)
1987-88	24.40
1988-89	26.48
1989-90	3.14*
1990-91	1.50*
1991-92	1.69
1992-93	9.79
1993-94	Accounts not yet finalised

* Without considering adjustments relating to prior period mainly arising out of waiver of interest on term loans, reduction in the rate of interest on working capital loan and other benefits/concessions granted to VISL as a part of take-over agreement between SAIL, Government of Karnataka and Government of India.

Damage to National Highways in Meghalaya

4584. SHRI PETER G. MARBANI-ANG: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the total length of National Highways covering Meghalaya;

(b) the stretches of National Highways in the State which have been identified as prone to damage due to heavy rains; and

(c) the steps taken to protect the same from damage by the natural calamities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) 472 km.

(b) Stretches from km 108 to km 118 of NH 40, km 64 to km 168 of NH 44 and km 118 to km 122 of NH 51 are reported to be prone to damage due to heavy rains.

(c) Protective works, such as, retaining walls, breast walls and drains/cross drainage structures are constructed whenever required subject to availability of funds.

Hindustan Shipyard Limited Visakhapatnam

4585. SHRI RAMA KRISHNA KONATHALA:
SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindustan Shipyard Limited, Visakhapatnam has been suffering losses for the last several years;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government have recently taken some measures revive the HSL;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the HSL has recently bagged a contract for constructing a passenger cum cargo ship from the Andaman and Nicobar administration;

(f) if so, the details of the contract indicating the value thereof, passenger capacity of the ship; period of completion;

(g) whether the aforesaid contract is likely to help in the revival of the HSL; and

(h) if so, the extent thereof?

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

(b) The losses for the last three years were as follows:

	(Rs. in crores)	
	Net	Operational
1990-91	78.35	20.99
1991-92	103.99	19.49
1992-93	113.58	19.45

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The following steps have recently been taken for revival of Hindustan Shipyard Limited:

(i) A revised package of reliefs for shipbuilding industry including a

revised pricing formula, soft loan for shipping companies placing orders on Indian yards etc. was approved on 8.9.93

(ii) Upward revision of the total price of three bulk carriers constructed/ under construction in Hindustan Shipyard Limited for Shipping Corporation of India from Rs. 62.00 crores to Rs. 160.00 crores was approved on 27.1.94.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) On 11.3.94 the contract for one number passenger-cum-cargo vessel was signed by Hindustan Shipyard Limited with Andaman & Nicobar Administration to be delivered within 34 months from the date of contract. The cost of the vessel including Government subsidy is Rs. 194.37 crores. The vessel can carry 1200 passengers and 1500 tons of cargo.

(g) Yes, Sir.

(h) It is expected to contribute about Rs. 63.00 crores towards the yard's overheads over the next three years.

People-to-people contact between India and Pakistan

4586. SHRI TARA SINGH:
SHRI V. SREENIVASA
PRASAD:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned 'Indo-Pak cold war takes its toll' as reported in the Statesman dated February 9, 1994;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) whether people of both the countries are put to lot of hardships in regents to people-to-people contact; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Pakistan, regretablely, has adopted a restrictive visa regime, including pre-verification of all visa applications by Indian nationals. The staff strength of Consulate General of India, Karachi was reduced from 64 to 20 following a unilateral decision by Pakistan in December 1992. This reduced staff strength of the Consulate General of India in Karachi has impeded the expeditious processing of visa requests of Pakistani nationals to visit India and has consequently reduced people-to-people contact between India and Pakistan. Moreover, Government of Pakistan had in December 1992 issued a travel advisory to its nationals advising them not to visit India.

(d) Government have suggested to Pakistan the early convening of the India-Pakistan Joint Commission and all its Sub-Commissions, including Sub-Commission IV which deals with visa and consular related matters.

Government have also proposed an increase in the staff strength of the Consulate General of India in Karachi from 20 to 50 personnel. Pakistan has not acceded to our request.

Government regret the negative approach of Pakistan and have urged Pakistan to abide by the India-Pakistan Visa Agreement of 1974, which provides for easy travel between India and Pakistan.

PCOs on National Highways

4587. SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Public Call Offices installed in the country on National Highways;

(b) whether any targets have been fixed in this regard during remaining period of the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) 1496 PCOs have been installed in the country on National Highways.

(b) and (c). Orders exist to provide STD Public Telephones at a spacing of 10 kms. on all the National Highways.

[Translation]

Thermal Power Plants in M.P.

4588. SHRI KHELAN RAMJANGDE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the name of foreign companies that have offered to set up coal based thermal power plants in the country; and

(b) the State-wise details in this regard particularly of Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). The details of the companies are given in the enclosed Statement. Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board has indicated that, in response to Government of Madhya Pradesh advertisement inviting private sector participation in power projects, 2 (two) foreign companies have submitted applications as detailed below:

Sl. No.	Name of the foreign companies	Projects for which applied
1.	S.T. Power System Inc. USA	(1) 1x500 MW Korba West TPP, Distt. Bilaspur. (2) 1x250 MW Korba East Bank TPP, Distt. Bilaspur.
2.	M/s. CMS Generation Co. USA	(i) 2x500 MW Raigarh Thermal Power Project, Distt. Raigarh. (ii) 1x500 MW Korba West Bank TPP, District Bilaspur (iii) 1x250 MW Korba East Thermal Power Project, Distt. Bilaspur

STATEMENT

Details of Coal based Power Projects proposed to be set up by foreign private companies

Sl. No.	Name of Project/State	Foreign/ Indian	Capacity (MW)	Prov. Cost Estimate (Rs. Crs.)	Name of the Company
1.	Visakhapatnam TPS/ Andhra Pradesh	Forgn. Indian JV	1000.00 (2x500) (Coal)	3000.00	Ashok Leyland & National Power (U.K.)
2.	Lignite based TPS/ Gujarat	Forgn.	250.00 (Lignite)	875.00	Eisenberg Group of Co., Israel
3.	Hissar TPS/ Haryana	Forgn.	500.00 (2x250) (Coal)	1000.00	Cogentrix Inc. USA
4.	Yamunanagar TPS/ Haryana	Forgn.	1000.00 (4x250) (Coal)	3500.00	Eisenberg Group of Cos. Israel
5.	Mangalore TPS/ Karnataka	Forgn.	1000.00 (Coal)	5088.00	Cogentrix Inc. USA

Sl. No.	Name of Project/State	Foreign/ Indian	Capacity (MW)	Prov. Cost Estimate (Rs. Crs.)	Name of the Company
6.	Mangalore TPS/ Karnataka	Indian Forgn.	300.00 (Coal)	900.00	Jaiprakash Industries Ltd/ National Power (U.K.)
7.	Hospet TPS/ Karnataka	Forgn.	500.00 (1x500) (Coal)	1350.00	Hok Inter-continental Ltd. USA
8.	Raichur St.-V TPS/ Karnataka	Forgn./ Indian JV	500.00 (2x250) (Coal)	1000.70	Public Power Int., Inc. (North East Energy) USA, Karnataka Power Corpo.
9.	Thrikkaripur TPS/ Kerala	Forgn.	420.00 (2x210) (Coal)	1480.00	M.A. Al-Mazroui Gen Trading Est. UAE Soe- pulture Power Co., USA
10.	Khaperkheda TPS Units 5 & 6/ Maharashtra	Forgn.	500.00 (2x250) (Coal)	1632.00	Aranco Line Shipping Co. (Malta/Singapore) RR Associates
11.	Umned TPS/ Maharashtra	Forgn./ Indian JV	1000.00 (Coal)	3000.00	Ispath Alloys Ltd./ Mitsui (Japan)
12.	Talcher TPS/ Orissa	Forgn.	500.00 (2x250) (Coal)	1500.00	Spectrum Technologies USA
13.	Kamalanga (Dhan- kanal TPS) (Orissa)	Forgn.	500.00 (2x250) (Coal)	1500.00	International Equity Partners, L.P., USA
14.	Ib Valley TPS/ Orissa	Forgn.	420.00 (2x210) (Coal)	2025.60	AES Corporation, USA
15.	Ib Valley TPS/ Orissa	Forgn.	3000.00 (Coal)	10500.00	Eisenberg Group of Cos. Israel
16.	Duburi TPS/ Orissa	Forgn./ Indian	500.00 (2x250) (Coal)	1548.00	Kalinga Power Corp./ North East Energy Services Inc., USA/ Govt. of Orissa

Sl. No.	Name of Project/State	Foreign/ Indian	Capacity (MW)	Prov. Cost Estimate (Rs. Crs.)	Name of the Company
17.	Lapenga TPS/ Orissa	Forgn.	500.00 (2x250) (Coal)	1750.00	Pioneer Energy Inc. USA/ Duke Engineering Services, USA
18.	Barsingsar TPS/ Rajasthan	Forgn.	240.00 (2x120) (Lig)	585.73	Colemen & Associates (Australian Consortium)
19.	Cuddalore TPS/ Tamil Nadu	Forgn.	1000.00 (2x500) (Coal)	2000.00	International Contracting & Marketing Corpn., USA
20.	Zero Unit (NLC)/ Tamil Nadu	Forgn. (NRI)	210.00 (1x210) (Lig)	750.00	ST Power Systems Inc. USA
21.	Jayamkondam Lignite TPS/Tamil Nadu	Indian/ Forgn.	1500.00 (3x500) (Lig)	4500.00	Jayamkondam Lignite Power Corporation Ltd. (TIDCO), Monally Bharat Germany
22.	Rosa TPS/ Uttar Pradesh	Forgn./ Indian	750.00 (3x250) (Coal)	2625.00	Indo-Gulf Fertilizers & Chemicals/Power Gene- ration U.K.
23.	Sagardighi TPS/ W. Bengal	Forgn./ Indian JV	1000.00 (2x500) (Coal)	2000.00	Development Consultant Pvt. Ltd., CMS, USA Generation & WBSEB
				17090.00	54110.03

[English]

programmes on electronic media by the tobacco sector;

Ban on tobacco advertisements

4589. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA:
Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND
BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(b) whether any survey has been
conducted in other tobacco growing coun-
tries regarding programmes sponsorship
by tobacco sector;

(a) whether the Government pro-
pose to impose ban on sponsorship of

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Advertisements/sponsorship relating to cigarettes and tobacco products are not permitted on AIR and Doordarshan.

(b) Government is not aware of any such survey.

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

Status of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited

4590. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the time by which the present licence of the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited is due to expire;

(b) the profits made/losses suffered by the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited so far each year during the last five years; and

(c) the progress made so far in converting the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited into a full-fledged public sector undertaking?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The present licence of the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited is due to expire on 31st March, 1995.

(b) Information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) The issue of conversion of MTNL into a full-fledged public sector undertaking is linked with the total restructuring of the Department of Telecommunications which is under the consideration of the Government.

New National Highway Link Road

4591. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the status of the proposal regarding the declaration of new National Highway link road connecting National Highway 17 with Ezhimala; and

(b) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Owing to meagre allocation of funds for National Highways during the 8th Five Year Plan, it is difficult to declare any new National Highway in the States including the road in question in Kerala at present.

(b) Does not arise.

Telephone to Panchayats in Hilly Areas

4592. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government's programme of providing telephones to 100 panchayats per day has been going on as per schedule;

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

(c) whether priority has been given to Hilly areas in installation of these telephones; and

(d) if so, the number of Panchayats where telephones have already been provided in the Garhwal region of Uttar Pradesh, District-wise?

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

The actual implementation has been as below:

1992-93	:	82 Day
1993-94	:	90 Day

The reasons for this were:

- Non-availability of indigenous equipments.
- Difficult terrain, etc.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. Though, priority has been assigned to Hilly areas due to technical and other difficulties in hilly terrain the overall programme is behind schedule. The district-wise details of panchayat villages in Garhwal region of Uttar Pradesh provided with telephone facility as on 31-3-94 is given below:

Sl. No.	District	Total Panchayat villages	No. of Panchayat villages provided with Tel. facility
1.	Chameli	632	173
2.	Dehradun	252	159
3.	Pauri	1214	187
4.	Tehri	822	144
5.	Uttar Kashi	337	47
		3257	710

Doordarshan Coverage in Assam

4593. SHRI PROBIN DEKA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the places in Assam which are not covered by Doordarshan network;

(b) whether the Government have received any representation to increase the coverage of Doordarshan Network in the State; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Whereas satellite derived service of Doordarshan is available throughout the country, terrestrial transmission is available, wholly and partially, in all the districts of Assam covering 74% area and 82% population of the State.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Nine TV transmitters of varying power are under implementation/envisaged to be set up in the State of Assam. On their completion, the coverage of the State will increase to 77.3% by area and 85.6% population.

[Translation]

Electronic Exchanges in U.P.

4594. DR. P. R. GANGWAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of electronic telephone exchanges in Uttar Pradesh as on date;

(b) the number of electronic exchanges under construction, district-wise and particularly in Pilibhit district and the time by which these are likely to be completed; and

(c) the total expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) As on 31-3-94, 1356 electronic telephone exchanges are working in Uttar Pradesh.

(b) (i) 12 Major exchanges are under construction in Uttar Pradesh. Details are given in the attached *Statement*.

(ii) One electronic exchange at Pilibhit has been commissioned on 26-3-94.

(iii) The installation of small exchanges at various places during 1994-95 will be taken up as and when the equipment is received.

(c) Rs. 150 Crores approximately.

STATEMENT

Proposed Major Exchanges District-wise

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange	Name of District	Capacity & type	Likely to be commissioned by
1.	Meerut	Meerut	10K Siemens	December, 94
2.	Kanpur	Kanpur	8K RLU	-do-
3.	Lucknow	Lucknow	8K RLU	-do-
4.	Varanasi	Varanasi	5K RLU	-do-
5.	Agra Sanjay Place	Agra	5K E.10B	-do-
6.	Bareilly	Bareilly	6K E.10B	-do-
7.	Saharanpur	Saharanpur	5K E.10B	-do-
8.	Azamgarh	Azamgarh	2K C.Dot	-do-
9.	Sultanpur	Sultanpur	2.5K C.Dot	-do-
10.	Mirzapur	Mirzapur	3K C.Dot	-do-
11.	Sitapur	Sitapur	2K C.Dot	-do-
12.	Lakhimpur	Lakhimpur	2K C.Dot	-do-
N.B.	Pilibhit	Pilibhit	2048 ILT	Commissioned on 26-3-94.

LPT at Hamirpur (Himachal Pradesh)

4595. PROF. PREM DHUMAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received representations in regard to interruption caused in the programme of Doordarshan at local level after the inauguration of F.M. centre of All India Radio at Hamirpur (Himachal Pradesh);

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to set up a low power T.V. transmitter at All India Radio's centre; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. The interference being caused by the FM transmitters is being investigated with a view to mitigate the same.

[English]

Doordarshan Channel for Children

4596. SHRI G. MADE GOWDA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Doordarshan propose to launch one channel exclusively for children during the Eighth Plan Period; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

NTPC Agreement with SEBs

4597. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) has signed an agreement with various State Electricity Boards on supply of power particularly of the Northern States;

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

(c) the date from which the agreement has come into effect?

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

(b) The National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) has signed Bulk Power Supply Agreements (BPSA) with the State Electricity Boards (SEBs) of the Northern Region, Western Region, Southern Region and Eastern Region for supply of power from various NTPC stations. These agreements provide for various aspects like energy accounting methodology, points of metering, modality of billing and payments, method of payments of transmission/billing charges by SEBs directly to Power Grid/other billing agencies, arbitration clause etc.

(c) The dates from which the Agreements with various SEBs came into effect are indicated below region wise:-

Northern Region	:	01.11.1992 (for Tariff purposes)
	:	31.01.1994 (for other aspects)
Western Region	:	01.11.1992
Southern Region	:	01.11.1992
Eastern Region	:	01.01.1993

*[Translation]***Indian Soldiers in Somalia**

4598. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Indian Peace Keeping Personnels serving with the United Nations Peace Keeping Force in Somalia have been killed;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total number of Indians participating in the UN Force in Somalia?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) and (b). The following personnel of the Indian contingent participating in UNOSOM-II (Somalia) were killed as per details indicated:

- (1) On 21st Nov. 93 one soldier was killed on account of an accidental discharge of his weapon.
- (2) On 22nd March '94 one soldier was killed due to debris of a collapsed building falling on him.
- (3) On 28th March, 1994 two Indian soldiers were killed in an

ambush at the Southern port city of Kismayo. The soldiers had been escorting two UNICEF employees in a vehicle on a trip between two feeding points in the Western part of Kismayo when they were killed in an exchange of small arms fire with armed Somalis.

(c) The Indian Contingent in Somalia presently comprises 4966 personnel of all ranks, including 41 staff appointments.

U.H.F. System in Bihar

4599. PROF. RITA VERMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce U.H.F. system in telephone exchanges of Bihar; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, District-wise?

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

(b) Details are being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Widening of National Highways in M.P.

4600. SHRI SURAJBHANU SOLANKI:
SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR:
SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN:
SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:
SHRI MAHENDRA KUMAR SINGH THAKUR:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) names of the National Highways and inter-state roads in Madhya Pradesh in respect of which work relating to their widening/double lanes and four lanes has been started during each of the last three years;

(b) the extent to which the work has been completed so far;

(c) the total expenditure incurred so far, including the Central assistance proposed to be given to the State for the inter-state roads;

(d) whether the work is behind the schedule; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). National Highways where widening works

have been started are given below year-wise:—

Year	National Highway Nos.
1990-91	National Highway Nos. 7, 12, 16, 25 and 26,
1991-92	National Highway No. 12.
1992-93	National Highway No. 12.

Three works on National Highway No. 12 were completed by September, 1993. No widening work pertaining to roads under Economic & inter-state Importance Scheme have been approved during the years 1990-91 to 1992-93.

(c) An expenditure of Rs. 1222.80 lakhs upto September, 1993 has been reported by State Public Works Department on National Highway works.

(d) and (e). Seven works on different National Highways are behind the schedule.

[English]

Power Generation

4601. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) power production cost per unit in various States through Hydro, Thermal and Nuclear Power stations;

(b) the power production cost in U.K., U.S.A., Germany, Saudi Arabia, China, Italy and Belgium; and

(c) whether the Government propose to reduce the cost of power generation in the country by allowing duty free

import of power plants and supply of fuel oils at international prices to the Industrial Units having captive power generation sets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) A Statement

showing the average cost of generation during 1991-92 for thermal and hydro power in various States is enclosed. The selling price to the State Electricity Boards from Nuclear Power Stations, subject to fuel and heavy water adjustment charges is as under:-

Station	Rate (Ps/kwh)	Effective Date
1. Tarapur Atomic Power Station	57.00	1.12.1992
2. Rajasthan Atomic Power Station	60.80	June, 1992
3. Madras Atomic Power Station	75.04	June, 1992
4. Narora Atomic Power Station	140.96	1.2.1992

(b) Information for the corresponding period is not available.

(c) At present, there is no proposal to allow duty free import of power plants under consideration of the Government.

STATEMENT

Cost of Generation 1991-92

Sl. No.	SEBs	Thermal Ps/Kwh.	Hydro Ps/Kwh.
1.	Andhra Pradesh	69.46	10.35
2.	Bihar	150.67	32.92
3.	Gujarat	89.69	28.20
4.	Haryana	116.05	12.43
5.	Himachal Pradesh	N.A.	N.A.
6.	Karnataka	N.A.	24.05
7.	Kerala	0.00	7.80
8.	Madhya Pradesh	67.47	18.68
9.	Maharashtra	69.81	16.04

Sl. No.	SEBs	Thermal Ps/Kwh.	Hydro Ps/Kwh.
10.	Orissa	N.A.	N.A.
11.	Punjab	86.32	16.37
12.	Rajasthan	109.34	N.A.
13.	Tamil Nadu	91.42	20.51
14.	Uttar Pradesh	82.81	31.39
15.	West Bengal	81.80	69.23
16.	Meghalaya	N.A.	24.82
17.	Assam	190.08	N.A.
Total SEBs		82.84	16.74

[Translation]

LPTs Converted into HPTs

4602. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:

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

(a) whether the Government have converted Low Power Television Transmitters into High Power?

(b) if so, the details of the LPTs converted into HPTs during the last two years;

(c) whether the target of conversion of LPTs into HPTs has been achieved; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. During the last two years, High Power TV transmitters (HPTs) have been set up in replacement of the Low Power TV Transmitters (LPTs) at seven locations viz. Tirupati, Bhuji, Dharwad, Jagadapur, Jabalpur, Bundi and Bareilly in the country.

(c) and (d). Whereas, schemes for upgradation of LPTs into HPTs are at various stages of implementation at 12 locations, 36 more LPTs are envisaged to be upgraded into HPTs subject to availability of necessary infrastructural facilities, adequate resources and formal approval of the schemes by the competent authority.

Doordarshan Earnings

4603. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION

AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed and achieved by the Doordarshan to earn revenue during 1993-94; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to enhance the revenue of Doordarshan during 1994-95?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) During the year 1993-94, Doordarshan earned a revenue of Rs. 372.98 crores as against an estimated target of Rs. 380.00 crores.

(b) Doordarshan has recently rationalised the rate structure of commercial advertising with the objective of making sponsorship of programmes cost effective and spot-buys more attractive. New programmes have also been scheduled including a few mega serials on both channels I & II of Doordarshan. This is likely to generate more revenue.

[English]

Compensation Claims of Gulf Returners

4604. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of claims under categories (a) and (c) whose cases have been settled by the UN Compensation Commission through Kuwait cell of India; and

(b) the time by which the remaining cases are likely to be settled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) Nil

(b) The United Nations Compensation Commission has started scrutinising the 'B' and 'C' claims. Scrutiny of 'A' claims is likely to commence soon. As regards payments, it is clarified that it is the exclusive responsibility of the UNCC to scrutinise and evaluate the claims, evolve the payment procedure and deliver the awarded compensation to eligible claimants for payment through national governments. It is not possible to estimate at this time the exact timing or the value of the payments which may eventually be made by the UNCC.

[Translation]

Foreign Missions in India

4605. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the countries having their missions in India;

(b) whether the Government have received more requests for the setting up of missions by foreign countries during the last two years; and

(c) if so, the response of the Government thereto, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) A list of countries having their Missions in India as on date is enclosed in the *Statement*.

(b) Yes, Sir. Requests were received from Angola, Ukraine, South Africa, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Slovak Republic and Namibia.

(c) Government of India have agreed to the opening of Missions of all the countries mentioned at (b) above.

STATEMENT*List of Countries having their Missions in India*

Afghanistan	Denmark	Korea—Republic of
Algeria	Donica-Commonwealth	Kuwait
Angola	Ethiopia	Kyrgyzstan
Arab Republic of Egypt	Finland	Laos
Argentina	France	Lebanon
Australia	Germany	Libya
Austria	Ghana	Malaysia
Bahrain	Greece	Mauritius
Bangladesh	Holy See	Mexico
Belgium	Hungary	Mongolia
Bhutan	Indonesia	Morocco
Brazil	Iran	Myanmar
Brunei Darussalam	Iraq	Namibia
Bulgaria	Ireland	Nepal
Cambodia	Israel	Netherlands
Canada	Italy	New Zealand
Chile	Japan	Nigeria
China	Jordan	Norway
Colombia	Kazakhstan	Oman
Cuba	Kenya	Pakistan
Cyprus		Palestine
Czech	Korea—Democratic People's Republic of	Panama

Peru	Somalia	Uganda
Philippines	South Africa	Ukraine
Poland	Spain	United Arab Emirates
Portugal	Sri Lanka	United Kingdom
Qatar	Sudan	United States of America
Romania	Sweden	Uzbekistan
Russian Federation	Switzerland	Venezuela
Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic	Syria	Vietnam
Saudi Arabia	Tanzania	Yemen
Senegal	Thailand	Yugoslavia
Singapore	Trinidad and Tobago	Zaire
Slovak	Tunisia	Zambia
	Turkey	Zimbabwe

National Highways, Madhya Pradesh

(b) Does not arise.

4606. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATI-DAR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

Students of Indian Origin to Myanmar

4607. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh had sent a proposal in 1991 to the Union Government seeking maintenance for State Highways, passing through the cities, as in case of National Highways taking the width of these roads as 25 metres; and

(a) whether the Government are implementing/or propose to implement any programme for the migrant students of Indian origin in Myanmar under the scheme/programme formulated for the education and welfare of Indian students in foreign countries;

(b) the time which the Government is likely to take a decision in this regard?

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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

(c) whether the Government are aware of non-availability of Hindi Teach-

ing facility in the schools in Myanmar for most of the Hindi speaking students living in that country;

(d) whether the Government are contributing in the efforts of local Indian community in teaching Hindi language to students of Indian origin in that country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e). Yes, Sir; Government have taken the initiative to send books in the Hindi language through our Mission in Yangon to the Indian community organisations in Myanmar and our Embassy facilitates the award of certificates from Indian Institutions on occasion.

[English]

Value Added Services

4608. SHRI AMAL DATTA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of value added services identified by the Government in the telecommunication sector so far; and

(b) the details in respect of each of those services decided to be opened to the private sector with date of decision, date of announcement of such opening in respect of each service, and the progress made by the Private Sector or steps taken so far by the Government in getting the

Service commenced in respect of each service, separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Value Added Services identified in the Telecom Sector, so far, are:—

- (i) Radio Paging.
- (ii) Cellular Mobile.
- (iii) Other Value Added Services.
 - (a) Electronic Mail.
 - (b) Voice Mail.
 - (c) 64 kbps Data Service using VSAT.
 - (d) Auditex.
 - (e) Direct Access Code Dialling.
 - (f) Bulletin Board Service.
 - (g) Videotex Service.
 - (h) Video Conferencing.
 - (i) Morning Alarm Service.

(b) Details in respect of each of the above services are given in the attached *Statement*.

STATEMENT

Brief Description and Present Status of the Value added Services

1. Radio Paging

Radio Paging service has already been introduced at Bombay and Delhi by MTNL. It has also been decided to

franchise the service to registered Indian Companies. Bids to franchise the service in 27 selected cities were invited and were opened on 15th July, 1992. 19 bids were shortlisted after evaluating the bids on the basis of commercial, technical and financial criteria. Financial tenders were issued to the shortlisted bidders. Some of the bidders, who were not shortlisted filed civil writ petitions in the Courts of Law. After clarifications from the Courts of Law that there is no stay, financial tenders were evaluated and 15 bidders were provisionally selected for various cities. 12 out of 15 provisionally selected bidders have already given their acceptance and have deposited bank guarantees and a component of licence fee. The case, is however sub-judice in the High Court of Delhi.

Tenders have also been invited on territorial circle basis, to franchise Radio Paging Service in the rest of the country and are scheduled to be opened on 10.5.1994.

2. Cellular Mobile Service

At present an analog mobile (Car) radio system is in operation in Delhi. The service is initially proposed to be provided in four metro cities of Bombay, Delhi, Calcutta and Madras. Department of Telecom. with a view to licence the operation of Cellular Mobile Telephone in four metro cities, invited tenders from the Indian Companies. In response thereto 30 bids were received and these were opened on 30th March, 1992. 14 bidders were shortlisted and financial tenders were issued to them. After financial evaluation 8 bidders, two for each city, were provisionally selected. Some of the unsuccessful bidders filed civil writ petitions in the High Court of Delhi. The High Court of Delhi, delivered the judgment on 26th of February, 1993. The list of the

provisionally selected bidders was revised after the judgment delivered by the High Court of Delhi. However, some of the bidders, filed civil writ petitions/special leave petition in the Supreme Court of India. The hearings in the case are over and judgment is awaited.

3. Other Value Added Services

Proposals were invited from Indian registered companies for franchise of other value added services on non-exclusive basis in July, 1992. Proposals are being received and evaluated on continuous basis. So far letters of intent for franchising of various value added services have been issued to about 25 companies and one company has signed the licence agreement. Besides, some of the other companies have partially completed the formalities to sign the licence agreement. A few proposals are also under examination.

Doordarshan Kendras in Orissa

4609. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had selected some tribal areas in Orissa for installation of T.V. transmitters during the Eighth Plan Period;

(b) if so, the steps taken on the establishment of T.V. transmitters at those places in Orissa and;

(c) the details of the target set for Eighth Plan Period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b). Besides the scheme to upgrade the power of the existing transmitter at Sambalpur, a High Power Trans-

mitter (HPT) at Baleshwar and eleven Low/Very Power Transmitters are at various stages of implementation/envisaged to be set up in the tribal areas of Orissa. For this purpose, steps have been taken to finalise suitable buildings/sites for the projects and necessary equipment ordered.

(c) As a part of Annual Plans 1992-93, 1993-94 of the Eighth Plan period, schemes for setting up of a High Power Transmitter at Baleshwar, upgradation of the existing transmitter at Sambalpur, Programme Production Centres one each at Sambalpur and Bhavanipatna and 32 Low/Very Low Power Transmitters are at various stages of implementation/envisaged to be set up in the State of Orissa.

Cooperation on Cross Border Terrorism

4610. SHRI UDAYSINGHRAO GAIKWAD: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some foreign countries have affirmed their commitment to cooperate with India at bilateral level and at multilateral fora to counter the dangers posed to territorial integrity and sovereignty of nations by forces of cross border terrorism and fundamentalism;

(b) if so, the names of these countries;

(c) whether the Government propose to take some steps to get similar affirmation from other foreign countries in future; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) to (d). The position is as under:—

East Europe

A number of countries share India's perception regarding the dangers posed to territorial integrity and sovereignty by forces of cross border terrorism and fundamentalism. Among these countries are Russia, Ukraine, Armenia, Moldova, Belarus, Bulgaria, Romania and Poland. We have signed Declarations of Principles and Directions of Cooperation with Moldova and Belarus which state, inter alia, that the two sides shall cooperate with each other in the fight against terrorism, fundamentalism, etc. Broadly similar Declarations are under discussion with Bulgaria and Romania. Bilateral agreements on combating terrorism, international crime, narcotics, etc. are separately under negotiation with Poland, Romania and Bulgaria.

Asia

Thailand

During the Indo-Thailand Joint Commission Meeting in November 1993, the two countries exchanged views on cross border terrorism and agreed to maintain and strengthen cooperation in combating drug trafficking and its nexus with terrorism.

Bangladesh, Shri Lanka and Maldives

Have affirmed their commitment at multilateral fora to counter the dangers posed to territorial integrity, sovereignty of nations from forces of cross border terrorism.

Myanmar

Has affirmed its commitment to cooperate at a bilateral level with India to counter the dangers posed to territorial integrity, sovereignty of nations from forces of cross border terrorism.

Pakistan

Government have, at every available opportunity, urged Pakistan and will continue to do so to stop its support to cross border terrorism.

Iran

In a Joint Communique issued after Indian Prime Minister Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao's visit to Iran (September 20-22, 1993), the two sides called on all States to eschew any form of support to terrorism and subversion directed against any other State.

United States of America

Assistant Secretary Robin Raphel, during her visit in March, 1994, said that the United States would continue to press Pakistan to stop supporting terrorism in India. Government, however, have continued to impress upon the United States that pronouncements seeking to overlook Pakistan's complicity severely undermine United States credibility and hamper constructive interaction between India and the United States on the problem of international terrorism.

Canada

Canadian Government and the Government of India have been cooperating in addressing the issue of international terrorism through the mechanism of the Indo-Canada Extradition Treaty of 1987. The two sides are also negotiating a Treaty for Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters.

Government continue to focus on the need to: (i) keep a check and control over extremist activities originating in

Canada; (ii) control the outflow of funds from Canada, which directly or indirectly finance extremist operations in India; (iii) take legal steps against the virulent media propaganda which is reflected in the Punjabi ethnic press in Canada; and (iv) strictly control the efforts of Sikh youth, who on false pretexts of persecution, have found Canada haven for seeking political asylum. There has been considerable cooperation in respect of the first of our concerns, in respect of the other three we have had very limited success. The Canadian Government have not been adequately sensitive on the issue of funds which are being siphoned off from Canada for financing terrorist activities in India citing as reason their liberal foreign investment laws which do not permit strict scrutiny of the outflow of funds from Canada. Government continue to make efforts to achieve greater understanding of our concerns on this matter.

Africa**Tunisia**

A draft Joint Declaration on Cooperation in Combating Terrorism, Drug Trafficking and Organised Crime has been exchanged with Tunisia. This is being processed.

Angola

Republic of Angola has affirmed its commitment to support India. This commitment was given during the visit of Angolan foreign Minister to India on 5-8 April, 1994.

West Europe

There is close bilateral cooperation between the United Kingdom and India in

the area of combating terrorism. Contacts have also been initiated with France and Germany to exchange information on terrorism, fundamentalism and drug trafficking.

We have also taken appropriate steps to project our concerns related to terrorism to the European Union as provided for under the Indo-EU Joint Statement on Political Dialogue.

Gulf

The Government have proposed signing of either a Memorandum of Understanding or a Joint Declaration on cooperation in combating terrorism, drug trafficking and organised crime to the following Gulf countries:

- (i) Saudi Arabia
- (ii) The UAE
- (iii) Baharain
- (iv) Qatar
- (v) Kuwait
- (vi) Republic of Yemen

The response to the proposed draft is awaited.

Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan & Tajikstan

With these countries, the Government have signed agreements/declarations which, inter alia, include our common commitment against terrorism and fundamentalism.

Turkey

There is affirmation of cooperation against terrorism.

[*Translation*]

Advertisements Employees Doordarshan

4612. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to change the norms of advertisements being adopted by the advertisers by giving false advertisements to dupe consumers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, other corrective measures the Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b). The Code for Commercial Advertising on Doordarshan already provides that advertising shall be truthful, avoid distorting facts and misleading the public by means of implications and omissions and that the advertisements shall not mislead the consumer by false statement.

(c) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Power Technology

4613. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:
SHRI TARA SINGH:
SHRI BOLLA BULLI
RAMAIAH:
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY:

SHRI D. VENKATESWARA
RAO:
SHRI SULTAN SALAUD-
DIN OWAISI:

[Translation]

Steel Production

4614. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT:

SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR:

SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether a US firm has offered India novel patented power technology;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof along with salient features of the technology offered by that firm;

(c) whether the Government propose to have any tie-up with the US firm for its various thermal power plants;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have made efforts to develop such technology as being offered by the US firm, and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

(a) whether targets for steel production set for the last three years have been achieved;

(b) if so, the total production in the private and public sectors during the above period;

(c) the proposed time bound programme for the export of steel for 1993-94 and 1994-95;

(d) the rise in its prices during the last three years and the reasons therefor?

(e) whether there is a shortage of coking coal required for steel production;

(f) if so, the quantity of coking coal imported during the last one year and the foreign exchange spent thereon;

(g) whether prices of domestic iron products in the international market are higher than those of USA, China and Japan; and

(h) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). M/s. Exergy Inc. of USA has recently offered the Kalina Cycle Technology for direct fired power generation systems. The Kalina cycle technology uses ammonia-water mixture as the fluid medium as compared to water used in conventional power plants. The power generation efficiency is claimed to be higher by 4 to 5%.

(c) to (f). This technology is still in a nascent stage and requires huge investment for setting up of a demonstration plant for proving its cost effectiveness. Therefore, to start with, BHEL has proposed association of its Engineers with the demonstration plant being planned in the USA by M/s. Exergy Inc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). The expected production of finished steel and the actual production both in the private and public sectors during last 3 years is as under:—

(million tonnes)

Year	Expected Production	Actual Production		Total
		Public Sector	Private Sector	
1991-92	14.55	6.97	7.36	14.33
1992-93	16.10	7.47	7.73	15.20
1993-94 (Prov.)	17.24	7.80	7.33	15.13

(c) Export of all items of iron and steel is now freely allowed. Liberalisation of trade policy provisions, including the provisions for duty free import of raw materials for export, convertibility of the rupee on trade and current account, etc. have helped to achieve a quantum jump in export of pig iron and steel, from 3.87 lakh tonnes valued at Rs. 283 crores in 1991-92 to 22.28 lakh tonnes valued at Rs. 1688 crores in 1993-94 (Provisional). The export during 1994-95 is expected to increase further.

(d) Main producers of steel have increased prices during last 3 years due to increase in outward railway freight, increase in excise duty and to neutralise the increase in input costs like power, coal, water, etc.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) and Visakhapatnam Steel Plant (VSP) in the year 1993-94 have imported about 6.64 million tonnes of coking coal valued at 347.6 million U.S. Dollars. In addition, Rs. 126.1 crore has been paid by SAIL as freight to Indian Vessels in Indian Rupees for import of coking coal.

(g) and (h). In the international market, the prices of various categories of

iron and steel fluctuate from time to time depending upon the international trade in iron and steel. The export prices of iron and steel are generally lower than the domestic market prices of the exporting countries.

[English]

Funds for National Highways

4615. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the States and Union Territories have not received the funds for the maintenance/improvement of National Highways during each of the last two years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

Power Shortage In Tamil Nadu

4616. DR. SHRIMATI K.S. SOUNDARAM: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have any proposal to provide Funds to Tamil Nadu for purchasing/generating power for irrigation pumps and to meet power shortage in other sectors of the State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) In view of (a) above, does not arise.

**Thermal Power Plant at Lapanga
(Orissa)**

4617. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to set up a thermal power plant at Lapanga in the IB Valley area in Sambalpur District, Orissa in collaboration with a U.S. Power Company;

(b) if so, the cost of the project, expected time of its commercial production and capacity thereof; and

(c) the details of the agreement made in this regard?

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

(b) and (c). The estimated cost of the Lapanga Thermal Power Project (500 MW) is Rs. 1750 crores. A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between M/s Pioneer Energy Inc./Duke Energy, USA and the Orissa State Electricity Board in October, 1993.

The commissioning schedule as well as the expected time of its commercial operation could be anticipated only after all the essential inputs/clearances including the funding arrangements have been tied up and orders for the main plant and equipment have been placed on the suppliers.

[Translation]

External Publicity Division

4618. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the various functions being carried out by the External Publicity Division of his Ministry;

(b) the salient features of the functions carried out by this Division during the last two years;

(c) whether the Government have reviewed the performance of this Division;

(d) if so, whether the Government have received any information in regard to the poor performance of the Division; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) The External Publicity Division projects India's views and concerns on national and international issues, acquaints audiences abroad through our missions, with developments in India in the economic, political, social and cultural spheres and also counters anti-India propaganda.

(b) Activities & functions carried out by the External Publicity Division find

detailed mention in the Annual Report of the Ministry of External Affairs.

The salient features of the Division's functioning over the past two years are:—

Sending appropriate publicity material in different languages to Indian Missions abroad for local distribution, transmission of news bulletin to Missions abroad highlighting the current developments of India. Publication of 51,000 copies of "INDIA PERSPECTIVES" in ten foreign languages, regular foreign briefing of Indian media-persons about India's policy on various issues, circulation of audio-visual material to Indian missions abroad, hosting of foreign journalists over 30 in 1992-93 & 64 in 1993-94, making media arrangements for VVIPs visiting India, facilitating media arrangements for foreign journalists accompanying VVIPs on their visits to India & countering anti-India propaganda of Pakistan.

(c) The Government regularly reviews the performance of all Divisions in the Ministry of External Affairs. Issues pertaining to the work of this Division are also raised and discussed by the Standing Committee & Consultative Committee attached to the Ministry of External Affairs.

(d) The External Publicity Division has been effectively discharging its responsibilities.

(e) Following regular reviewing and monitoring of XP Divisions activities & performance, steps are taken, wherever necessary, to further streamline its functioning and enhance its effectiveness.

The budget for the Division has been enhanced to make available greater resources to enable the Division to effec-

tively carry out its responsibilities. Further measures which are underway, include upgrading the technology of communication network between New Delhi and our missions abroad, utilization of expatriate Indian community abroad to augment our publicity efforts, strengthening of information wings in missions abroad and examining possibilities of publicity through international TV Satellite Channels.

STD Facility In States

4619. SHRI JANGBIR SINGH:
SHRI HARADHAN ROY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the places to be connected with STD during 1994-95, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): The State-wise details of the places where S.T.D. facility is planned to be provided during 94-95 subject to the availability of resources such as funds, land, building, equipment etc., is given in the attached *Statement*.

STATEMENT

State-wise details of the places where S.T.D. facility is proposed to be provided during 1994-95.

State	No. of Stations
Andhra Pradesh	100
Assam	25
Bihar	58
Gujarat	200
Haryana	10

State	No. of Stations
Himachal Pradesh	120
Jammu & Kashmir	17
Karnataka	96
Kerala	162
Madhya Pradesh	45
Maharashtra	35
Goa	1
Arunachal Pradesh	11
Manipur	9
Meghalaya	8
Mizoram	4
Nagaland	10
Tripura	10
Orissa	50
Punjab	17
Rajasthan	39
Tamil Nadu	140
Uttar Pradesh	57
West Bengal	69
Sikkim	1

Collection of Pathkar on Bridges in Bihar

4620. SHRI PREM CHAND RAM: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the amount of Pathkar collected on the bridges in Bihar which is utilised for construction works on National Highways has not been provided so far for undertaking construction works in the State;

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

(c) the time by which the funds are likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). Presumably, the Hon'ble Member has in mind the revenue collected by way of fee charged on vehicles using permanent Bridges on National Highways. A sum of Rs. 20.00 lakhs has been allocated to the Government of Bihar out of Permanent Bridge Fee Fund during 1993-94.

[English]

ISD/STD/PCOs in Madhya Pradesh

4621. SHRI MAHENDRA KUMAR SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of ISD/STD PCOs allotted in Madhya Pradesh during 1992-93, district-wise; and

(b) the proposal for 1993-94, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). The required information is given in the attached *Statement*.

STATEMENT

Details of ISD/STD/PCOs in M.P. Circle

Sl. No.	District	ISD/STD/PCOs allotted during 92-93	Proposal for 93-94
1.	Indore	508	151
2.	Bhopal	302	160

Modernisation of Telephone Exchanges in H.P.

phone exchanges expanded during 1990-91, 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 are given in the attached *Statement-I*

4622. MAJOR D.D. KHANORIA:
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the names of telephone exchanges expanded and modernised so far and proposed to be expanded with STD facilities in the near future in Himachal Pradesh?

(ii) Names of telephone exchanges modernised during 1990-91, 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 are given in the attached *Statement-II*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (i) Names of tele-

(iii) Names of telephone exchanges proposed to be expanded with STD facility in Himachal Pradesh during 1994-95 are given in the attached *Statement-III*.

STATEMENT-I

Names of Exchanges expanded during 1990-91

- | | | | |
|----------|----------|----------|-------------|
| 1. Solan | 2. Dehra | 3. Mandi | 4. Baijnath |
|----------|----------|----------|-------------|

Names of Exchanges expanded during 1991-92

- | | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|------------------|----------------|
| 1. Jachh | 17. Kottli | 32. Naina-Tikkar | 48. Kasuali |
| 2. Daroh | 18. Bagthin | 33. Matiyana | 49. Dehra |
| 3. Haripur | 19. Kasauli | 34. Sandoo | 40. Jeori |
| 4. Nagrota (S) | 20. Ladrour | 35. Bhunter | 51. Jhakri |
| 5. Saloh | 21. Nihripul | 36. Kullu | 52. Dharmasala |
| 6. Arhal | 22. Masrehar | 37. Dagshai | 53. Charhi |
| 7. Sumerkot | 23. Raison | 38. Bharanu | 54. Nurpur |
| 8. Mundarli | 24. Bakloh | 39. Deha | 55. Chamba |
| 9. Fagoo | 25. Nalti | 40. Shimla E-10B | 56. Mandi |
| 10. Junga | 26. Bagsaid | 41. Kakkar | 57. Kunihar |
| 11. Mehatpur | 27. Baragaon | 42. Ranital | 58. Jauniji |
| 12. Jubbal | 28. Baggi | 43. Palampur | 59. Kala-Amb |
| 13. Kumarsain | 29. Bali-chowki | 44. Parwanoc | 60. Gagret |
| 14. Rohroo | 30. Seoh | 45. Solan | 61. Ghumarwin |
| 15. Bhunter | 31. Daulatpur | 46. Darot | 62. Bakhol |
| 16. Rampur | (Dharmasala) | 47. Majra | |

Names of Exchanges expansion during 1992-93

1. Dhundhan	13. Bankhandi	25. Rangas	37. Kangra
2. Dhaliara	14. Hamirpur	26. Bankhandi	38. Chamba
3. Taklech	15. Sarhan	27. Kasauli	39. Baijnath
4. Tal	16. Shoghi	28. Sairi	40. Panchrukhi
5. Bilaspur	17. Theog	29. Rehan	41. Dalhousie
6. Panjera	18. Rewalsar	30. Chauntra	42. Jawali
7. Kullu	19. Sandhol	31. Thana Kalan	43. Dharmsala
8. Pahara	20. Daldwara	32. Dada-Sibba	44. Kullu
9. Durgapur	21. Manali	33. Dadahu	45. Bhangrotu
10. Jawalapur	22. Sarswati Nagar	34. Nalagarh	46. Bhunter
11. Una	23. Tikkar	35. Lanj	47. Nahan
12. Baggi	24. Nirmand	36. Bhaang	48. Jarol

Names of Exchanges expansion during 1993-94

1. Mair	11. Panjwar	21. Hamirpur	31. Rampur- Bushahr
2. Thanedhar	12. Solan	22. Kotkhai	32. Nandpur
3. Bharori	13. Bhunter	23. Chauntra	33. Chowari
4. Rajgarh	14. Chaupal	24. Raison	34. Dalhousie
5. Shimla E-10/B	15. Kagauli	25. Bakhol	35. Indora
6. Dhaneta	16. Nagwain	26. Haripur	36. Sinhoota
7. Sundernagar	17. Manali	27. Mehatpur	37. Jalot
8. Santokhgarh	18. Dehra	28. Bilaspur	38. Paraur
9. Kullu	19. Palampur	29. Ghanahatti	39. Karsog
10. Baddi	20. Nahan	30. Matiyana	40. Nalagarh

STATEMENT-II*Names of Exchanges Modernised during 1990-91*

1. Manjouli	13. Majra	25. Sera	37. Chauntra
2. Jaisinghpur	14. Chhausa	26. Haroli	38. Rewalsar
3. Gazta	15. Dhaula Kuan	27. Bhanjjal	39. Deha
4. Chopal	16. Nalagarh	28. Namhol	40. Theog
5. Panjavar	17. Subathu	29. Paragpur	41. Kiari
6. Jabli	18. Rajban	30. Manali	42. Ghana Hatti
7. Kandraur	19. Sataun	31. Paddar	43. Dhammi
8. Thural	20. Syri	32. Jari	44. Chhaila
9. Jawali	21. Dharampur	33. Khakhnal	45. Dalhousie
10. Jawalamukhi	22. Arki	34. Nagwain	46. Kehera
11. Gaggal	23. Kala Amb	35. Pandoh	47. Palaur
12. Fatehpur	24. Salooni	36. Salapper	48. Nagrota (B)

Names of Exchanges Modernised during 1991-92

1. Jagitnagar	13. Bhang	25. Jarol	37. Nankheri
2. Dagsi	14. Kotii	26. Ramshehar	38. Ladbharol
3. Kangoo	15. Sandhole	27. Mair	39. Deothi
4. Haripur	16. Sarahan	28. Berthin	40. Lehrisarail
5. Dhaneta	17. Sheelghat	29. Chandi	41. Mehatpur
6. Gumma	18. Nandpur	30. Swarghat	42. Suhi
7. Baggi	19. Daulatpur (HMR)	31. Deothidhar	43. Baijnath
8. Baldwara	20. Mahashu	32. Kutra	44. Khajjian
9. Indora	21. Nagrota (Surian)	33. Sabra	45. Chowari
10. Rajgarh	22. Daroh	34. Kutheri	46. Kotla
11. Kunihar	23. Yol	35. Chintpurni	47. Derlaghat
12. Dadahu	24. Ghana-Hatti	36. Nirmand	48. Ladraur

Names of Exchanges Modernised during 1992-93

1. Kiani	19. Seoh	37. Kataula	55. Garsa
2. Chadhiar	20. Kangra	38. Naina Devi	56. Jogindarnagar
3. Salooni	21. Bharmour	39. Ghumarwin	57. Banjar
4. Keheri	22. Fagu	40. Saloh	58. Sarkaghat
5. Naura Dhar	23. Kumarsain	41. Dulehar	59. Bagthan
6. Tikkar	24. Nogli	42. Dehra	60. Parara
7. Raula Kiar	25. Talai	43. Tauni Devi	61. Rishikesh
8. Pharal	26. Dhaliara	44. Nehrian	62. Nangal Jarianan
9. Mandawni	27. Dulehar	45. Sandhu	63. Ban-Khandi
10. Sarahan BSR	28. Dhamla	46. Baggi	64. Rakkar
11. Bhera	29. Haripur	47. Rajpur	65. Dadasiba
12. Jukhala	30. Shillai	48. Harsar	66. Nither
13. Jandhtta	31. Sangrah	49. Dhameta	67. Beolia
14. Piplughat	32. Kafota	50. Shunta	68. Jubbal
15. Naina Tkiar	33. Mangarh	51. Pahara	69. Rohroo
16. Mamleeg	34. Purewal	52. Daulatpur	70. Rampur BSR
17. Diggall	35. Bhumti	53. Rakh	71. Durgapur
18. Thanedhar	36. Gangath	54. Sundla	

STATEMENT-III

Names of Exchanges Modernised during 1993-94

1. Sunhi	21. Dangar	41. Khandian	61. Darang
2. Shapur	22. Matiana	42. Lang	62. Chandesh
3. Janjehhi	23. Rangas	43. Morhi	63. Taklech
4. Jawalapur	24. Galore	44. Chirgaon	64. Jeori
5. Katrian	25. Bhareri	45. Khajir	65. Dalash
6. Kohbagh	26. Mandi	46. Karloti	66. Dofda
7. Marhog	27. Dehar	47. Baroti-Kalan	67. Khuni
8. Thathal	28. Bali Chowki	48. Bagsaid	68. Gaura
9. Swari-Takoli	29. Marhi	49. Sainj	69. Patlander
10. Arhal	30. Nehri	50. Neripul	70. Mashobra
11. Thachi	31. Gharkhari	51. Koti	71. Dharanu
12. Dhundan	32. Dharmapur	52. Godpur-Banera	72. Jhikhnipul
13. Chandi	33. Baragaon	53. Paisa	73. Nerwa
14. Lathiani	34. Sarhog	54. Ghabutra	74. Bachhunch
15. Bhawarna	35. Oachghat	55. Tissa	75. Bohana
16. Junga	36. Lohara	56. Khairi	76. Ghurag
17. Kohla	37. Geharwin	57. Sahu	77. Jachh
18. Pirsluhi	38. Bhangrotu	58. Sundernagar	78. Sukhi Bahi
19. Badalthora	39. Jakhri	59. Parwanoo	
20. Bijhere	40. Jarebar	60. Sai	

(c) The net Foreign Exchange likely to be generated from these countries will be Rs. 80 crores.

[*Translation*]

Visa to Indian Pilgrims

4624. SHRIMATI KESHARBAI
SONAJI KSHIRSAGAR:
SHRIMATI PRATIBHA
DEVISINGH PATIL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian pilgrims who visit Kailash and Mansarovar are facing problems in getting visa from China;

(b) whether the Government have held/propose to hold any talks with China in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a). No Sir.

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

[*English*]

Construction of Cargo Berth at Paradip

4625. SHRI GOPINATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for the construction of a multipurpose cargo berth at Paradip;

(b) if so, whether the Government also propose to provide port facilities there for export of Iron-ore;

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to implement the above proposal;

(d) the estimated cost of these projects; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Presently there is no proposal for construction of multipurpose cargo berth at Paradip.

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

Repairs of roads in J&K

4626. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount allocated for repairs of roads in Jammu and Kashmir during the Eighth Plan Period;

(b) the total amount spent on these roads during the Seventh Plan Period;

(c) whether the amount allocated for several projects has not been properly utilised; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Ministry of Surface Transport is primarily concerned with the Development and Maintenance of National Highways. The other State roads fall within the purview of the State Government con-

cerned. As regards National Highways, the funds for maintenance and repairs are allocated year-wise and the amount allocated to the State of Jammu & Kashmir during the period 1985-86 to 1989-90 was Rs. 806.10 lakhs and during the period 1990-91 to 1993-94 was Rs. 424.58 lakhs.

(c) Funds for maintenance and repairs of National Highways are utilised properly by the State Government.

(d) Does not arise.

Telecast of Cultural Programmes

4627. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Doordarshan and Regional Centres of Doordarshan have been telecasting several Cultural Programmes in different languages;

(b) if so, names of such programmes, periodicity and duration of these programmes language-wise;

(c) whether these programmes also include programmes for people speaking Nepali language;

(d) if so, the names of such programmes, its periodicity and duration; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and steps to be taken to start telecast of such programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The cultural programmes are produced and scheduled

for telecast by different Kendras on the basis of their programme requirement from time to time.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) While Doordarshan Kendra, Calcutta telecast Nepali programmes on a regular basis for a duration of 25 mts. on Monday & Tuesday, Doordarshan Kendras at Delhi, Lucknow and Guwahati also telecast Nepali programmes, occasionally.

(e) Does not arise.

Committee for E.D. Employees

4628. SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Committee to go into the Welfare of E.D. Employees has been constituted as Service conditions agreed by the Ministry at the time of the All India strike was withdrawn;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which the said Committee is likely to be constituted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c). As a matter of policy, a Committee to go into the wage structure and conditions of service etc. of ED Agents is set up when a Pay Commission is set up by the Government to look into the wage structure etc. of its regular employees. The 5th Central Pay Commission was formally constituted by the Government only on 9-4-94. Action has since been initiated by asking the Staff Federations to suggest the draft terms of reference and also to state whether they would prefer the 5th Pay Commission to consider the issue or a separate ED Committee be constituted.

Depiction of violence in TV serials

4629. SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the percentage of violence depicted in the TV serials in India is more than any other country as has been stated in the news item titled "Most TV serials have violence" appearing in the Hindustan Times dated April 2, 1994;

(b) if so, the steps taken to check the violence, vulgarity, nudity and obscenity in the TV serials and films;

(c) the number of complaints received by the Government in this regard during the last three years; and

(d) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) No, Sir. The survey does not refer to Doordarshan programmes alone.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). Complaints/suggestions of this nature are received regularly since the reaction of the viewers is not always the same and remedial action is taken as and when found necessary. No centralised record of such complaints/suggestions is maintained.

Digital network in rural areas of Madhya Pradesh

4630. SHRI PARASRAM BHARADWAJ: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to cover some districts of Madhya Pradesh under "Rural Integrated Digital Network Programme"; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of the district identified therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir, presently there is no such proposal.

(b) Question does not arise in view of (a) above.

[Translation]

Telecast of Hindi Films on Doordarshan

4631. SHRI JANGBIR SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Hindi films telecast on doordarshan during 1993;

(b) the number of adult films and children films separately out of them;

(c) whether any scheme has been formulated to telecast only good quality films during the current year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) During 1993, Doordarshan telecast 202 Hindi feature films on its National Network/Delhi and other linked transmissions.

(b) The number of adult and children films telecast on Doordarshan was 20 and 8 respectively.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. With the objective to further improve the quality of films telecast, Doordarshan have invited offers of good quality feature films under the sponsorship scheme.

Road accidents

4632. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the road accidents occur due to the fault of drivers only;

(b) if so, the effective steps taken to ensure testing of efficiency of drivers;

(c) the details of the road accidents in Delhi caused by the negligence of drivers during the last three years;

(d) whether the Government propose to start periodical training programmes/refresher courses to increase the efficiency of drivers; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken against the drivers failing to participate in these periodical training/refresher programmes?

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

(b) Measures are being taken by Transport Department to ensure strict compliance of provisions of Motor Vehicle Act with regard to issue of driving licences keeping in view the efficiency of drivers.

(c) Accidents occurred in Delhi during the last three years are 1991-8065,

1992-8506, 1993-8459 (Provisional). About eighty percent of the accidents are due to drivers fault.

(d) Refresher courses for the drivers were started in November, 1992 and are going on. The drivers are subjected to proficiency test. Besides it, training programmes are also being run by Loss Prevention Association of India. National Association of Critical Care Medicine (India), New Delhi has also conducted 60 one day training programmes for drivers at Inspection Pit, Burari, New Delhi which were attended by about 6500 drivers.

(e) Whosoever is called for such training, have participated.

[English]

Cellular Telephone services

4633. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the progress made so far in the matter of introduction of Cellular Mobile Telephone Service in the Country including four Metropolitan cities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): Indian Companies, two in each city in Delhi, Calcutta, Bombay and Madras have been provisionally selected. Some of the companies have gone to the Court with civil petitions/special leave petitions. The matter is sub-judice in the Supreme Court of India. The hearings in the case are over and judgment is yet to be delivered by the Supreme Court of India. Proposal to introduce Cellular Mobile Telephone Service in the rest of the country is under consideration.

Selection of Doordarshan serlals

4634. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA: Will the Minister of INFOR-

MATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the norms for the selection of Doordarshan Serials have been violated by Bangalore Doordarshan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b). Certain irregularities relating to selection of serials by Doordarshan Kendra, Bangalore have been referred to the Central Bureau of Investigation.

Passport

4635. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications received by the passport offices during 1993, Office-wise;

(b) the number of passport applications returned to the applicants for correcting defects and not resubmitted during the year;

(c) the number of passports granted, number of passports refused and number of passport applications pending as on December 31, 1993 office-wise; and

(d) the number of passports pending on that day due to delay in police verification, office-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) The number of applications received by Passport Offices during 1993 is given in the attached *Statement-I*

(b) Statistics are not maintained by the Passport Offices on this aspect.

(c) Number of passports granted, number of applications rejected and number of applications pending on 31 December 1993 is given in the attached *Statement-II*.

(d) All POs have standing instructions not to hold up the issue of a passport if the police report is not received within four weeks of its being requested.

STATEMENT-I

Number of applications received by Passport offices during 1993

Sl. No.	Station	Fresh application	Miscellaneous services
1.	Ahmedabad	111325	60467
2.	Bangalore	111035	32583
3.	Bareilly	59603	29213
4.	Bhopal	25833	11856
5.	Bhubaneswar	10069	3263
6.	Bombay	211059	155031
7.	Calcutta	42470	29796
8.	Chandigarh	73766	39156
9.	Cochin	13771	76620
10.	Delhi	129632	75190
11.	Goa	16065	15723
12.	Guwahati	8840	2794
13.	Hyderabad	202069	108142
14.	Jaipur	67030	28657
15.	Jalandhar	80042	35611
16.	Kozhikode	206917	103262
17.	Lucknow	139215	33628
18.	Madras	152674	66646
19.	Nagpur	12934	3548
20.	Patna	45485	13469
21.	Trichy	218491	56508
22.	Trivandrum	124600	75051
Grand Total		2186925	1056214

STATEMENT-II

Number of passports granted and refused during 1993 and the number of applications pending as on December 31, 1993

S. No.	Office	Granted	Rejected/ closed (Provisional)	Total pendency	Pending over a month
1.	Ahmedabad	124080	1846	16897	14126
2.	Bangalore	104068	885	19832	7089
3.	Bareilly	61906	188	1793	1781
4.	Bhopal	26410	1652	3346	327
5.	Bhubaneswar	11114	196	1956	245
6.	Bombay	209480	8606	49827	16216
7.	Calcutta	51720	4235	14707	4601
8.	Chandigarh	95554	3195	59912	49900
9.	Cochin	183535	9100	8912	6225
10.	Delhi	128186	14799	33355	10464
11.	Goa	16015	162	2350	97
12.	Guwahati	9358	4	3071	1977
13.	Hyderabad	215090	4575	23254	9222
14.	Jaipur	106104	1905	8988	1583
15.	Jalandhar	110070	40	75547	67032
16.	Kozhikode	341000	12678	24609	18077
17.	Lucknow	138457	6765	68231	66301
18.	Madras	188416	2825	13376	12819
19.	Nagpur	12890	166	1143	54
20.	Patna	46661	76	42979	36536
21.	Trichy	334847	1746	36040	24471
22.	Trivandrum	194319	1062	12655	1161
		2709280	76706	522780	350304

A.I.R. at Gopeshwar (Chamoli) Uttar Pradesh

4636. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work on the A.I.R. Station Gopeshwar (Chamoli) Uttar Pradesh have been completed; and

(b) if so, by when the transmission is likely to commence from that station?

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

(b) The transmission from All India Radio Station at Gopeshwar will commence after completion of the project which is expected to be ready by 1995-96.

Coal Supply to Power Plants

4637. DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the power generation capacity of power plants in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether there is shortage of coal in power plants of the State;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The Installed Generating Capacity of Power Projects located in Andhra Pradesh as on 31.3.1994

is 4724.44 MW consisting of 2592.94 MW Hydro, 2032.50 MW coal based thermal and 99.0 MW gas based thermal stations in the State Sector and 2100 MW coal based thermal station in the Central Sector.

(b) to (d). No generation loss for want of coal has been reported by any thermal power station in Andhra Pradesh during the year 1993-94.

[*Translation*]

Telephone Exchanges in M.P.

4638. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of telephone exchanges set-up so far in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the locations of telephone exchanges set up so far and proposed to be set up during 1994-95; and

(c) the number of Gram Panchayats where telephone facility has been provided during the year 1993-94 district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) As on 31.3.94 the total number of telephone exchanges set up in Madhya Pradesh is 2334, which is about 12% of total number of telephone exchanges in India.

(b) The district-wise details of telephone exchanges set up in Madhya Pradesh as on 30th Sept., 1993 is given in the attached *Statement-I*. Also, district-wise details of proposed telephone exchanges to be set up during 1994-95 in Madhya Pradesh is given in the attached *Statement-II*.

(c) The number of Gram Panchayat telephones provided, district-wise, during 1993-94 is given in the attached *Statement-III*.

STATEMENT-I

District-wise details of Telephone Exchanges set up in Madhya Pradesh as on 30th September, 1993.

Sl. No.	District	No. of exchanges
1.	Balaghat	34
2.	Bastar	49
3.	Betol	34
4.	Bhind	41
5.	Bhopal	22
6.	Bilaspur	92
7.	Chhatarpur	26
8.	Chhindwara	55
9.	Damoh	20
10.	Datia	15
11.	Dewas	58
12.	Dhar	88
13.	Durg	27
14.	Guna	51
15.	Gwalior	38
16.	Hoshangabad	68
17.	Indore	53

Sl. No.	District	No. of exchanges
18.	Jabalpur	59
19.	Jhabua	31
20.	Khandwa	64
21.	Kharagone	87
22.	Mandla	23
23.	Mandsaur	101
24.	Morena	46
25.	Narsinghpur	39
26.	Panna	12
27.	Raigarh	48
28.	Raipur	74
29.	Raison	37
30.	Rajgarh	32
31.	Rajnandgaon	26
32.	Ratlam	53
33.	Rewa	27
34.	Sagar	51
35.	Sarguja	25
36.	Satna	27
37.	Sehore	37
38.	Seoni	32
39.	Shahdol	29
40.	Shajapur	62

Sl. No.	District	No. of exchanges
41.	Shivpuri	40
42.	Sidhi	18
43.	Tikamgarh	15
44.	Ujjain	70
45.	Vidisha	29

STATEMENT-II

District-wise details of proposed Telephone Exchanges to be set up in Madhya Pradesh during 1994-95

Sl. No.	District	No. of exchanges
1.	Balaghat	5
2.	Bastar	5
3.	Betul	3
4.	Bhind	3
5.	Bhopal	2
6.	Bilaspur	8
7.	Chhatarpur	8
8.	Chhindwara	5
9.	Damoh	3
10.	Datia	2
11.	Dewas	4
12.	Dhar	4
13.	Durg	3

Sl. No.	District	No. of exchanges
14.	Gwalior	4
15.	Guna	5
16.	Hoshangabad	10
17.	Indore	6
18.	Jabalpur	5
19.	Khandwa	3
20.	Jhabua	3
21.	Khargone	5
22.	Mandla	4
23.	Mandsaur	5
24.	Morena	5
25.	Narsinghpur	3
26.	Panna	2
27.	Raigarh	7
28.	Raipur	4
29.	Raison	5
30.	Rajgarh	5
31.	Rajnandgaon	5
32.	Ratlam	5
33.	Rewa	4
34.	Sagar	5
35.	Sarguja	5
36.	Satna	3

Sl. No.	District	No. of exchanges
37.	Sehore	2
38.	Seoni	3
39.	Shahdol	3
40.	Shajapur	9
41.	Shivpuri	4
42.	Sidhi	3
43.	Tikamgarh	3
44.	Ujjain	6
45.	Vidisha	4

STATEMENT-III

Number of Gram Panchayat Tele-phones provided; District-wise, during 1993-94

Sl. No.	District	G.P.T's Provided during 1993-94
1.	Balaghat	176
2.	Bastar	251
3.	Betul	171
4.	Bhind	57
5.	Bhopal	29
6.	Bilaspur	401
7.	Chhatarpur	130
8.	Chhindwara	177
9.	Damoh	115

Sl. No.	District	G.P.T's Provided during 1993-94
10.	Datia	41
11.	Dewas	88
12.	Dhar	61
13.	Durg	204
14.	Guna	149
15.	Gwalior	49
16.	Hoshangabad	268
17.	Indore	Nil
18.	Jabhua	60
19.	Jabalpur	209
20.	Khandwa	202
21.	Khargone	281
22.	Mandla	188
23.	Mandsaur	137
24.	Morena	142
25.	Narsinghpur	88
26.	Panna	64
27.	Raigarh	174
28.	Raipur	256
29.	Raison	122
30.	Rajgarh	202
31.	Rajnandgaon	161
32.	Ratlam	120

Sl. No.	District	G.P.T's Provided during 1993-94
33.	Rewa	67
34.	Sagar	236
35.	Sarguja	67
36.	Satna	106
37.	Sehore	48
38.	Shahdol	82
39.	Shajapur	104
40.	Shivpuri	139
41.	Sidhi	87
42.	Tikamgarh	120
43.	Ujjain	78
44.	Vidisha	98
45.	Seoni	152
Total		6157

[English]

Credit to South Asian Countries

4639. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the country-wise amount of credit extended by the Government to other countries in South Asia during each of the last three years;

(b) the total amount disbursed to and repaid by the respective borrowing country as on December 31, 1993;

(c) whether this credit is linked to any project in those countries; and

(d) if so, the particulars of such projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) to (d). The country-wise information is as under:

Bhutan

A standby credit facility of Rs. 10 crores was extended to Bhutan in March 1993. In January 1994, this was enhanced to 25 crores. As per the agreement, the amount drawn is to be refunded within 6 months. As this is a standby credit, the amount disbursed and outstanding keep on fluctuating. Interest, however, is paid every month.

The standby credit facility is not linked to any specific project. It assists Bhutan in overcoming short term shortages of Indian rupees and thus facilitates trade and commerce with India.

Nepal

A standby credit facility of Rs. 35 crores was available to Nepal for 1993. This was enhanced to Rs. 50 crores in December 1993. As this is a standby credit, the amount disbursed and outstanding keep on fluctuating. Interest, however, is paid every month.

The standby credit facility is not linked to any specific project. It assists Nepal in overcoming short term shortages of Indian rupees and thus facilitates trade and commerce with India.

Bangladesh

There is an agreement for a credit of Rs. 30 crores, signed in 1991. The total

amount disbursed during the last three years is Rs. 3.68 crores. There have been no repayments. This credit is not linked to any specific project in Bangladesh.

Sri Lanka

Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Official Language Implementation Committee

4640. SHRI LALIT ORAON: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether official language implementation Committee has been constituted at the ministerial level;

(b) if so, the composition of the Committee; and

(c) the number of times this Committee met during the year 1993?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SON-TOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. An Official Language Implementation Committee in the Ministry of Steel is functioning under the Chairmanship of a Joint Secretary. Senior Officers and 3 officials of the Ministry and representatives of Development Commissioner for Iron & Steel Authority of India Limited and Department of Official Language are its members. The Assistant Director (Official Language) is its Member-Secretary.

(c) During the year 1993 the Committee held two meetings.

[English]

Indigenous Manufacturers of Switch Lines

4641. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total demand for switching lines in 1992 and 1993 and the portion thereof supplied by the indigenous manufacturers and the foreign multinational companies, respectively indicating the costs thereof;

(b) whether the Centre for Development of Telematics have expressed their unhappiness over the entry of foreign multinational companies in the field of telecommunications;

(c) if so, the details of the challenges faced by the indigenous manufacturers of switching lines, etc.;

(d) whether they have submitted any representation to the Government in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (f). The information is being compiled and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Telephone Connections

4642. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Turant telephone lijiye Dalalon Ki Madad se" appearing in the 'Jansatta' dated March 30, 1994;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to curb the malpractice?

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

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

Sick Shipping Companies

4643. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to revive/close down some of the Government owned chronically sick shipping companies;

(b) if so, the details of the action being taken in regard to each such company separately; and

(c) the details of action proposed to be taken particularly in regard to scindia Steam Navigation Company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a). There is no chronically sick Government owned shipping company.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Scindia Steam Navigation is a private company. On its failure to discharge its dues and liabilities, the Government of India has appointed its Board of Directors and also constituted a Sub-Committee of its Directors to effect the sale of non-productive and loss making assets (except fixed assets).

Thermal Power Plant at IB Valley

4644. SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether negotiations between AES Power Corporation and Orissa State Electricity Board regarding Thermal Power Plant at IB Valley has been completed;

(b) if so, the details of the terms and conditions of the agreements and the steps being taken for its execution; and

(c) if not, the stage at which the matter stands at present?

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

(b) and (c). Most of the issues have been finalised after negotiation with the representatives of AES Trans Power, and the Power Purchase Agreement signed on 9.5.93 between OSEB & IB Valley Power Private Limited, a subsidiary of AES Trans Power. OSEB and AES have recently agreed to an amended Power Purchase Agreement. The amended agreement is being examined by Government of India.

[Translation]

STD/ISD/PCOs in Maharashtra

4646. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of the I.S.D./S.T.D./P.C.Os installed and functioning in Maharashtra, district-wise; and

(b) the total number of the telephone connections provided to various panchayats in the State district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). The required information is given in the attached *Statement*.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Name of District	ISD/STD PCOs installed and functioning	No. of connections provided to various panchayats
10.	Satara	248	643
11.	Ratnagiri	68	305
12.	Ahamednagar	247	887
13.	Aurangabad	263	394
14.	Jalana	64	309
15.	Latur	55	281
16.	Osmanabad	57	242
17.	Beed	35	206
18.	Nanded	97	436
19.	Parbhani	91	367
20.	Kalyan (part of Thane)	897	692
21.	Akola	135	449
22.	Amaravati	121	530
23.	Bhandara	50	521
24.	Chandrapur	81	323

Sl. No.	Name of District	ISD/STD PCOs installed and functioning	No. of connections provided to various panchayats
1.	Pune	1195	560
2.	Nasik	403	983
3.	Dhulia	172	620
4.	Jalgaon	258	785
5.	Nagpur	268	705
6.	Raigad	163	552
7.	Kolhapur	458	701
8.	Solapur	192	666
9.	Sangli	206	535

Sl. No.	Name of District	ISD/STD PCOs installed and functioning	No. of connections provided to various panchayats
25.	Wardha	38	319
26.	Yeotmal	41	381
27.	Sindhudurg	11	307
28.	Gadchiroli	17	137
29.	Buldhana	43	389
30.	Bombay MTNL	3354	-

[English]

Meat Processing Plants

4647. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Karnataka Government have submitted a proposal for the setting up of modernised meat processing plants;

(b) if so, the estimated expenditure involved;

(c) whether the Union Government have given its clearance to the proposal; and

(d) the places where such plants are proposed to be set up in Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESS-

ING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (d). Proposals for modernisation/setting up of modern meat production and meat processing plants from the Karnataka Meat and Poultry Marketing Corporation Limited formerly known as Bangalore Animal Food Corporation at Bangalore, Mysore, Hubli, Dharwar, Gulbarga, Mangalore and Belgaum have been received in this Ministry in the last two years. These involve total expenditure of Rs. 15.5 crores. The Ministry has approved the modernisation of Bangalore Meat Plant at a cost of Rs. 2.84 crores and have released assistance to the tune of Rs. 71 lakhs for the same in the year 1992-93. Action on other proposals have been initiated.

Talks with Under Secretary of British Commonwealth and Foreign Office

4648. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any talks were held by the Under Secretary of British Commonwealth and Foreign Office with Indian officials during February, 1994; and

(b) if so, the issues discussed during the meeting and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED): (a). Yes, Sir.

(b) The issues discussed during the meeting included exchanges of high level visits during 1994, Indo-UK economic relations, bilateral cooperation in the areas of terrorism and drug-trafficking,

the situation in J & K and Indo-PAK issues. The objective of regular Foreign Office consultations with the UK is to enhance understanding of each other's concerns and give impetus to bilateral relations, which was achieved during the talks.

Indo-Bangladesh Joint Economic Commission

4649. DR. ASIM BALA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the outcome of the Fourth meeting of the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Economic Commission;

(b) whether any agreements were signed between the two countries during the meeting; and

(c) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a). The outcome of the fourth meeting of the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Commission (held on December 28, 1993) was the agreement "to further the scope and pace of cooperation to the mutual benefit of the two countries" especially relating to commercial, financial, industrial and technical cooperation.

(b) and (c). Apart from the Agreed Minutes signed at the conclusion of the said meeting, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India (MMTC) and Bangladesh Chemical

Industrial Corporation (BCIC) for the export of 100,000 to 150,000 MTs of Urea from Bangladesh.

Soil Investigations in Kerala

4650. DR. RAJAGOPALAN SRIDHARAN: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any investigations have been conducted on the sands of tropical soil of Kerala for mineral contents;

(b) whether these earth are taken in bags by foreigners visiting Kerala State; and

(c) the details of the steps taken to protect the sands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a). The Geological Survey of India (GSI) has carried out exploration for heavy minerals in the coastal sands of Kerala. The heavy minerals present are Ilmenite, Rutile, Zircon, Sillimanite, Monazite and Garnet.

(b) No such incident has been reported by the State Government of Kerala.

(c) Does not arise.

Extradition Treaty with US, Canada and Germany

4651. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL:
DR. GUNWANT RAMBHAU SARODE:
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether negotiations are going on for signing extradition treaty with the US, Canada and Germany to fight international terrorism; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the progress made so far in this regard country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) **USA:** India and USA held one round of negotiations in September, 1993 to conclude a new Extradition Treaty. The Extradition Treaty can only be finalized after further negotiations are completed at the technical level, and results evaluated by the two Government.

Canada: An Extradition Treaty with Canada was signed in 1987, and is presently in force between the two countries.

Germany: India and Germany held a second round of negotiations in February, 1994 to conclude an Extradition Treaty. The Treaty has been finalized at the technical level, and is presently being evaluated by the two Governments.

[*Translation*]

Mine Projects in Gujarat

4652. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether mine projects in Gujarat have been facing time and cost overrun;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to revitalise these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a). Public Sector Undertakings under the Ministry of Mines do not have any mine projects in Gujarat. Hence, question of facing time and cost overrun does not arise.

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

[*English*]

Simplification of Passport Procedure

4653. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the major hurdles in streamlining the procedure adopted for clearance of passport applications;

(b) whether the Government propose to simplify the procedure for the issue of passport; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) to (c). The major constraints in issuing passports with a minimum of delay are shortage of staff, procedural bottlenecks and infrastructural

problems. Consonant with the need for security in the issue of passports, Government undertakes an on-going process relating to staffing patterns, policy, equipment and premises in order to simplify procedures for the issue of passports.

New Telecommunications System

4654. SHRI DHARMANNA
MONDAYYA SADUL:
SHRI SOBHANADREES-
WARA RAO VADDE:
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY:
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA
RAO:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to permit US based Hughes network system to introduce their telecommunication system in telecom sector in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the outstanding features of the system and the advantages likely to be derived as a result thereof?

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

(b) and (c). Do not arise in view of answer to (a) above.

Works in Maharashtra Under Central Road Fund

4655. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT:
SHRI DATTA MEGHE:

Will the Minister SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Maharashtra has submitted a number of proposals relating to works to be executed under Central Road Fund and requested for its expeditious implementation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action being taken by the Government thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). In 1989, the Government of Maharashtra sent 801 schemes costing Rs. 365.59 crores to be financed under augmented Central Road Fund. Out of these schemes, 42 schemes have been approved taking into account the likely accruals upto 31.3.92 as per Old Resolution. Since actual augmentation of Central Road Fund has not taken place so far, it is too early to indicate the time by which the remaining schemes would be approved.

Disposing of unclaimed vessels

4656. PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of unclaimed 'ocean going vessels' repaired and lying in the country at various shipyards for the past three years;

(b) if so, the action the shipbuilding companies have initiated for disposing of the unclaimed vessels; and

(c) the loss incurred as a result thereof?

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) There are no unclaimed 'ocean going vessels' repaired and lying in any of the Public Sector Shipyards for the past three years.

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

Operation of foreign vessels

4657. DR. GUNWANT RAMBHAU SARODE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union government have cleared the proposal of GP Group of Thailand who have offered to start operating their vessels from this country;

(b) if so, whether the R.B.I. has cleared the proposal; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Government have cleared the proposal of M/s. Gee Pee Shipping Limited for in principle approval for the acquisition of one second hand bulk carrier.

(b) and (c). The Reserve Bank of India approval is required only after the vessel is identified by the company.

Peservation of Fruits and Vegetables

4658. SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA:
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO:
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI:
MAJ. GEN. (RETD.)
BHUVAN CHANDRA
KHANDURI:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large quantity of fruits and vegetables are wasted due to inadequate and inefficient storage, transportation and processing facilities particularly in Andhra Pradesh and Garhwal Hills of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether prices of fruits and vegetables have increased sharply because of this wastage;

(c) the efforts made by the government to ensure optimal utilisation of these raw materials;

(d) whether the Union Government are providing financial assistance to food processing training and research centres; and

(e) if so, the State-wise and Union Territory-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Post harvest losses in fruits & vegetables do occur due to inadequate

storage, transport and post harvest handling and processing facilities.

(b) Increase in prices of fruits & vegetables are attributed to higher cost of inputs, transport, storage, packaging etc, besides the seasonality of fruits & vegetables.

(c) The Government is assisting and encouraging setting up of various post-harvest processing and handling facilities.

(d) and (e). Yes, Sir. Government is providing the assistance for setting up of Food Processing Training Centres in different States. Yearwise number of such Centres assisted in different States in the last two years are given in the attached *Statement*.

STATEMENT

Year	States/Union Territory	No. of Food Processing Training Centres assisted
1992-93	Haryana	2
	Uttar Pradesh	18
	Himachal Pradesh	1
	Bihar	3
	West Bengal	8

Year	States/Union Territory	No. of Food Processing Training Centres assisted
	Mizoram	6
		38
1993-94	Karnataka	4
	Tamil Nadu	4
	Uttar Pradesh	2
	Bihar	6
	Himachal Pradesh	3
	Assam	11
	Haryana	6
	Orissa	30
	Arunachal Pradesh	2
	Rajasthan	2
	Madhya Pradesh	2
	Jammu & Kashmir	1
	Goa	1

Year	States/Union Territory	No. of Food Processing Training Centres assisted
	Tripura	1
	Mizoram	1
	Kerala	1
	Maharashtra	3
	West Bengal	1
	Gujarat	1
		83

[English]

Multinational Companies

4659. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE:
SHRI SURYA NARAYAN SINGH:
SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHORTI:
SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA:
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:
SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:
SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI:
SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether multinational companies have been involved in operation and maintenance of telecom network, particularly for value added services in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof with reasons along with the names of the companies and the work undertaken in each State;

(c) whether any memorandum has been received by the Government against the involvement of these companies;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No Sir, However, tenders/proposals have been invited from registered Indian companies for franchising of value added services. The Indian Companies, may have joint venture with foreign companies/ multinational companies.

(b) Details of provisionally selected Indian companies having joint ventures, are given in the attached *Statement*.

(c) No, Sir.

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

STATEMENT

Radio Paging

15 Bidders as mentioned below have been provisionally selected for franchising Radio Paging Service in 27 cities. Some of the unsuccessful bidders have filed civil writ petitions in the High Court of Delhi and the matter is sub-judice. However, there does not exist any stay by the Court

Sl. No.	Name of the Regd. Indian Co.	Cities	Foreign Collaborator.
1.	M/s. Arya Communications and Electronics, 105 Maker Chambers VI, 220, Narimam Point, Bombay-400021.	Bombay Bangalore.	Motorola Intl. Paging Inc. USA
2.	M/s. Matrix Paging (India) Pvt. Ltd., Anil Chambers (Near Crown Mills) Andheri-Kurla Road, Sakimaka, Bombay-400072.	Pune, Vadodara, Rajkot, Surat.	Matrix Telecom. Ltd. Australia.
3.	M/s. Telesistme (India) Pvt. Ltd., 23/1, XIth Main Road, Near Post Office, Vasant Nagar, Bangalore-560052.	Madras, Bangalore. Ernakulam, Coimbatore Trivandrum, Madurai.	Telesistem SDN BHD, Malaysia.
4.	M/s. Essjay Telecom Services Pvt. Ltd., 13, Masjid Moth, DDA, Commercial Complex, New Delhi-110048.	Delhi Bombay.	Telecom Intl. Newzealand.
5.	M/s. India Telecom, Telecom House, L-12, South Extension-II New Delhi-110049.	Bombay, Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Pune, Hyderabad, Kanpur, Lucknow, Delhi, Calcutta, Madras.	1. Steamers Telecom Pvt. Ltd., Singapore. 2. Electcoms SDN BHD. Malaysia.
6.	M/s. Mobile Communications Ltd., 505, New Delhi House 27, Bara Khamba Road, New Delhi-110001.	Delhi, Calcutta, Madras, Ahmedabad, Hyderabad, Jaipur Pune.	1. NITTI, Japan. 2. C-ITOH, Japan.

Sl. No.	Name of the Regd. Indian Co.	Cities	Foreign Collaborator.
7.	M/s. Hutchison Max. Telecom., 12th Floor, Devika Tower, 6 Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019.	Ahmedabad, Bangalore Pune, Vadodara, Chandigarh. Hyderabad, Ludhiana.	Hutchinson Telecom Hongkong.
8.	M/s. Modi Telecommunications Ltd., 12, Friends Colony, New Delhi-110065.	Madras, Bhopal, Knapur, Jaipur, Chandigarh, Lucknow, Indore, Varanasi.	Nynex Network Systems, USA.
9.	M/s. Easy Call communications (India) Pvt. Ltd., LB/5, Ansal Bhawan, 16, Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi-110001.	Calcutta, Hyderabad, Nagpur, Indore, Bhopal, Vishakapatnam, Patna.	Easyca 11 Commn, Phillippines.
10.	M/s. Microwave Communications Ltd., 1202, Chiranjiv Tower, 43, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019.	Bombay, Calcutta, Vadodara. Ahmedabad, Surat, Rajkot.	FONES West USA.
11.	M/s. ABC Communications (India) Pvt. Ltd., 44B, Nariman Bhawan, Nariman Point, Bombay-400021.	Delhi, Kanpur, Jaipur, Chandigarh, Varanasi, Ludhiana, Amritsar.	ABC Communications Ltd., Hongkong.
12.	M/s. Usha Martin Telekom Ltd., 16, Community Centre, Saket, New Delhi-110017	Nagpur, Rajkot, Ernakulam, Indore, Coimbatore, Bhopal, Varanasi, Patna, Madurai, Vishakapatnam.	Telecom Malaysia Berhad, Malaysia,
13.	M/s. Weston Pagers Pvt. Ltd., Weston House, Okhla Industrial Estate, New Delhi-110020.	Kanpur, Nagpur, Surat, Jaipur, Vadodara Chandigarh, Rajkot, Lucknow, Vishakapatnam, Trivandrum.	1. Champion Tachnology Ltd. Hongkong. 2. Harilela Kanton Telecom Ltd. Hongkong.
14.	M/s. BPL System and Projects Ltd., 64 Chrucl Street,	Ernakulam Trivandrum.	1. France Telecom Mobiles

Sl. No.	Name of the Regd. Indian Co.	Cities	Foreign Collaborator
15.	M/s. Beltron Telecommunications Ltd., J-189, Peoples Co-operative, Lohianagar, Patna-800020.	Surat, Nagpur, Patna, Ludhiana, Amritsar.	IMS, USA.

Cellular Mobile Telephone

8 Bidders, two for each city, as mentioned below have been provisionally selected. Some of the bidders have filed civil writ petitions/special leave petitions in the Supreme Court of India. The matter is sub-judice in the Supreme Court. Hearings in the case are over and judgment is awaited.

Sl. No.	Name of the Regd. Indian Company	City	Name of the foreign Collaborator
1.	M/s. Hutchison Max Telecom., Devika Tower, 6, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019.	Bombay	M/s. Hutchison, Whampoa.
2.	M/s. Bharti Cellular Ltd., 15th Floor, Devika Tower, 6, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019.	Bombay	(i) M/s. General Mobile, U.K. (ii) S.F.R. France.
3.	M/s. BPL Systems & Projects Ltd., 1/1, Palace Road, Bangalore-560001.	Delhi	M/s. France Telecom.
4.	M/s. Sterling Cellular Ltd., 19, Cathedral Garden Road, Nungambakkam, Madras-600034.	Delhi	M/s. Cellular Communication International Inc. U.S.A.
5.	M/s. Usha Martin Telecom Ltd., 503, Hemkunt Chambers, 89, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019.	Calcutta	M/s. Telecom., Malaysia.
6.	M/s. Indian Telecom. Pvt. Ltd., 13th Floor, Hemkunt Tower, 98, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019.	Calcutta	M/s. OTC International, Australia.

Sl. No.	Name of the Regd. Indian Company	City	Name of the foreign Collaborator
7.	M/s. Skycell Communication Pvt. Ltd., Sardar Mohan Singh Building, Connaught Lane, New Delhi-110001.	Madras	M/s. Bell South, U.S.A.
8.	M/s. Mobile Telecom Service Ltd., N-83, Partap Building, 1st Floor, Connaught Circus, New Delhi-110001.	Madras	M/s. Vodofine, U.K.

Electronic Mail Service

Sl. No.	Name of the Regd. Indian Company.	Name of the City.	Name of the Foreign Collaborator
1.	M/s. RPG Telecom Ltd, TM Pratap Bhawan, First Floor, N-83, Connaught Circus, New Delhi-110001.	Any where in the country.	(i) Sprint International Inc. U.S.A. (ii) RPG International Communications Corporation, U.S.A.

64 KBPS Data Service Via Satellite

Sl. No.	Name of the Regd. Indian Company	Foreign Collaborator
1.	M/s. Hughes Escort, Communications, 2nd Floor, International Trade Tower, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019.	Hughes Network System, U.S.A.
2.	M/s. RPG Telecom Ltd., First Floor, Pratap Building, N-83, Connaught Circus, New Delhi-110001.	Comstream Corporation, U.S.A.
3.	M/s. MAX India Ltd., Devika Tower, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019.	Comsat Corporation, U.S.A.
4.	M/s. HCL-Hewlett Packard Ltd., 503-504, Sidharath, 96-Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019.	GTE Spacenet Corporation, U.S.A.
5.	M/s. Amadeus Investments & Finance Lentin Chambers, Dalal Street, Bombay-400023.	Telstra Holdings Proprietary Ltd., Australia.

Farmers In Agro-Processing Industry

4660. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce low-cost state of art technology so as to enable small farmers to set up small food processing units;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the farmers would require licences to process their produce; and

(d) if so, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Government are assisting in setting up of food processing training centres in rural areas to help provide 'Hands on' experience for manufacturing of food products and encourages low-cost technology for setting up of small food processing units. The Central Food Technological Research Institute has developed various low-cost technologies for a large number of food products based on cereals and pulses, spices, fruits and vegetables, oil seeds, meat and poultry.

(c) and (d). No industrial licence is required for setting up food processing units except for distillation and brewing of alcoholic beverages and sugar. Farmers can also set up such food processing units without an industrial licence.

[*Translation*]

Missing of Postal Bages in Delhi

4461. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS

be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2710 on December 20, 1993 and state:

(a) whether the information regarding missing of registered letter containing bank draft worth about Rs.2 lakhs from Karol Bagh Post Office has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof. and

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

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

(b) Shri Indemath Sehgal, Vardhan Building, Ajmal Khan Road, New Delhi, the addressee of Srinagar General Post Office Regd. letter No. 289 dated 13.8.93, registered a case with Adarsh Nagar Police Station that the above Registered letter send by Md. Yusuf Baigh PB 587 Srinagar allegedly containing a draft for Rs. 1,99,000/-, was not received by him. No complaint about its non delivery was either made by the sender or the addressee to the Department. Departmental investigations revealed that the registered letter was received at Delhi on 16.8.93 but while being transmitted to Karol Bagh Post Office for delivery on 17.8.93, the bag containing the registered letter, in question, was found lost.

(c) The following action has been taken:

(i) The Police has already taken up the enquiries.

(ii) The officials found responsible for procedural lapses have been shifted from their respective offices. Suitable disciplinary action against them has also been ordered to be initiated.

- (iii) A close monitoring over the disposal of registered letters/bags has been ordered.

[English]

Cost Estimates of Power Projects

4662. SHRI LOKANATH
CHOUDHURY:
SHRIMATI GEETA
MUKHERJEE:
SHRI ANAND RATNA
MAURYA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to State:

(a) whether there has been a wide disparity in the cost estimates of the Ministry of Power and Central Electricity Authority for the same power projects; and

(b) if so, the name of such projects under construction, estimated cost decided by the Ministry and CEA separately and the reasons thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

ENRON Development Corporation of US

4663. SHRI BOLLA BULLI
RAMAIAH:
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN
OWAISI:
SHRI HARISH NARAYAN
PRABHU ZANTYE:
SHRI RAM KAPSE:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ENRON Development Corporation of US has proposed for setting up a power generation plant in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the outstanding features of the proposal;

(c) whether the Government have examined the same; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Government of Maharashtra have accepted the ENRON's proposal to set up a power plant at Dabhol on imported Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG). The outstanding features of the project are as follows:—

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

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

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

(iv) Construction of Phase-I is estimated to start after financial close which is targeted for

July/August, 1994 and the plant is estimated to come on stream 33 months later in March, 1997. Bechtel will be the main contractors and GE (USA) the main equipment supplier.

- (v) Planned debt equity ratio for Phase-I is 70:30.
- (vi) In the power purchase agreement sufficient flexibility with regard to the starting and modalities of Phase-II have been incorporated.

(c) Yes, sir.

(d) The proposal has been cleared from the foreign investment angle. The project report has been accorded clearance by CEA subject to certain terms and conditions.

Relaxation of Production and Trading Controls

4664. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to abolish various controls including quantitative restrictions through quotas, minimum export prices and canalisation, imposed on processed food items;

(b) if so, whether this measure will help to create a unified domestic market with minimum price distortions; and

(c) the time by which this measure is proposed to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN

GOGOI): (a) No proposal to abolish all controls is under consideration of the Government.

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

Ved Marwah Committee

4665. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:
SHRI SHIVLAL NAGJIBHAI VEKARIA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a six-member Committee headed by Shri Ved Marwah was appointed to investigate the reasons of increasing road accidents in Delhi;

(b) if so, whether the Committee was asked to submit its report within a stipulated period;

(c) if so, the time-limit of that period; and

(d) if the report has not been received so far, the reasons therefor and by when the report is likely to be submitted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Programmes on Child Education

4666. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Doordarshan telecast programmes concerning child education in Gujarat;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to telecast programmes on child education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a). Yes, Sir.

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

Marble Mines

4667. SHRI BHERU LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to close down certain marble mines;

(b) if so; the reasons therefor; and

(c) the alternative arrangements made by the Government for the rehabilitation of its employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) No such proposal is under consideration of the Central Government.

(b) and (c). Question dose not arise.

[English]

Telephones in West Bengal

4668. SHRI HARADHAN ROY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephone connections provided during each of the last

three years in West Bengal, District-wise; and

(b) the number of new telephone connections proposed to be released during 1993-94 and 1994-95 in each district of the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). Information is being compiled and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Doordarshan Programmes

4669. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propsoe to telecast programmes on Doordarshan round the clock to counter the foreign programmes being beamed into India:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the alternative steps the Government propose to take to increase the telecast period of Doordarshan?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The present duration of telecast time is considered adequate.

[Translation]

AIR/Doordarshan Kendras in Uttar Pradesh

4670. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the locations in Uttar Pradesh where Akashvani and Doordarshan Kendras were set up during the last three years; year-wise;

(b) whether any Kendras are proposed to be set up at Hathras, Atrauli or at Sasni of Aligarh district; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) Details are given in the attached *Statement*.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) A relay station of All India Radio with 2x3 KW FM Tr. is being set up at Aligarh which will provide, on its completion, coverage to entire Aligarh district including Hathras, Atrauli and Sasni.

Primary grade doordarshan coverage is available at Hathras and Sasni from High Power Transmitter at Agra. Atrauli lies in fringe service range of HPT, Agra and Low Power Transmitter Aligarh where elevated antennae and boosters can be used to get the reception.

STATEMENT

Locations in Uttar Pradesh where Akashvani and Doordarshan Kendras were set up during the last three years

	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
All India Radio	NIL	NIL	(i) Faizabad (ii) Bareilly (iii) Jhansi (iv) Obra
Doordarshan	(i) Churk (ii) Mussoorie	(i) Bareilly (ii) Rampur (Re-started)	(i) Lucknow (for relay of DD-II programmes) (ii) Rasra

[English]

Container Terminal at Cochin

4671. PROF. K. V. THOMAS: will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in the construction of the Vallarpadam International Container Terminal at Cochin;

(b) whether there is a proposal to constitute an Island Development Authority at Cochin with the cooperation of Cochin Port and Kerala Government;

(c) if so, the aims of this authority;

(d) whether City and Industrial Development Corporation (CIDCO), Bombay is acting as a consultant for this project, and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Global offers from private parties were invited by Cochin Port for establishment of Container Transshipment Terminal at Vallarpadam. Response so far received in this regard has not been adequate.

(b) to (e). No such proposal is under consideration of the Central Government.

T. V. serials for Bangalore Doordarshan

4672. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO: will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether some child prodigies are producing television serials for Bangalore Doordarshan; and

(b) if so, the details of serials produced by these children?

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

(b) Dose not arise.

Conversion of Telephone Exchanges in Meghalaya

4673. SHRI PETER G. MARBANANG: will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephone exchanges converted into electronic ones and the number of new exchanges commissioned in Meghalaya during 1993-94; and

(b) the number of telephone exchanges proposed to be converted into electronic ones during 1994-95 in the State alongwith locations thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) (i) all telephone exchanges in Meghalaya had been converted into electronic exchanges prior to 1993-94.

(ii) Number of new exchanges commissioned during 1993-94 in Meghalaya was five.

(b) Question does not arise in view of answer at (a) (i) above.

Electronic Exchanges in Andhra Pradesh

4674. SHRI RAMA KRISHNA KONATHALA: will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed and achieved regarding installation of electronic telephone exchanges during the last three years in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) the location of these exchanges with type and capacity of each exchange?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Year-wise targets are fixed in terms of gross lines. Target and achievement made for the last three years is as under:-

Year	Target (Gross lines)	Achievement (Gross lines)
1991-92	52736	65436
1992-93	87876	105638
1993-94	80260	121704

(b) The location, type and capacity of installed electronic exchanges during 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 is given in the attached Statements I, II and III respectively.

STATEMENT-I

Location of E. Telephone Exchanges with type and capacity installed in Andhra Pradesh during 1991-92.

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	District	Capacity	Remarks
1.	Chinnayakkulur	Anantpur	56 L	
2.	Payasampalli	Cuddapah	56	
3.	Durga Samudram	Chittoor	56	
4.	Laddigiri	Kurnool	56	
5.	New Madaram	Cuddapah	88	
6.	TAX Building, VJ	Krishna	88	
7.	CTX Building, VJ	Krishna	88	
8.	Kosuru	Krishna	88	
9.	G. Koduru	Krishna	88	
10.	Kukatpally H.B.	Rangareddy	384	
11.	Kukatpally H.B.	Rangareddy	384	
12.	Daba Gardens	Visakhapatnam	2 K	
13.	Sriharikota	Nellore	420	
14.	Musheerabad	Hyd. Tele. Dist	4 K	
15.	Peddapalli	Karimnagar	384	
16.	Attili	West Godavari	384	
17.	Sirpurkagaznagar	Adilabad	384	
18.	Repalli	Guntur	384	
19.	Sattenapalli	Guntur	384	

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	District	Capacity	Remarks
20.	Rayadurg	Anantapur	384	
21.	Hanuman Jn.	Krishna	384	
22.	Yemmiganur	Kurnool	384	
23.	Ichapuram	Srikakulam	384	
24.	Koratla	Karimnagar	384	
25.	Mummidivaram	East Godavari	384	
26.	Bellampalli	Karim Nagar	384	
27.	Sathupalli	Khammam	384	
28.	Doorasanchar Bhavan	Hyd. Tele. Dist.	3K	
29.	Srikalahasti	Chittoor	384	
30.	Vinukonda	Vinukonda	384	
31.	Palasa	Srikakulam	384	
32.	Parvathipuram	Vizianagaram	384	
33.	Challapalli	Krishna	384	
34.	Coodavaram	Visakhapatnam	384	
35.	Narsipatnam	Visakhapatnam	384	
36.	Jangareddygudam	West Godavari	384	
37.	Yellandu	Khammam	384	
38.	Manuguru	Khammam	384	
39.	Ganapavaram	West Godavari	384	
40.	Tandur	Rangareddy	1000	
41.	Jyothinagar	Karimnagar	296	
42.	Palamaner	Chittoor	296	
43.	Razole	West Godavari	296	

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	District	Capacity	Remarks
44.	Venkatagiri	Nellore	296	
45.	Allagadda	Kurnool	420	
46.	Bethamcherla	Kurnool	420	
47.	Hill Colony	Nalgonda	192	
48.	Uravakonda	Anantapur	192	
49.	Srisailam-P	Kurnool	192	
50.	Naidupet	Nellore	192	
51.	8th Incline	Karimnagar	192	
52.	Achanta	W. Godavari	192	
53.	Prasanthinilayam	Anantapur	192	
54.	Yeleswaram	East Godavari	192	
55.	Pamidi	Anantapur	192	
56.	Jaggampeta	East Godavari	192	
57.	Yelamanchili	Visakhapatnam	192	
58.	Singarayakonda	Prakasam	192	
59.	Kuppam	Chittoor	192	
60.	Bantumilli	Krishna	192	
61.	Koilkunta	Armool	192	
62.	Vallur	West Godavari	88	
63.	Aravalli	West Godavari	88	
64.	Vatticherukuru	Guntur	88	
65.	Kotipalli	East Godavari	88	
66.	Mulug	Warangal	88	
67.	Nandikotkur	Karnool	160	

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	District	Capacity	Remarks
68.	Chityal	Nalgonda	88	
69.	Khanapur	Adilabad	88	
70.	Parchur	Prakasam	88	
71.	Madhira	Khammam	160	
72.	Ibrahimpattam	Rangareddy	240	
73.	Husnabad	Karimnagar	160	
74.	Sompota	Srikakulam	240	
75.	Tekkali	Srikakulam	160	
76.	Atmakur	Nellore	160	
77.	Bheemunipattam	Visakhapatnam	160	
78.	Kothayalasa	Vizianagaram	160	
79.	Srungavarapukota	Vizianagaram	160	
80.	Kanchikacherla	Krishna	240	
81.	Pulivendula	Cuddapah	240	
82.	Gajwel	Mahabubnagar	160	
83.	Narayanpeta	Mahabubnagar	240	
84.	Thorrur	Warangal	160	
85.	Ishapur	Warangal	160	
86.	Parigi	Ranga Reddy	88	
87.	Biccavolu	East Godavari	160	
88.	Doddipatla	West Godavari	88	
89.	Elamanchili	West Godavari	88	
90.	Mantralayam	Kurnool	88	
91.	Chebrolu	West Godavari	88	

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	District	Capacity	Remarks
92.	D. Gannavaram	East Godavari	88	
93.	Mukkamala	East Godavari	88	
94.	Challapalli	East Godavari	88	
95.	Gokavaram	East Godavari	88	
96.	Korukonda	East Godavari	88	
97.	Srisailam Devasthanam	Kurnool	88	
98.	Nandivelugu	Guntur	88	
99.	Edlapalli	Guntur	88	
100.	Dachepalli	Guntur	88	
101.	Tadikonda	Guntur	88	
102.	Vamuru	Guntur	88	
103.	Amaravathi	Guntur	88	
104.	Velpur	West Godavari	88	
105.	Narpala	Anantapur	88	
106.	Gudur	Krishna	88	
107.	Gopalapuram	West Godavari	88	
108.	Undi	West Godavari	88	
109.	Dubacherla	West Godavari	88	
110.	Panduru	Srikakulam	88	
111.	Hiramandalam	Srikakulam	88	
112.	Adavivaram	Visakhapatnam	88	
113.	Chennur	Cuddappah	88	
114.	Vetapalem	Prakasham	88	
115.	Dulla	East Godavari	88	

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	District	Capacity	Remarks
116.	Sakhinotipalli	East Godavari	104	
117.	Chebrolu	Guntur	88	
118.	Sabbavaram	Visakhapatnam	88	
119.	Nakkapalli	Visakhapatnam	88	
120.	Shantinagar	Mahabubnagar	88	
121.	Madugula	Visakhapatnam	88	
122.	Mudinepalli	Krishna	160	
123.	Mogaltur	West Godavari	88	
124.	Vatsavai	Krishna	88	
125.	Gollapalam	East Godavari	88	
126.	Ghandur	Nalgonda	88	
127.	Pamarru	Krishna	88	
128.	Atmakur	Mahabubnagar	88	
129.	Allavaram	East Godavari	88	
130.	Vallabhapuram	Guntur	88	
131.	Wyra	Khammam	160	
132.	Pulladdigunta	Guntur	88	
133.	Atchampet	Mahabubnagar	88	
134.	Jannaram	Adilabad	88	
135.	Karamchedu	Prakasham	88	
136.	Alamuru	East Godavari	104	
137.	Mirthinadu	East Godavari	88	
138.	Raghudevapuram	East Godavari	88	
139.	Manakodur	Karimnagar	88	

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	District	Capacity	Remarks
140.	Ghatkesar	Ranga Reddy	160	
141.	Tirumalagiri	Ranga Reddy	160	
142.	Atryapalem	East Godavari	88	
143.	Thimapuram	East Godavari	88	
144.	Kollapur	Mahabubnagar	88	
145.	Iceja	Mahabubnagar	88	
146.	Kosigi	Mahabubnagar	88	
147.	Pathapatnam	Srikakulam	88	
148.	Tanakallu	Anantapur	88	
149.	Chandralapadu	Krishna	88	
150.	Turkayamjal	Ranga Reddy	88	
151.	Chinnapuram	Krishna	88	
152.	Chandragiri	Chithoor	160	
153.	Addanki	Prakasham	160	
154.	Echoda	Adilabad	88	
155.	Kodangal	Mahabubnagar	88	
156.	Devarkadra	"	88	
157.	Pebhair	"	88	
158.	Chowdepalli	Chittoor	88	
159.	Katnonkona	East Godavari	88	
160.	Guttona Devi	East Godavari	88	
161.	I. Polavaram	East Godavari	88	
162.	Muramalla	"	88	
163.	Kesanakurpalem	"	88	

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	District	Capacity	Remarks
164.	Marturu	Prakasam	88	
165.	Abdullahpurmet	Ranga Reddy	88	
166.	Rajanagaram	East Godavari	88	
167.	Kadiyam	East Godavari	88	
168.	Nagulavandha	Khammam	88	
169.	Alampur	Mahabubnagar	88	
170.	Prathinadu	Guntur	88	
171.	Mandadam	Guntur	88	
172.	Kuchipudi	Guntur	88	
173.	Kolluru	Guntur	88	
174.	Nekarikallu	Nalgonda	88	
175.	Machavaram	East Godavari	88	
176.	Nawpada	Srikakulam	88	
177.	Chintapalli	Visakhapatnam	88	
178.	Shapur	Ranga Reddy	88	
179.	Kolamur	West Godavari	88	
180.	Poduru	West Godavari	88	
181.	Perapalem	West Godavari	88	
182.	Konithiwada	West Godavari	88	
183.	Chintapalli (Bodapadu)	Guntur	88	
184.	Asifabad	Adilabad	88	
185.	Jullurpalad	Khammam	88	
186.	Veeravasaram	West Godavari	160	
187.	Nelakondapalli	Khammam	88	

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	District	Capacity	Remarks
188.	Penubali	Khammam	88	
189.	Chodavaram	West Godavari	88	
190.	Zamigolvepalli	Krishna	88	
191.	Mallepalli	Nalgonda	88	
192.	Khazipalli	Madak	88	
193.	Mungode	Nalgonda	88	
194.	Chinaganjam	Prakasam	88	
195.	Dornakal	Prakasam	160	
196.	Malkapalli	West Godavari	88	
197.	Yernagudem	West Godavari	88	
198.	Pedapadu	West Godavari	88	
199.	Velpuru	West Godavari	160	
200.	Gundugolanu	West Godavari	160	
201.	Peravalli	West Godavari	160	
202.	Duvva	West Godavari	88	
203.	Vegetswarapuram	West Godavari	88	
204.	Saireddipalli	Ghittoor	88	
205.	Kesamudram	Warangal	160	
206.	Hasanparthy	Warangal	88	
207.	Maddipadu	Prakasam	88	
208.	Santhanuthalapadu	Prakasam	88	
209.	Uppugunduru	Prakasam	88	
210.	Amruthalur	Guntur	88	
211.	Gurazala	Guntur	88	

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	District	Capacity	Remarks
212.	Krosuru	Guntur	88	
213.	Midthur	Kurnool	88	
214.	Gajapathinagaram	Vizianagaram	88	
215.	Choppadandi	Karimnagar	160	
216.	Indervalli	Adilabad	88	
217.	Kondrupadu	Guntur	88	
218.	Uppalapadu	Guntur	88	
219.	Kothacheruvu	Anantpur	88	
220.	Bugga	Anantpur	88	
221.	Katuru	Krishna	88	
222.	Gampalagudem	Krishna	88	
223.	Kodur	Krishna	88	
224.	Kedthal	Mahabubnagar	88	
225.	Duchiraddipalem	Nellore	160	
226.	Pulla	West Godavari	88	
227.	Moturu	Krishna	88	
228.	Tangutur	Prakasam	160	
229.	Polavaram	West Godavari	88	
230.	Buttayagudem	West Godavari	88	
231.	Pedanandipadu	Guntur	160	
232.	Number	Guntur	160	
233.	Vinjamuru	Nellore	160	
234.	Mukteswaram	East Godavari	160	
235.	Chintalapudi	West Godavari	160	

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	District	Capacity	Remarks
236.	Munggapada	Vishakapatnam	160	
237.	Pendurthy	Vishakapatnam	160	
238.	Pargi	Ranga Reddy	88	
239.	Basheerabad	Ranga Reddy	88	
240.	Keesara	Ranga Reddy	88	
241.	Chevelin	Ranga Reddy	88	
242.	Aziznagar	Ranga Reddy	88	
243.	Devarymjai	Ranga Reddy	88	
244.	Mankhal	Ranga Reddy	88	
245.	Madhurawada	Visakhapatnam	160	
246.	Parwnda	Visakhapatnam	88	
247.	Mydukur	Cuddapah	160	
248.	Porumomilla	Cuddapah	88	
249.	Chennuru	Nelgonda	88	
250.	Ramayampeta	Mahabubnagar	160	
251.	Uppada	East Godavari	88	
252.	Pedayadavalli	East Godavari	88	
253.	Kolwakurty	Mahabubnagar	160	
254.	Pasarlapudi	East Godavari	88	
255.	Karapa	East Godavari	88	
256.	Mominpot	Ranga Reddy	88	
257.	Karimnagar (Service)	Marimnagar	160	
258.	Molagnvalli	Kurnool	56	

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	District	Capacity	Remarks
259.	Holagundla	Kurnool	56	
260.	Muddanur	Cuddapah	56	
261.	Kondapuram	Cuddapah	56	
262.	Khajipet	Cuddapah	56	
263.	Edara	Krishna	56	
264.	Akkiroddigudem	Krishna	56	
265.	Sydapuram	Nellore	56	
266.	Godala	East Godavari	56	
267.	Nandavada	East Godavari	56	
268.	Vatticherukuru	Guntur	56	
269.	Dachavaram	Guntur	56	
270.	Nidumolu	Krishna	56	
271.	Dovarapalli	Visakhapatnam	56	
272.	Brahmagiri	Mahabubnagar	56	
273.	Iskapalli	Nalgonda	56	
274.	Kaligiri	Prakasham	56	
275.	Chintaparthi	Chittoor	56	
276.	Kallur	Chittoor	56	
277.	Kurabalakota	Chittoor	56	
278.	Rompicharla	Chittoor	56	
279.	Kalicholra	Chittoor	56	
280.	Mahal	Chittoor	56	
281.	Vadamalapeta	Chittoor	56	
282.	Irala	Chittoor	56	

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	District	Capacity	Remarks
283.	Sturartpuram	Prakasam	56	
284.	Almalur	Anantapur	56	
285.	Elamarru	Krishna	56	
286.	Vadapalli	West Godavari	56	
287.	Pagidyala	Kurnool	56	
288.	Somandepalli	Anantapur	56	
289.	Araku	Visakhapatnam	56	
290.	Dhanwada	Mahabubnagar	56	
291.	Davapur	Adilabad	56	
292.	Thotlavalluru	Krishna	56	
293.	Gadivemula	Kurnool	56	
294.	Kotpalli	East Godavari	56	
295.	Dongeru	East Godavari	56	
296.	Molakalacheruvu	Khammam	56	
297.	Chinatippasamudram	Chittoor	56	
298.	Bommasumudram	Chittoor	56	
299.	Naraharipal	Chittoor	56	
300.	Yerpodu	Chittoor	56	
301.	Kathipudi	East Godavari	56	
302.	Sankavaram	East Godavari	56	
303.	East Viparru	West Godavari	56	
304.	Rangapuram	Kurnool	56	
305.	Bandiatmakur	Kurnool	56	
306.	Uvvalawada	Kurnool	56	

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	District	Capacity	Remarks
307.	Tanikolla	Khammam	56	
308.	Anthervedi	East Godavari	56	
309.	Atchutapuram	East Godavari	56	
310.	Mallam	East Godavari	56	
311.	Katravulapalli	East Godavari	56	
312.	Modikonduru	Guntur	56	
313.	Narasapur	Adilabad	56	
314.	Dohesla	Adilabad	56	
315.	K. J. Puram	Visakhapatnam	56	
316.	Tallapalem	Visakhapatnam	56	
317.	Etikoppa	Visakhapatnam	56	
318.	Pattempalam	West Godavari	56	
319.	Mansavaram	East Godavari	56	
320.	Ruwthulapudi	East Godavari	56	
321.	Giodavatam	Cuddapah	56	
322.	Lakkireddipalli	Cuddapah	56	
323.	Sodam	Chittoor	56	
324.	Nallacheruvu	Anantapur	56	
325.	Rananstalam	Srikakulam	56	
326.	Polaki	Srikakulam	56	
327.	Burja	Srikakulam	56	
328.	Vemsur	Khammam	56	
329.	Gudihatnoor	Adilabad	56	
330.	Damalcheruvu	Anantapur	56	

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	District	Capacity	Remarks
331.	Srikrishnapatnam	East Godavari	56	
332.	S. Rayavaram	Visakhapatnam	56	
333.	Seethanagaram	Visakhapatnam	56	
334.	Kanakadripalli	Kurnool	56	
335.	Podagopalli	Khammam	56	
336.	Chintakori	Khammam	56	
337.	Gudivada	Visakhapatnam	56	
338.	Pusapatirega	Vizianagaram	56	
339.	Saravakota	Sirkakulam	56	
340.	Devarapalli	Krishna	56	
341.	Yerrupalem	Khammam	56	
342.	Darbnagudem	West Godavari	56	
343.	Amarapuram	Anantapur	56	
344.	Amidyala	Anantapur	56	
345.	Modirajugudur	Nellore	56	
346.	Mohamadapuram	Nellore	56	
347.	Thimmapur	Kurnool	56	
348.	Mahanandi	Kurnool	56	
349.	Cement Nagar	Kurnool	56	
350.	Kilimigundla	Kurnool	56	
351.	Khambampadu	Krishna	56	
352.	Erraguntapalli	West Godavari	56	
353.	Taduvai	West Godavari	56	
354.	Progadavalam	West Godavari	56	

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	District	Capacity	Remarks
355.	Hanumakonda	Warangal	56	
356.	Bhogapuram	Vizianagaram	56	
357.	Makkuva	Vizianagaram	56	
358.	Narasayapalem	Guntur	56	
359.	Diguvapadu	Kurnool	56	
360.	Gadigarevula	Kurnool	56	
361.	Sanjamala	Kurnool	56	
362.	Brahmanakotkur	Kurnool	56	
363.	Bannur	Kurnool	56	
364.	Vutkur	Khammam	56	
365.	Chennuru	Khammam	56	
366.	Peddur	Adilabad	56	
367.	Koratal	Adilabad	56	
368.	Thotapalli	Khammam	56	
369.	Kamala	Warangal	56	
370.	Sangam	Nellore	56	
371.	Munduru	West Godavari	56	
372.	Konidela	Kurnool	56	
373.	Aspari	Kurnool	56	
374.	Kokkirapadu	West Godavari	56	
375.	Gajulapally	Kurnool	56	
376.	Gospadu	Kurnool	56	
377.	Vallabhi	Khammam	56	
378.	Pandithapur	Khammam	56	

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	District	Capacity	Remarks
379.	Halaharvi	Kurnool	56	
380.	Mohammadabad	Ranga Reddy	56	
381.	Karankota	Ranga Reddy	56	
382.	Chilamathur	Cuddapah	56	
383.	Sarvapalam	East Godavari	56	
384.	Kandukur	Prakasham	56	
385.	Marpalli	Ranga Reddy	56	
386.	Dharur	Ranga Reddy	56	
387.	Kotanandur	East Godavari	56	
388.	Thodangi	East Godavari	56	
389.	Purushothampatnam	East Godavari	56	
390.	Rangampata	East Godavari	56	
391.	Gurijanpalli	East Godavari	56	

STATEMENT-II

Location of Electronic Telephone Exchanges with type and capacity Installed in Andhra Pradesh during 1992-93

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	Dist. H.Qrs	Capacity	Remarks
1.	Khushaiguda	Hyd. Tele. Dist	3.0 K	
2.	Krragadda	Hyd. Tele. Dist	3.0 K E.	
3.	Kukkatpally	Ranga Reddy	2.0 K	
4.	Gouliguda	Hyd. Tele. Dist	4.0 K	
5.	Rudrapur	Khammam	88 Lines	
6.	Turangavaripalam	Guntur	-do-	

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	Dist. H.Qrs	Capacity	Remarks
7.	Karamari	Adilabad	56 Lines	
8.	Chintur	Khammam	56 Lines	
9.	Savalyapuram	Guntur	-do-	
10.	Neredikonda	Adilabad	-do-	
11.	Hanamkonda	Warangal	4.0	
12.	Kazipat	-do-	5.0	
13.	Bhainsa	Adilabad	388 Lines	
14.	Madanapalli	Chittoor	1632 Lines	
15.	Rayamhoti	Cuddapah	384 Lines	
16.	Narasaraopet	Guntur	1632 Lines	
17.	Rapatla	-do-	768 Lines	
18.	Vibhanabad	Ranga Reddy	504 Lines	
19.	Ibrahimpattam	-do-	504 Lines	
20.	Bazurabad	-do-	504 Lines	
21.	Kaikalur	Krishna	504 Lines	
22.	Tirvur	-do-	504 Lines	
23.	Wananarthy	Mahabubnagar	504 Lines	
24.	Sadasivpet	Medak	504 Lines	
25.	Jogipet	-do-	504 Lines	
26.	Hazarnagar	Nalgonda	504 Lines	
27.	Rajam	Srikakulam	504 Lines	
28.	Jangoan	Warangal	504 Lines	
29.	Nidadavele	West Godavari	1632 Lines	
30.	C. C. Complex	Adilabad	160 Lines	

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	Dist. H.Qrs	Capacity	Remarks
31.	Chennur	Adilabad	160 Lines	
32.	Beath	-do-	160 Lines	
33.	Papanaidupet	Chittoor	88 Lines	
34.	Kammalapalli	Nizambad	88 Lines	
35.	B. N. Khandriga	Chittoor	88 Lines	
36.	T. Narsapur	West Godavari	88 Lines	
37.	Venkatagirikota	Nellore	160 Lines	
38.	Thamballapalli	Chittoor	88 Lines	
39.	Imrgasamudram	-do-	88 Lines	
40.	Kandulavarapalli	-do-	88 Lines	
41.	Puthalapatta	-do-	88 Lines	
42.	Thendamandu	-do-	88 Lines	
43.	Rajampet	Cuddapah	384 Lines	
44.	Ventimitta	-do-	88 Lines	
45.	Karapa	East Godavari	88 Lines	
46.	Pasaralapudi	-do-	88 Lines	
47.	Kothipalli	-do-	88 Lines	
48.	Gopalapuram	-do-	88 Lines	
49.	Panamandada	-do-	160 Lines	
50.	Durabad	Karimnagar	88 Lines	
51.	Kottapalli	-do-	160 Lines	
52.	Bojjanki	-do-	88 Lines	
53.	Kesavapatnam	-do-	160 Lines	
54.	Bayyaram	Khammam	88 Lines	

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	Dist. H.Qrs	Capacity	Remarks
55.	Garla	Khammam	88 Lines	
56.	Kusumanchi	-do-	88 Lines	
57.	Enkoar	-do-	88 Lines	
58.	Gollapudi	-do-	88 Lines	
59.	Karapalli	-do-	88 Lines	
60.	Banakallu	-do-	88 Lines	
61.	Marripada	Warangal	88 Lines	
62.	Sujathanagar	Khammam	88 Lines	
63.	Venkatapuram	-do-	88 Lines	
64.	Jaggiahpet	Krishna	1400 Lines	
65.	Kotavalleru	-do-	88 Lines	
66.	Gopavaram	-do-	88 Lines	
67.	Jayanthi	-do-	88 Lines	
68.	Nimmakur	-do-	88 Lines	
69.	Napidevi	-do-	88 Lines	
70.	Kodali	-do-	88 Lines	
71.	Khahampadu	-do-	88 Lines	
72.	Pedana	-do-	160 Lines	
73.	Aggiripalli	-do-	160 Lines	
74.	Mandavalli	-do-	88 Lines	
75.	Owk	Kurnool	88 Lines	
76.	Yellur	-do-	80 Lines	
77.	Sirivel	-do-	do-	
78.	Khamala	-do-		

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	Dist. H.Qrs	Capacity	Remarks
79.	Gudur	Krishna	80 Lines	
80.	Bhramgiri	Mahabubnagar	-do-	
81.	Chinnabintakunta	-do-	-do-	
82.	Telkapalli	-do-	-do-	
83.	Makthal	-do-	-do-	
84.	Marrikal	-do-	-do-	
85.	Mavabpet	-do-	-do-	
86.	Pantavalli	-do-	-do-	
87.	Kottur	-do-	160 Lines	
88.	Achempet	-do-	160 Lines	
89.	Amarachinta	-do-	88 Lines	
90.	Lingal	-do-	-do-	
91.	Rasapur	-do-	-do-	
92.	Zahasrabad	Medak	1000 Lines	
93.	Dubbaka	-do-	88 Lines	
94.	Suryapet	Nalgonda	1400 Lines	
95.	Devarakonda	-do-	240 Lines	
96.	Patipaka	-do-	88 Lines	
97.	Herodicharla	-do-	160 Lines	
98.	Ramannapet	-do-	160 Lines	
99.	Kumchikkala	West Godavari	88 Lines	
100.	Gellavanithapa	-do-	-do-	
101.	Vekat Ramannagudam	-do-	-do-	
102.	Vempa	-do-	-do-	

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	Dist. H.Qrs	Capacity	Remarks
103.	Yendagandi	West Godavari	88 Lines	
104.	Rayakuduru	-do-	-do-	
105.	Dharamjigudam	-do-	-do-	
106.	Gowripatnam	-do-	-do-	
107.	Tadimala	-do-	-do-	
108.	East Vippara	-do-	-do-	
109.	Agadalalanka	-do-	-do-	
110.	Megaltaru	-do-	-do-	
111.	Pavalavarigudam	-do-	-do-	
112.	Patimella	-do-	-do-	
113.	Biddantham	-do-	-do-	
114.	Belivethan	-do-	-do-	
115.	Kondavalli	-do-	-do-	
116.	Amalapuram	-do-	-do-	
117.	Kalavapudi	-do-	-do-	
118.	Kothapadu	-do-	-do-	
119.	Tadikalapudi	-do-	-do-	
120.	Kannapuram	-do-	-do-	
121.	Chinnaigudam	-do-	-do-	
122.	Navasagar	Medak	-do-	
123.	Kodur	Cuddapah	192 Lines	
124.	Eadwal	-do-	-do-	
125.	Moinabad	Ranga Reddy	-do-	
126.	Narsingi	-do-	-do-	

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	Dist. H.Qrs	Capacity	Remarks
127.	Mantani	Karimnagar	192 Lines	
128.	Kodumuru	Kurnool	-do-	
129.	Bellaram	Medak	-do-	
130.	Banawada	Nizamabad	-do-	
131.	Yellereddy	-do-	-do-	
132.	Giddalur	Ongole	-do-	
133.	Sirput Town	Adilabad	56 Lines	
134.	Sarangapur	Nizamabad	-do-	
135.	Jainapuram	Adilabad	-do-	
136.	Mudhole	-do-	-do-	
137.	Kallapalli	Chittoor	-do-	
138.	Karvetinager	-do-	-do-	
139.	Tadukapet	-do-	-do-	
140.	Bugga Agraharam	Anantapur	-do-	
141.	Ramakuppam	Chittoor	-do-	
142.	Takulapalli	Khammam	-do-	
143.	Venkatayapalam	-do-	-do-	
144.	Rajeshwarapuram	-do-	-do-	
145.	Tallampadu	-do-	-do-	
146.	Perampalli	Krishna	-do-	
147.	POTUM-EEDA	-do-	-do-	
148.	Vishwanadapalli	-do-	-do-	
149.	Atimaga	-do-	-do-	
150.	Dendapadu	-do-	-do-	

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	Dist. H.Qrs	Capacity	Remarks
151.	Tamarian	Krishna	56 Lines	
152.	Jujjur	-do-	-do-	
153.	Harivanam	Kurnool	-do-	
154.	Ganagandla	-do-	-do-	
155.	Kothalam	-do-	-do-	
156.	Brigiri	-do-	-do-	
157.	Domipadu	-do-	-do-	
158.	Timmejupet	Mahabubnagar	-do-	
159.	Pedakothapalli	-do-	-do-	
160.	Madjii	-do-	-do-	
161.	Utnoor	-do-	-do-	
162.	Tipparthi	Malgonda	-do-	
163.	Vidavalur	Nellore	-do-	
164.	Yellupalam	-do-	-do-	
165.	Jayampu	-do-	-do-	
166.	Lingampet	Nizamabad	-do-	
167.	Ulavapada	Ongola	-do-	
168.	Kumarola	-do-	-do-	
169.	Baruva	Srikakulam	-do-	
170.	Gara	-do-	-do-	
171.	Uriam	-do-	-do-	
172.	Kottur	-do-	-do-	
173.	Sithampet	-do-	-do-	
174.	Kimmadu	-do-	-do-	

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	Dist. H.Qrs	Capacity	Remarks
175.	K.M. Valadu	Srikakulam	56 Lines	
176.	Sri Kurmulu	-do-	-do-	
177.	Vadachipurupalli	Visakhapatnam	-do-	
178.	Sittaiahpet	-do-	-do-	
179.	Dharmavaram	Vizianagaram	-do-	
180.	Jami	-do-	-do-	
181.	Kujuruly	East Godavari	88 Lines	
182.	Kathipudi	-do-	-do-	
183.	Maliasala	-do-	-do-	
184.	Mamadepalli	-do-	-do-	
185.	Kesavaram	-do-	-do-	
186.	Gondapalli	-do-	-do-	
187.	Rangampata	-do-	-do-	
188.	Rajavammangi	-do-	-do-	
189.	Iamarada	-do-	-do-	
190.	Nagulapalli	-do-	-do-	
191.	Narendrapuram	-do-	-do-	
192.	Addatamangala	-do-	-do-	
193.	Divili	-do-	-do-	
194.	Fidoguralla	Guntur	1000 Lines	
195.	Satlur	-do-	88 Lines	
196.	Padakurapada	-do-	160 Lines	
197.	T. Bundur	-do-	88 Lines	
198.	S.J. Mudi	-do-	160 Lines	

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	Dist. H.Qrs	Capacity	Remarks
199.	Prathur	Guntur	160 Lines	
200.	Poddapalam	-do-	88 Lines	
201.	Chandole	-do-	-do-	
202.	Medikonduru	-do-	-do-	
203.	Thirantpuram	-do-	-do-	
204.	Kropuru	-do-	-do-	
205.	Rantachintala	-do-	160 Lines	
206.	Bandlamoturu	-do-	88 Lines	
207.	Earampudi	-do-	-do-	
208.	Ponokallu	-do-	-do-	
209.	Nagaram	-do-	-do-	
210.	Durgi	-do-	-do-	
211.	Mandapadu	-do-	-do-	
212.	Ananthavaram	-do-	-do-	
213.	Lamalla	-do-	-do-	
214.	Natakki	-do-	160 Lines	
215.	Chinalingayapalam	-do-	88 Lines	
216.	Appikatla	-do-	-do-	
217.	Charukupalli	-do-	-do-	
218.	Madohal	Ranga Reddy	1000 Lines	
219.	Manipet	-do-	88 Lines	
220.	Karpalli	-do-	-do-	
221.	Badangpet	-do-	-do-	
222.	M. Patelguda	-do-	-do-	

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	Dist. H.Qrs	Capacity	Remarks
223.	Ahmdigai	Ranga Reddy	160 Lines	
224.	Maheswaram	-do-	88 Lines	
225.	Karunkota	-do-	-do-	
226.	Jagityal	Karimnagar	2000 Lines	
227.	Siroillu	-do-	1000 Lines	
228.	Metpalli	-do-	384 Lines	
229.	Sultanabad	-do-	160 Lines	
230.	L.M.D. Colony	-do-	88 Lines	
231.	Hill Colony	Nalgonda	160 Lines	
232.	Yallur	Nellore	88 Lines	
233.	B.C. Emtrom	-do-	-do-	
234.	Lmbur	-do-	-do-	
235.	Chinna Chorukurn	-do-	160 Lines	
236.	T.P. Cudur	-do-	88 Lines	
237.	Vakadn	-do-	-do-	
238.	S.Kota	-do-	160 Lines	
239.	Bichkondu	Niramahad	88 Lines	
240.	Varni	-do-	-do-	
241.	Kharamm	-do-	-do-	
242.	Sarangapur	-do-	-do-	
243.	Navipet	-do-	-do-	
244.	Markapur	Prakasham	1000 Lines	
245.	Chima Ganjam	-do-	2000 Lines	
246.	Swaram	-do-	88 Lines	

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	Dist. H.Qrs	Capacity	Remarks
247.	Bharoi	Prakasham	88 Lines	
248.	Kanigiri	-do-	160 Lines	
249.	Manduvaripalon	-do-	88 Lines	
250.	Kotabamnali	Srikakulam	160 Lines	
251.	Veeragattm	-do-	-do-	
252.	Buddutti	-do-	88 Lines	
253.	Pathatokkali	-do-	-do-	
254.	V.C. Puram	-do-	-do-	
255.	Ranustalam	-do-	-do-	
256.	Kaviti	-do-	-do-	
257.	Mamdana	-do-	-do-	
258.	Palakonda	-do-	-do-	
259.	Balaoheruva	Visakhapatnam	1000 Lines	
260.	Anudapuram	-do-	-do-	
261.	A. Koduru	-do-	-do-	
262.	Vaddadi	-do-	-do-	
263.	Balajipet	Vizianagaram	-do-	
264.	Saluru	-do-	240 Lines	
265.	Garbar	-do-	88 Lines	
266.	Mahabubabad	Warangal	1000 Lines	
267.	Marsampet	-do-	420 Lines	
268.	Glsuconda	-do-	88 Lines	
269.	Charyal	-do-	160 Lines	
270.	Sungem	-do-	88 Lines	

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	Dist. H.Qrs	Capacity	Remarks
271.	Eturnagaram	Warangal	88 Lines	
272.	Kalipatnam	-do-	-do-	
273.	Fonugonda	West Godavari	1000 Lines	
274.	Pethavaram	-do-	88 Lines	
275.	Kallachoria	-do-	-do-	
276.	Padananindrakalem	-do-	1000 Lines	
277.	Indrajavaram	-do-	160 Lines	
278.	Donduluru	-do-	88 Lines	
279.	Kambavaripalli	Chittoor	56 Lines	
280.	Avanthi	-do-	-do-	
281.	Kalagada	-do-	-do-	
282.	Pulioheria	-do-	-do-	
283.	Narsinga Rayanipat	-do-	-do-	
284.	Galiveedu	Cuddapah	-do-	
285.	Chinnamandam	-do-	-do-	
286.	T. Sundupalli	-do-	-do-	
287.	Gurajanapalli	East Godavari	-do-	
288.	Kanarajupot	-do-	-do-	
289.	Vanapalli	-do-	-do-	
290.	Paravaram	-do-	-do-	
291.	Gantipadapudi	-do-	-do-	
292.	Jagannadhagiri	-do-	-do-	
293.	Bellamkonda	Guntur	-do-	
294.	Appikatta	-do-	-do-	

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	Dist. H.Qrs	Capacity	Remarks
295.	Muppalla	Guntur	56 Lines	
296.	Adavuladeevi	-do-	-do-	
297.	A.G. Plalam	-do-	-do-	
298.	Dulipadu	-do-	-do-	
299.	Kuchinapudi	-do-	-do-	
300.	Epur	-do-	-do-	
301.	Kankatlapalem	-do-	-do-	
302.	Pomidindnipalem	-do-	-do-	
303.	Bodipalam	-do-	-do-	
304.	Bhrigubanda	-do-	-do-	
305.	Veldurthy	-do-	-do-	
306.	Shabad	Ranga Reddy	-do-	
307.	Maharajpet	-do-	-do-	
308.	Yacharam	-do-	-do-	
309.	Jagamguda	-do-	-do-	
310.	Nadunuru	-do-	-do-	
311.	Palgutta	-do-	-do-	
312.	Venkatapur	-do-	-do-	
313.	Bommarajpet	-do-	-do-	
314.	Eliminedu	-do-	-do-	
315.	Chinagolkonda	-do-	-do-	
316.	Dandumailaram	-do-	-do-	
317.	Kulakacherla	-do-	-do-	
318.	Doma	-do-	-do-	

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	Dist. H.Qrs	Capacity	Remarks
319.	Manneguda	Ranga Reddy	56 Lines	
320.	Boinapally	Karimnagar	-do-	
321.	Nayyaram	Khammam	-do-	
322.	Mudigonda	-do-	-do-	
323.	Proddatur	-do-	-do-	
324.	Siripuram	-do-	-do-	
325.	Irragunta	-do-	-do-	
326.	Chandrugonda	-do-	-do-	
327.	Dummagudam	-do-	-do-	
328.	Koyachillaka	-do-	-do-	
329.	Tirumalayapalam	-do-	-do-	
330.	Nukumpeta	West Godavari	-do-	
331.	Palasagudam	-do-	-do-	
332.	Gogunta	-do-	-do-	
333.	Makkinavarigudam	-do-	-do-	
334.	Raghavapuram	-do-	-do-	
335.	Lakshimipuram	-do-	-do-	
336.	Gumuluru	-do-	-do-	
337.	Ch. Pothapalli	-do-	-do-	
338.	Kalyanakhani	Adilabad	384 Lines	
339.	Funganur	Chittoor	-do-	
340.	Jammalamadugu	Cuddapah	-do-	
341.	Madhorta	Guntur	-do-	

STATEMENT—III

Location of E. Telephone Exchanges with type and capacity installed in Andhra Pradesh during 1993-94

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	District	Capacity
1.	Dandapalli	Adilabad	88
2.	Kudoru	Anantapur	88
3.	Peddavaduguru	-do-	56
4.	Donapudi	Guntur	88
5.	Sankarampeta	Medak	88
6.	Kaluvoya	Nellore	88
7.	Bitragunta	-do-	88
8.	Bhicknoor	Nizamabad	88
9.	Bandipalem	Krishna	56
10.	Piler	Chittoor	384
11.	Nagireddypet	Nizamabad	88
12.	Kakavarapalem	Warangal	88
13.	Raghunathpalli	-do-	88
14.	Nigwa	Adilabad	56
15.	Lakshmanachanda	-do-	56
16.	Medicity	Hyderabad Telecom Distt.	56
17.	Anakapalli	Visakhapatnam	2400
18.	Pullampeta	Cuddapah	88
19.	Koyyalagudem	Nalgonda	88
20.	Kurugonda	Nellore	56
21.	Annamodu	-do-	56
22.	Pakala	Chittoor	192

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	District	Capacity
23.	BHEL (MIG)	Hyderabad Telecom Distt.	1000
24.	Nalluru	Anantapur	88
25.	Gurramkonda	Chittoor	88
26.	Sodam	-do-	88
27.	Narasaipalem	Guntur	88
28.	Peravali	-do-	88
29.	Adavuladeevi	-do-	88
30.	Stuvarpuram	-do-	88
31.	Burgampahad	Khammam	88
32.	Devarapalli	Krishna	88
33.	Morthad	Nizamabad	88
34.	Pothangal	-do-	88
35.	Allingaram	Srikakulam	88
36.	Govindaraopeta	Warrangal	88
37.	Ghanpur 'M'	-do-	88
38.	Patnam	Anantapur	36
39.	Mangalampeta	Chittoor	56
40.	Tekmal	Mahaboobnagar	56
41.	Turmamidi	Hyderabad Telecom Distt.	56
42.	Vadamalapeta	Chittoor	88
43.	Aler	Nalgonda	88
44.	Dichpally	Nizamabad	88
45.	Daggajuru (I)	West Godavari	88
46.	Kanur	-do-	88

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	District	Capacity
47.	Ratur	Guntur	56
48.	Pasarval	Kurnool	56
49.	Ramallakota	-do-	56
50.	Mudivarthi	Nellore	56
51.	Somasila	-do-	56
52.	Kalavalapalli	West Godavari	56
53.	Duvvur	Cuddapah	88
54.	Vomula	-do-	88
55.	Chitlanpur	Nellore	88
56.	Nandipet	Nizamabad	88
57.	Pydibhimavaram	Vizianagaram	88
58.	Kurupam	-do-	88
59.	Mallavaram	West Godavari	88
60.	Mangampet	Cuddapah	56
61.	Bachoda	Khammam	56
62.	V.K. Puram	-do-	56
63.	Annapuraddipalli	-do-	56
64.	Nagupalli	-do-	56
65.	Thugundram	Chittoor	56
66.	Epuri Lanka	Guntur	56
67.	Singupallam	-do-	56
68.	Kothakota	Visakhapatnam	56
69.	Kambadur	Anantapur	56
70.	Kakumanu	Guntur	56

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	District	Capacity
71.	Murikipudi	Guntur	56
72.	Dindi	Nalgonda	36
73.	Donakonda	Nizamabad	36
74.	Bommanshal (Dmmanshal)	Anantapur	88
75.	Aranupuram	-do-	88
76.	Bathalapalli	-do-	88
77.	Dangoru (Dangeru)	East Godavari	88
78.	Watiluru	West Godavari	88
79.	Lakkavaoum	-do-	88
80.	Mulakanoor	Karimnagar	88
81.	Dammapet	Khammam	88
82.	Gaddipalli	Nalgonda	88
83.	Pedavegi (2 Units)	West Godavari	160
84.	L.B. Chera (Jeethipalem)	-do-	88
85.	Vijayrai	-do-	88
86.	Nagidipalem	-do-	88
87.	Mahadevapatnam	-do-	88
88.	Maredumilli	East Godavari	36
89.	Gangadhara	Karimnagar	36
90.	Gandrai	Krishna	36
91.	Miyapur	Ranga Reddy	384
92.	Gadala	East Godavari	88
93.	Kosigi	Kurnool	88

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	District	Capacity
94.	Kohir	Medak	88
95.	Bheemgal (2 Units)	Nizamabad	160
96.	Kothapatnam	Prakasham	88
97.	Meliaputti	Srikakulam	88
98.	Gantyada	Vizianagaram	88
99.	Gudivadalanka	West Godavari	88
100.	Singagudem	-do-	88
101.	Chinnagattigallu	Guntur	56
102.	A. Mallavaram	East Godavari	36
103.	Madaram	Khammam	36
104.	Kambalapadu	Kurnool	36
105.	Kondepi	Prakasham	36
106.	Yanam	East Godavari	384
107.	Yeleswaram	-do-	384
108.	Puttur	Chittoor	384
109.	Bobbili	Vizianagaram	384
110.	Bollaram	Medak	384
111.	Puttur	Anantapur	56
112.	Mutchukota	-do-	56
113.	Mobagam	Srikakulam	56
114.	Pundigalli	-do-	56
115.	Yerraguntla	Cuddapah	296
116.	Penumuru	Chittoor	88
117.	Mangalagiri	Guntur	1000

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	District	Capacity
118.	Karimnagar	Karimnagar	1000
119.	Harivaram	Kurnool	56
120.	Perusamala	-do-	56
121.	Yemmaganur	-do-	1000
122.	Munjallur	Krishna	88
123.	Mankkonda	-do-	88
124.	Konukonda	-do-	88
125.	Digadi	Medak	88
126.	Rudeeram	-do-	88
127.	Ismalkhanpet	-do-	88
128.	Kothapalli	-do-	88
129.	Papannapeta	-do-	88
130.	Yeldurthy	-do-	88
131.	Shankarampeta-II	-do-	88
132.	Jagadevpur	-do-	88
133.	Indukurpet (2 Units)	Nellore	160
134.	Kopparu	West Godavari	88
135.	Rangapuram	-do-	88
136.	Nallamada	Anantapur	56
137.	Roddam	-do-	88
138.	Eruvapalem	Cuddapah	88
139.	Santakaviti	Srikakulam	56
140.	Appikatla	Guntur	88
141.	Muppada	-do-	56

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	District	Capacity
142.	Vikarabad	Ranga Reddy	1000
143.	Adoni	Kurnool	1400
144.	Kankipadu	Krishna	1000
145.	Satyanarayanapuram	Khammam	88
146.	Mondikunta	-do-	56
147.	M.P. Banjara	-do-	56
148.	Shadnagar	Mahabubnagar	1000
149.	Yeddumailaram	Medak	88
150.	Pitlam	Nizamabad	88
151.	Kodad	Balgonda	1000
152.	Baligonda	-do-	88
153.	Thungathurthy	-do-	88
154.	Udayagiri	Nellore	88
155.	Addanki	Prakasham	384
156.	Chirala	-do-	1400
157.	Chintalapudi	West Godavari	56
158.	Bondada (2 Units)	-do-	160
159.	Sriparru	-do-	88
160.	Voldurthy	Kurnool	184
161.	Atmakur	-do-	184
162.	Podalapur	Nellore	184
163.	Parchur	Prakasam	184
164.	Annaram	East Godavari	192
165.	Mew Srirampur (2)	Adilabad	160

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	District	Capacity
166.	Indjuru	Cuddapah	88
167.	Amadalavalan (3)	Srikakulam	240
168.	Nidumoor	Ranga Reddy	88
169.	Mall V. Nagar	-do-	88
170.	Vattinagulapalli	-do-	88
171.	Dubbacheria	-do-	88
172.	Jagdamgudda	-do-	88
173.	Illempet	-do-	88
174.	Dasupalli	-do-	88
175.	Ennaram	-do-	88
176.	Bandistmakur	Kurnool	88
177.	Vektrapragada	Krishna	88
178.	Velanki	-do-	88
179.	Perisepalli	-do-	88
180.	Tallapalam	-do-	88
181.	Nidumolu	-do-	88
182.	Raddigudem	-do-	88
183.	Angaluru	-do-	88
184.	Tadinada	-do-	88
185.	Polavaram	-do-	88
186.	Bhujabalapatanam	-do-	88
187.	Putrela	-do-	88
188.	Manoped	Mahaboobnagar	88
189.	Malkakal	-do-	88

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	District	Capacity
190.	Rajoli	Mahaboobnagar	88
191.	Mosapet	-do-	88
192.	Keshampet	Medak	88
193.	Manoharabad	-do-	88
194.	Dowlatabad (2)	-do-	160
195.	Manubolu	Nellore	88
196.	Halia	Nalgonda	88
197.	Nidamanur	-do-	88
198.	Nampalli	-do-	88
199.	Pamur	Prakasam	88
200.	L. Kota	Vizianagaram	88
201.	Kovvali	West Godavari	88
202.	Borranpalam	-do-	88
203.	Rachalur	-do-	88
204.	Batchannapet	Warangal	88
205.	Dodleru	Guntur	56
206.	Paddamul	Ranga Reddy	56
207.	Yalal	-do-	56
208.	Kongraviryaj	-do-	56
209.	Marripalli	-do-	56
210.	Sardarnagar	-do-	56
211.	Madireddipalli	-do-	56
212.	Gadisingapur	-do-	56
213.	Raipole	-do-	56

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	District	Capacity
214.	Manchala	Ranga Reddy	56
215.	Rachalur	-do-	56
216.	Turkapalli	-do-	56
217.	Kanokal	-do-	56
218.	Mikhanpet	-do-	56
219.	Cheditikellu	Krishna	56
220.	Kanunur	-do-	56
221.	Urukonda	Mahabubnagar	56
222.	Valsparla	Prakasham	56
223.	Jeodimetla	Hyd. Telecom Distt.	800
224.	Vijayawada	Krishna	1000
225.	Erragadda	Hyd. Telecom Distt.	200
226.	CRR (VM)	Visakhapatnam	283
227.	Industrial Estate (VM)	-do-	296
228.	Warangal	Warangal	1000
229.	Somajiguda	Hyd. Telecom Distt.	200
230.	Malakpet	-do-	2000
231.	Vijayawada (Main)	Krishna	1000
232.	Industrial Estate (VJ)	-do-	1000
233.	Gowliguda	Hyd. Telecom Distt.	1200
234.	Kushaiguda	-do-	100
235.	Machavaram (VJ)	Krishna	5600
236.	Warangal	Warangal	1500
237.	Malkapuram (VM)	Visakhapatnam	1300

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	District	Capacity
238.	M.V.P. Colony (VM)	Visakhapatnam	2900
239.	Pandurangapuram (VM)	-do-	900
240.	Dabagardena (VM)	-do-	900
241.	Seethammadhara (VM)	Visakhapatnam	2900
242.	Sarooranagar	Hyd. Telecom Distt.	1000
243.	Vanasthalipuram	-do-	1000
244.	Mudheerabad	-do-	1000
245.	Kukatpalli	-do-	400
246.	Ameerpet.	Hyd. Telecom Distt.	5000
247.	Golconda	-do-	6000
248.	Gowliguda	-do-	6000
249.	Saifabad	-do-	4000
250.	Saifabad	-do-	20000
251.	Charminar	-do-	7000
252.	Musheerabad	-do-	7000
253.	Secunderabad	-do-	6000
254.	Nandyal	Kurnool	2000
255.	Mahabubnagar	Mahaboobnagar	3000
256.	Tadepalligudem	West Godavari	3000
257.	Tenali	Guntur	3500
258.	Nalgonda	Nalgonda	1400
259.	Chirala	Prakasam	1400
260.	Adoni	Kurnool	1400
261.	Ananthapur	Ananthapur	1400

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	District	Capacity
262.	Palavoncha	Khammam	1400
263.	Gudur	Nellore	1400
264.	Lingampalli	Ranga Reddy	1400
265.	Anakapalli	Visakhapatnam	2400
266.	BHEL (HD)	Hyd. Telecom Distt.	1000
267.	Mangalagiri	Guntur	1000
268.	Karimnagar	Karimnagar	1000
269.	Yemmiganur	Kurnool	1000
270.	Vikarabad	Ranga Reddy	1000
271.	Kankipadu	Krishna	1000
272.	Shadnagar	Mahaboobnagar	1000
273.	Kodada	Nalgonda	1000
274.	Nirmal	Adilabad	1000
275.	Ekambarakuppam	Chittoor	1000
276.	Tirupathi	-do-	1000
277.	Chilakaluripet	Guntur	1000
278.	Dowleswaram	East Godavari	1000
279.	Rajahmundry	-do-	1000
280.	Shamshabad	Ranga Reddy	1000
281.	Gadwal	Mahaboobnagar	1000
282.	Nellore	Nellore	1000
283.	Palasa	Srikakulam	1000
284.	Vizianagaram	Vizianagaram	1000
285.	Tanuku	West Godavari	1000

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	District	Capacity
286.	Palakole	West Godavari	1000
287.	Amalapuram	East Godavari	420
288.	Yerraguntla	Cuddapah	296
289.	Hindupur	Ananthapur	420
290.	Proddatur	Cuddapah	420
291.	Medak	Medak	420
292.	BHEL (MIG)	Ranga Reddy	400
293.	Cuddapah	Cuddapah	400
294.	Kurnool	Kurnool	400
295.	Tandur	Ranga Reddy	400
296.	Vetapalem	Prakasam	296
297.	Srikakulam	Srikakulam	1600
298.	Kaikalur	Krishna	384
299.	Pileru	Chittoor	384
300.	Hanuman Jn.	Krishna	384
301.	Yellandu	Khammam	384
302.	Miyapur	Ranga Reddy	384
303.	Yanam	East Godavari	384
304.	Yeleswaram	-do-	384
305.	Puttur	Chittoor	384
306.	Bobbili	Vizianagaram	384
307.	Bollaram	Medak	384
308.	Challapalli	Karimnagar	384
309.	Peddapalli	-do-	384

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	District	Capacity
310.	Bodhan	Nizamabad	384
311.	Addanki	Prakasham	384
312.	Tuni	East Godavari	384
313.	Sirpurkagaz Nagar	Adilabad	384
314.	Tadipatri	Ananthapur	384
315.	Prasanthinilayam	-do-	384
316.	Vemulawada	Karimnagar	384
317.	F.C.I.	-do-	384
318.	Avanigadda	Krishna	384
319.	Turkayamjal	Ranga Reddy	384
320.	Giddalur	Prakasham	384
321.	Parvathipuram	Vizianagaram	384
322.	Jangareddigudem	West Godavari	384
323.	Srisailam	Kurnool	384

Privatisation of Public Sector Undertakings

4675. SHRI TARA SINGH :
SHRI V. SREENIVASA
PRASAD :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have recently taken any decision to hand-over the loss making public sector undertakings under the administrative jurisdiction of his Ministry to private hands;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Board of Industrial and Finance Reconstruction (BIFR) has given its consent in this regard; and

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

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

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

Electronic Switching System

4676. SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state;

(a) the gap between demand and supply of electronic switching system in the country and to what extent it has hindered the expansion and modernisation of telecom services; and

(b) the manner in which the Department of Telecommunications propose to fill up this gap in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) There is no gap between demand and supply of the electronic switching equipment as the manufacturing capacity exceeds the plan requirements. The targets for expansion and modernisation are being exceeded without any hinderance.

(b) Question does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Contract Labour

4677. SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether work is still being undertaken through contract labour system in the corporations of his Ministry in various States;

(b) the names of the States where the projects/works are being undertaken through contract labour system and the States where this system has been abolished;

(c) whether the Government propose to abolish the contract labour system from other States also in order to liberate the Labourers from the control of contractors; and

(d) if so, the details of progress made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*English*]

Advertising Policy

4678. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to convene a meeting of major advertising agencies to discuss ways and means to formulate an advertising policy based on realities in India;

(b) whether the bans and restrictions and other guidelines in force on our broadcasting media are guided by practices in effect overseas; and

(c) whether the Government propose for more interaction with Indian industry on the issue of advertising policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) Such meetings are held from time to time for ascertaining the views of the agencies.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Interaction with the Indian industry, within the broad framework of the policies of the Government, is a continuous process.

Dead Telephones in Delhi

4679. MAJ. GEN. (RETD). BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of telephones get 'dead' during the monsoons, particularly at the beginning of monsoons, in Delhi every-year;

(b) the number of telephone lines went 'dead' due to monsoons during 1991, 1992, and 1993, separately for each year;

(c) whether the Government have carried out detailed study or analysis of this phenomenon;

(d) if so, the finding thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to prevent the recurrence of such system failure in the future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No Sir, however, number of complaints do increase with onset of first rains which affects those cables which get damaged during the year by different agencies while digging.

(b) The telephone lines which went faulty during monsoon period are as under:-

1991	—	149624
1992	—	148459
1993	—	233093

(c) Yes Sir, Government had set up a committee to analyse this phenomenon.

(d) According to the findings of the committee, the main causes of the system failure are:—

(i) Because of large scale digging operations all the year round by various civic agencies some of our U/G cables do get damaged inadvertently. These lie dormant during the dry season and the faults show up when water gets into these cables during the monsoon.

(ii) Extensive water logging in many areas due to failure of drainage system.

(e) To prevent such recurrence in future, Government has initiated the following steps and all concerned have been instructed for its implementation.

(i) Cable damages shall be prevented by better coordination with other agencies like MCD, DESU, PWD, Water Works etc. as well as with local construction group.

(ii) Constant supervision shall be kept to ensure that the pressure in the cables previously pressurised is maintained.

(iii) The manholes used for ducted cables shall be of adequate size with double entry holes.

(iv) Telecom Engineering Centre has been requested to evolve a suitable method for testing the thermoshrink joints.

Theft of Parcels in Assam

4680. SHRI PROBEN DEKA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of parcels have been stolen from the General Post Offices of Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years;

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted by the Government in this regard;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the action taken/being taken against the persons found responsible therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*Translation*]

Shortage of Pig Iron in Uttar Pradesh

4681. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the casting factories in Uttar Pradesh, are facing a shortage of pig iron;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b). No report has been received regarding shortage of pig iron being faced by casting factories in Uttar Pradesh. As against the allocation of 85,900 tonnes of

pig iron by the Development Commissioner of Iron & Steel in 1993-94, the lifting by Small Scale Industries Corporation and Associations of foundry units in Uttar Pradesh upto February, 1994 was only 35,937 tonnes.

(c) At present there is no shortage of pig iron in the country. As on 1.4.94 main producers were having inventory of about 2.1 lakh tonnes of pig iron. The import of pig iron is freely allowed and the customs duty on import has been reduced to 20%.

[*English*]

Telephone Connections for Retired Persons

4682. SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to State:

(a) whether the telephone rentals in India are the highest in the world;

(b) whether such steep rental charges are making the telephone beyond the reach of middle classes and people retired from service;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide some relief to retired persons by making available telephone connections to them on priority basis with concessional rental charges; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) The rentals in India are not beyond the reach of middle classes and people retired from service. There is a

long waiting list of applicants from middle classes and from retirees.

(c) and (d). There is no proposal of concessional rentals for retired persons. However, Government servants drawing a certain pay at the time of retirement are accorded priority in provision of telephone connections.

[*Translation*]

Electronic Exchanges with STD in Gujarat

4683. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether electronic exchanges with STD facility have been set up in villages of Gujarat during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the projected number of such new telephone exchanges proposed to be set up in near future in the State?

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

(b) Details are as under :

Period	No. of Electronic exchanges
1992-93	80
1993-94	71

(c) 10 new exchanges with STD facility; and additionally 190 exchanges are proposed to be converted from electro-mechanical to electronic exchanges with STD facility.

Transfer of Telephones in Delhi

4684. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether applications of the telephone subscribers are not disposed of expeditiously in the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited in Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the total number of applications regarding transfer of telephones/STD connections/dis-connections received by the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam, Delhi in the offices of each General Manager during the last two years;

(d) the number of applications cleared after fifteen days of the receipt; and

(e) the time by which the remaining applications are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (e). Sir, The required information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Reservation for Foreign Students of Indian Origin

4685. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some seats are reserved for foreign students in Indian Medical and Engineering colleges;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether NRI students and students of Indian origin are eligible for applying against these reserved seats for

admission in Indian Medical and Engineering colleges; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA) : (a) and (b). Yes Sir. Every year the Department of Education and Ministry of Health and Family Welfare allocate seats reserved for foreign students under self-financing foreign students scheme and various scholarship schemes for admission to various Government engineering and medical colleges as given below:

Engineering	—	451
Medical	—	40-45

(c) and (d). The students having foreign nationality, including students of Indian origin, are eligible for admission against these seats reserved in Govt. medical and engineering colleges. However, students having Indian nationality and residing abroad are not eligible for admission against these reserved seats.

The Hon'ble Supreme Court in their judgement of October 7, 1993 have prescribed reservation for foreign students and NRIs in privately run medical and engineering institutions upto 15% of their total intake capacity.

[English]

AIR Stations in Orissa

4686. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of full fledged stations, relay centres, auxiliary centres of All India Radio in Orissa;

(b) whether the Government have a proposal for the upgradation of some of these Radio Stations in Orissa;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the proposals for expansion of AIR services in the State during Eighth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) There are 8 Radio Stations functioning in the State of Orissa.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. Power of existing 30 KW MW transmitter at Sambalpur is being upgraded to 100 KW MW transmitter.

(d) For expansion of AIR services in Orissa, the following schemes have been envisaged during Eighth Plan:

- (i) 50 KW SW tr. at Jeypore.
- (ii) 1 KW MW tr. (LRS) with multipurpose studios & staff quarters, at Joranda.
- (iii) 3 KW FM tr. (LRS) at Puri.
- (iv) 2x3 KW FM tr. (LRS), multipurpose studios and staff quarters at Rourkela.

Telephone Exchanges in Delhi

4687. SHRI BRAHMANAND MANDAL:
SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up new telephone exchanges in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the details thereof along with locations identified for the purpose?

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

(b) Details are given in the attached *Statement*.

STATEMENT

List of exchanges likely to be commissioned in Delhi during 1994-95

S. No.	Name of the Exchange
--------	----------------------

- | | |
|-----|------------------------|
| 1. | Shakti Nagar D-V |
| 2. | Badli D-1 |
| 3. | Idgah D-1 |
| 4. | Shadhara D-II |
| 5. | Laxmi Nagar D-IV |
| 6. | Jor Bagh D-III |
| 7. | Bhikaji Cama Place D-1 |
| 8. | Chankyapuri D-1 |
| 9. | Hauz Khas D-I |
| 10. | Nehru Place D-III |
| 11. | Okhla D-II |
| 12. | Jankpuri D-III |
| 13. | Rajouri Garden D-III |
| 14. | Tekhand D-I |
| 15. | Delhi Cantt. D-I |

AIR Services

4688. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:
SHRI V.S. VIJAYA-RAGHAVAN:
SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE:

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

(a) whether the Government have formulated plans to modernise and expand the All India Radio Services in the country;

(b) if so, the salient features of the plan and the amount earmarked therefor;

(c) whether the entire population and area of the country is proposed to be covered by the AIR network; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details are given in the enclosed *Statement*.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. After completion of the schemes under 8th Plan, AIR coverage of the country will be 97.5% population-wise and 91% area-wise. However, the whole country would be covered by Short-Wave support service after completion of all 8th Plan schemes. Further expansion of coverage will depend upon availability of resources and inter-se priorities.

STATEMENT

The salient features of Government's Plan to modernise and expand the AIR Services in the country and the amount earmarked for it in Eighth Plan

	(Rs. in Crores)
1. Consolidation of Home Services	30.15
2. Strengthening of External Services	17.65
3. Science and Technology	15.00
4. Introduction of new Technology	18.61
5. Radio net working through INSAT & other telecom facilities	22.15
6. Computerisation	13.45
7. Augmentation of training facilities for STI(T) and STI(P)	61.45
8. Improvement of facilities at existing Stations	28.00
9. Strengthening of Security measures	10.00
10. Welfare Schemes	20.00
11. Continuing schemes of earlier Plans	631.00
12. Modernation and Renewal schemes	207.00

Deep Sea Fishing Machines

4689. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether deep sea fishing machine have been imported;

(b) if so, the details thereof along-with sources and reasons of import. the agencies permitted to import such machines and the foreign exchange incurred thereon during the last three years;

(c) whether the fisherman using traditional methods have been adversely affected by the introduction of such machines; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to start manufacture of these machines in the country and to protect the fisherman using traditional methods from unfair competition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b). Government has given permission to fishing companies for the import of deep sea fishing vessels from Japan, South Korea, North Korea, Thailand, Estonia, Russia & China for exploitation of non-shrimp resources in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone during the last three years. The terms of payment towards the purchase of these trawlers stipulates either deferred payment against export earnings by the company or stage payments during the period of construction. An amount of US dollars 17.07 million approx. has been incurred towards the import of trawlers involving stage payments.

(c) Deep sea fishing vessels are operated beyond the area of operation of traditional fishermen. Therefore, traditional fishermen are not affected by the operation of deep sea fishing trawlers.

(d) 24 Shipyards in India are recognised by the Government for the

construction of deep sea fishing vessels. These shipyards do not have the requisite technology and orders for construction of resource specific vessels which are being imported.

(a) whether the Government propose to set up new T.V. transmitters in Gujarat during the current plan period;

(b) if so, the locations thereof; and

(c) the capacity of each T.V. transmitter and the time by which each one is likely to be set up?

T.V. Transmitters in Gujarat

4690 SHRI CHITUBHAI
GAMIT:
SHRI DILEEP BHAI
SANGHANI:
SHRI HARISINH
CHAVDA:
DR. AMRITLAL
KALIDAS PATEL:

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF
THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND
BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH
DEC): (a) Yes, Sir.

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

(b) and (c). Details are given in the
attached *Statement*.

STATEMENT

*T.V. transmitters under implementation/envisaged to be set up in the
State of Gujarat*

Sl. No.	Location	Power	Expected date of completion/Remarks
1.	Bhuj	10 KW	Transmitter is at presently operational at 1KW power, expected to be upgraded to 10 KW operation during 1995-96.
2.	Palitana	To be decided	Schemes to be formally sanctioned. Lead involved would be 3-4 years after formal sanction.
3.	Surat	10 KW	
4.	Vadodara	10 KW	
5.	Khambhat	300 WUHF	Ready for commissioning.
6.	Idar	100 W VHF	
7.	Dharangadra	300 W UHF	
8.	Mangrol (Jhunagarh Dt.)	300 W UHF	

Sl. No.	Location	Power	Expected date of completion/Remarks
9.	Morbi	300 W UHF	March, 95 subject to availability of requisite infrastructure & timely supply of equipment.
10.	Nakhtarana	300 W UHF	
11.	Rapar	300 W UHF	
12.	Dessa	100 W VHF	
13.	Rajula	100 W VHF	
14.	Sangeli/ Santrampur	100 W VHF	
15.	Khambaria	100 W VHF	
16.	Amod	300 W UHF	
17.	Malgrol (Surat Distt.)	300 W UHF	
18.	Jhagadia	300 W UHF	
19.	Mehuva	300 W UHF	
20.	Palitana	100 W VHF	
21.	Netrang	10 W	
22.	Devgadh- Baria	10 W	

Post Offices in Villages

4691. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of villages in the country eligible for setting up of post offices, State-wise;

(b) the number of villages out of them where post offices have been provided so far, State-wise; and

(c) the target set for providing post offices in the remaining eligible villages during the Eighth Plan Period, Year-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Post offices are opened, subject to fulfilment of departmental norms in respect of distance from the nearest post office, population and income. Priority is given to Panchayat headquarters for opening of post offices,

subject to availability of resources. No survey has been carried out to assess the number of eligible villages for opening of post offices.

(b) and (c). During the first two years of Eighth Plan, 1299 extra departmental branch post offices have been sanctioned in the eligible villages. During the remaining three years of the Eighth Five Year Plan, it is targeted to open 2400 extra departmental branch post offices in the country at the rate of 800 per annum, the Circle-wise details of which are finalised on a year to year basis.

ISD/STD/PCOs In Tamil Nadu

4692. DR. (SHRIMATI) K.S. SOUNDARAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state;

(a) the number of applications pending at present for providing ISD/STD/PCOs in Tamil Nadu, district-wise;

(b) the number of PCOs sanctioned and allotted during 1992-93 and 1993-94, district-wise; and

(c) the steps taken to clear the pending applications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The required information is given in the attached *Statement-I*.

(b) The required information is furnished in the attached *Statement-II*.

(c) STD/PCO Allotment Committee meetings are being periodically organised to clear the pending applications. Action is also being taken as per plan proposals to expand the capacity of exchanges and augment STD Junctions facilitating tech-

nical feasibility of STD PTs from various exchanges.

STATEMENT-I

Sl. No.	Name of the SSA	No. of applications pending
1.	Coimbatore	500
2.	Salem	420
3.	Madurai	1,000
4.	Thanjavur	803
5.	Cuddalore	276
6.	Vellore	249
7.	Tirunelveli	120
8.	Virudhunagar	65
9.	Chengalpattu	18
10.	Erode	Nil

(the allotment for the year 1993, 94 is completed)

In respect of Trichy, Pondicherry, Karalkudi, Coonoor, Dharmapuri, Tuticorin and Nagarcoil SSAs, applications are yet to be called for.

STATEMENT-II

No.	Name of the SSA	Provided during	
		1992-93	1993-94
1.	Chengalpattu	15	28
2.	Coimbatore	50	69
3.	Coonoor	37	9
4.	Cuddalore	4	10
5.	Dharmapuri	15	4

No.	Name of the SSA	Provided during	
		1992-93	1993-94
6.	Erode	5	56
7.	Karaikudi	55	16
8.	Madurai	59	30
9.	Nagarcoil	10	7
10.	Pondicherry	3	5
11.	Salem	36	32
12.	Thanjavur	44	31
13.	Tirunelveli	16	18
14.	Trichy	30	76
15.	Tuticorin	5	16
16.	Vellore	37	10
17.	Virudhunagar	5	2

Telephone Equipments

4693. SHRI RAMESH CHENNI-THALA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state.

(a) whether any criteria have been fixed for purchasing of telecommunication equipments, exchanges and cable from Indian manufacturers and foreign multinational companies; and

(b) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes Sir. Telecommunication equipment, exchanges and cables are procured through open tender. In cases of certain equipment solely manufactured by PSUs under the Depart-

ment of Telecommunications, these are procured by negotiated price agreements also.

(b) The tenders floated by the Department of Telecommunications generally are open to Indian manufacturers and in case of companies having foreign collaborators, only to such companies who are registered to manufacture equipment in India except in rare cases of direct imports. The procurement is done from the technically financially and commercially complaint successful bidders after their equipment is duly validated/type approved according to DOT tender specifications.

Upper Indravati Hydro-Electric Project

4694. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Upper Indravati Hydro-Electric Project in Orissa has been accorded approval by the Government;

(b) if so, when and the steps taken to expedite the execution of the project; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c). The Upper Indravati Hydro-Electric Project (4x150 MW) was sanctioned by the Planning Commission on 4.5.1978, and is in an advanced stage of implementation. The project is scheduled for commissioning by 1997-98. On the advice of the World Bank, an International Consultant has been engaged to render technical guidance and to expedite the project work.

Indian Labourers in Gulf Countries

4695. SHRI SHIVLAL
NAGJIBHAI VEKARIA:
SHRI SHIBU SOREN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have been receiving regular complaints of harassment to Indian labourers working abroad especially in Gulf countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard;

(c) whether the Government have any cell to monitor and redress their grievances; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). The Government receives complaints which *inter alia* include non-payment or delayed payment of wages, long and arduous hours of work without adequate compensation, denial of leave to come to India and facility for air passage, withholding travel documents of workers by the sponsor/employer, non-fulfilment of contractual obligations and ill-treatment in general.

Many of the labourers being illiterate, are ignorant of their rights. Many such labourers are also duped by the recruiting agents into signing contracts which are against the interests of the workers. There are also instances where labourers have managed to enter foreign countries illegally and are, therefore, exploited by the employers.

The Government of India, through Indian Missions abroad, maintains regular contact with foreign Governments to ensure the welfare and to improve conditions of Indian workers in the respective countries. The Indian Missions at first try to resolve the differences between the aggrieved worker and the employer to arrive at a mutually acceptable solution. Wherever necessary, cases are taken up with the concerned authorities of the foreign Government to persuade the employers to redress the grievances of Indian workers. Where no alternative employment or any solution is possible despite best efforts of the Mission, all assistance is given to facilitate repatriation of the aggrieved worker.

The Ministry of Labour, through the Office of Protector General of Emigrants, maintains a public hearing system at their Headquarters in New Delhi and also at six regional offices to redress grievances and complaints or to impart any information on various aspects of emigration, twice a week.

[Translation]

Review of Satellite Channels

4696. SHRI BARE LAL JATAV:
SHRI ANAND AHIRWAR:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2765 on December 20, 1993 and state:

(a) Whether review of the satellite channels including interim arrangements under Metro Channel policy has been completed;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) The satellite channels of Doordarshan have been restructured from 1st February, 1994.

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

(c) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

Doordarshan Channels

After a review, the channels of Doordarshan have been restructured with effect from 1st February, 1994 in the following manner:—

- (i) *Doordarshan-I*: Full range of programme including news, current affairs, films, sports, education and public service etc., with a target audience of all ages, rural and urban. This continues to be a fully terrestrial channel.
- (ii) *Doordarshan-II*: The existing metro channel, predominantly entertainment oriented and also incorporating the sports and music programmes. The target audience is mainly the urban population in the younger age groups and economically in the middle class. Limited terrestrial reach in the four metros, Lucknow and Hyderabad.
- (iii) *Doordarshan-III*: Purely satellite based channel with limited terrestrial distribution in Delhi. The programming profile on this channel is intended to cater to a target audience which is more intellectu-

al, more serious minded. It comprises a wide range of serious entertainment, telefilms, plays, discussions, social issue based programme and documentaries.

In order to cater adequately to the need for regional language programmes the remaining three satellite channels are being exclusively utilised for regional language programmes as follows:—

- (iv) *Doordarshan-IV*: Kannada, Malayalam, Tamil and Telugu.
- (v) *Doordarshan-V*: Assamese, Bangla and Oriya.
- (vi) *Doordarshan-VI*: Gujarati, Kashmiri, Marathi and Punjabi.

Funds for M.P. for Road Projects

4697. SHRI BHEEM SINGH PATEL:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:
SHRI SURAJBHANU SOLANKI:
SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh had sent a proposal for funds for 1989-90 to the Union Government on October 3, 1989 under Central Road Fund Scheme and for the current Five Year Plan;

(b) whether the Union Government has accorded only partial sanction to the proposal;

(c) whether the approval of funds for the remaining work is still awaited;

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

(e) the time by which a decision is likely to be taken in this regard and also the time by which the amount is likely to be provided to the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). The Govt. of Madhya Pradesh sent in all 92 proposals costing Rs. 115.26 crores to be financed under Central Road Fund. Out of these 8 proposals costing Rs. 4.05 crores have been approved.

(c) to (e). Since augmentation of Central Road Fund is yet to take place, it is too early to indicate as to when the remaining proposals will be approved.

Telephone Exchanges with STD In U.P. Villages

4698. SHRI ARJUN SINGH
YADAV:
DR. LAL BAHADUR
RAWAL:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of electronic telephone exchanges set up in Uttar Pradesh during the last two years and the number of villages where STD facility has been provided;

(b) the number of such telephone exchanges proposed to be set up in future in the State with STD facility;

(c) whether the Government propose to expand the capacity of the existing telephone exchanges; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) (i) 514 Electronic Exchanges have been set up during the last 2 years.

(ii) 16 Telephone Exchanges have been provided with STD facility.

(b) STD facility is proposed to be provided, progressively during 8th Plan period to all the exchanges subject to the availability of resources such as equipment, land, building, funds etc.

(c) & (d). It is proposed to expand the capacity of telephone exchanges during 94-95 to clear the waiting list as on 31.3.94 subject to availability of resources.

[English]

Proposals from Indian Newspaper Society

4699. DR. LAXMINARAYAN
PANDEYA:
SHRI ANKUSHRAO
RAOSAHEB TOPE:

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

(a) whether the Government have received any proposals from Indian Newspaper Society;

(b) if so, the details of the proposals;

(c) whether any decision has been taken on the proposals; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) to (d). The Indian Newspaper Society has proposed de-control of newsprint by rescinding the Newsprint Control Order, 1962. No final decision has been taken in the matter.

Development of Cochin Shipyard

4700. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the plan for development of Cochin Shipyard during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) the details of the work done so far and amount spent thereon;

(c) the main problems this shipyard is facing; and

(d) the steps being taken to solve them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) During the Eighth Five Year Plan, the following schemes have been included for implementation in Cochin Shipyard:

	(Rs. crores)
(i) Modernisation of ship repair facilities	8.00
(ii) Improvement of capacity utilisation	11.20
(iii) Renewals & Replacements	3.60
(iv) Additional ship repair facilities	25.00
	<hr/>
	47.80
	<hr/>

(b) An amount of Rs. 10.05 crores has been incurred during 1992-93 and 1993-94 on the schemes relating to improvement of capacity utilisation and additional ship repair facilities.

(c) The main problem being faced by CSL is poor order book position.

(d) The following steps are being taken/have been taken for solving the problem:—

(i) Upward revision of the price of one 86,000 DWT tanker under construction in CSL, is under consideration.

(ii) Greater emphasis has been placed on ship repair activity and the turnover has increased from Rs. 21.70 crores in 1989-90 to Rs. 65.20 crores in 1993-94.

(iii) Capital restructuring of CSL has been approved on 24.3.94.

(iv) A package of reliefs for revival of the shipyards in public sector including CSL, has been approved on 8.9.93.

[Translation]

Setting up of Thermal Power Projects

4701. SHRI JANGBIR SINGH:
SHRI VISWANATHAN
KANITHI:
SHRI DATTATRAYA
BANDARU:
SHRI HARILAL NANJI
PATEL:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise details of Thermal Power Plants and Hydro-Power Plants set up during the last three years;

(b) the expenditure incurred respectively thereon and the generation capacity of each plant;

(c) the details of Power Projects approved so far; and

(d) the stages of implementation of these Power Plants in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). Details are given in the attached *Statement-I*.

(c) and (d). Details are given in the attached *Statement-II*.

STATEMENT-I

Project/ Unit No.	Capacity (MU)	Date of Commissioning	Total est. Cost/ Exp. upto 9/93 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4
NORTHERN REGION			
Punjab			
<i>State Sector:</i>			
Ropar	-5	210	29.3.92
	-6	210	55000/49224
			30.3.93
Rajasthan			
<i>State Sector:</i>			
Kota	-5	210	26.3.94
			48000/28325
J&K			
<i>State Sector:</i>			
Pampore St.II	-1	25	7.1.94
	-2	25	15500/11059 (Incl U-4)
	-3	25	6.2.94
			31.3.94
			(FSNL
			test comp.)
UP			
<i>State Sector:</i>			
Anpara 'B'-4		500	19.7.93
			410000/313654 (Incl U-5)
<i>Central Sector:</i>			
NCTPP	-1	210	24.10.91
	-2	210	165488/121111
	-3	210	18.12.92
	-4	210	22.3.93
			24.3.94

1	2	3	4
Dadri CCGT -1	131	21.2.92	95857/74070
Gt -2	131	26.3.92	
-3	131	6.6.92	
-4	131	14.10.92	
ST-1	146.5	26.2.94	
ST-2	146.5	27.3.94	
WESTERN REGION			
Gujarat			
<i>State Sector:</i>			
Gandhinagar -4	210	20.7.91	21583/20365
Vatwa GT -2	33	26.6.91	Pvt sector project
ST-1	33	18.10.91	Details not available
Utran GT -1	33	28.1.92(Cranked)	
-2	33	28.2.92 (Cranked)	
-3	33	31.3.93 (Rolled)	
ST-1	33	17.7.93	
Sikka Extn -2	120	31.3.93	21162/19262
<i>Central Sector:</i>			
Kawas GT -1	106	22.3.92	} 156070/128889
-2	106	25.5.92	
-3	106	30.6.92	
-4	106	27.8.92	
ST-1	110	23.2.93	
-2	110	19.3.93	
Gandhar GT -1	131	17.3.94	} 229127/109143
-2	131	31.3.94	
Madhya Pradesh			
<i>State Sector:</i>			
Sanjay Gandhi -1	210	26.3.93	83000/61447
-2	210	27.3.94	
Maharashtra			
<i>State Sector:</i>			
Chandrapur-6	500	11.3.92	108800/98867 (Including Unit-1)
Uran WHP-1	120	16.3.94	84500/66853 (including Unit-2)
Trombey GT-1	120	29.7.93	Private sector project. Details not available.

1	2	3	4
SOUTHERN REGION			
Andhra Pradesh			
<i>State Sector:</i>			
Vijjeswaram ST-1	33	17.3.92	14900/11065 (upto 3/92) (incl. GT-1,2)
Vijayawada -5	210	31.3.94	79000/36940 (incl. Unit-6)
Rayalseema -1	210	31.3.94	79500/46891 (incl. Unit-2) (Rolled)
Karnataka			
<i>State Sector:</i>			
Yelahanka -6	21.32	31.3.93	28770/19686
DG Sets -5	21.32	14.5.93	
-4	21.32	27.7.93	
-3	21.32	19.10.93	
-2	21.32	26.11.93	
-1	21.32	31.1.94	
Tamil Nadu			
<i>State Sector:</i>			
Tuticorin -4	210	11.1.92	73227/60616 (Incl. Unit-5)
Narimanam GT-1	5	14.1.92	3657/3451
-2	5	17.1.92	
<i>Central Sector:</i>			
Neyveli St. II -5	210	30.12.91	144551/132880 (Incl. Unit-4)
-6	210	30.10.92	
-7	210	19.6.93	
EASTERN REGION			
Bihar			
<i>Central Sector:</i>			
Kahalgaoon -1	210	31.3.92	192845/148058 (Incl. U-3,4)
-2	210	17.3.94	
Bokaro 'B' -3	210	31.3.93	39134*/31260*(*For U-2,3)
West Bengal			
<i>State Sector:</i>			
Southern Gen. Stn-2	67.5	10.4.91	25433/25540 [@] ([@] upto 6/91) Including U-1
Kalaghat Extn.-6	210	16.1.93	114500/103082*
Kalaghat -4	10	29.12.93	(*For U-4,5,6)
<i>Central Sector:</i>			
Farakka STPP -4	500	25.5.92	213687/171696
-5	500	16.2.94	

1	2	3	4
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NORTH EASTERN REGION

Assam*State Sector:*

Lakwa GT-5	20	3.1.94 (A)	9830 Rs. 7992
Lakwa GT-6	20	31.3.94 (Crkd)	(For U-5,6,7)

(1991-92)

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	State/ Executing Agency	Unit No.	Capacity (MW)	Latest estimated cost (Rs. crores)
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Hydro

1.	Tanakpur	U.P./NHPC	1	48	
2.	Tanakpur	U.P./NHPC	2	48	401.03
3.	Tanakpur	U.P./NHPC	3	48	
4.	UBDC II	Pun./PSEB	2	15	
5.	UBDC II	Pun./PSEB	3	15	121
6.	Suratgarh	Raj./RSEB	1	2	
7.	Suratgarh	Raj./RSEB	2	2	13.58
8.	Mangrol	Raj./RSEB	1	2	
9.	Mangrol	Raj./RSEB	2	2	17.84
10.	Mangrol	Raj./RSEB	3	2	
11.	Khara	U.P./UPSEB	1	24	
12.	Khara	U.P./UPSEB	2	24	237.90
13.	Khara	U.P./UPSEB	3	24	
14.	Birsinghpur	M.P./MPEB	1	20	24.26
15.	Bansagar Tons Ph-I	M.P./MPEB	3	185	608.99

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	State/ Executing Agency	Unit No.	Capacity (MW)	Latest Estimated cost
16.	Nagarjunasagar	A.P./APSEB	1	38	63.93
17.	Nagarjunasagar	A.P./APSEB	2	38	
18.	Ghatprabha	Ker/KPCL	1	16	36.40
19.	Tago	Ar.P/Elec.	2	1.5	10.65
20.	Tago	Ar.P/Elec.	3	1.5	

(1992-93)

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	State	Unit No.	Capacity (MW)	Latest estimated cost (Rs. crores)
1.	Salal @ St. III (NHPC)	J&K	1	115	308.95
2.	Ujjani	Mah.	1	12	
3.	Shivpur* (Captive)	Ktk.	1 2	9 9	30.60
4.	Ghatprabha	Ktk.	2	16	36.40
5.	Varahi (Mani Dam)	Ktk.	1 2	4.5 4.5	245.00
6.	Sone Western Canal	Bih.	1 2 4	1.65 1.65 1.65	34.20
7.	Upper Kolat Extn.	Ori.	4	80	28.46
8.	Rengali Extn.	Ori.	3	50	71.00
9.	Upper Rongnichu	Sik.	1 2	2 2	28.32
10.	Myongotu	Sik.	1 2	2 2	16.14
11.	Umian Tru	Megh.	1 2	30 30	133.03

@ Programmed earlier for 1993-94

* Under Private Sector.

(1993-94)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Units rolled/ commissioned Cap. (MW)	Latest estimated cost (Rs. crores)
1.	Chamera St.I NHPC(HP)	Unit-1	180.0
		Unit-2	180.0
		Unit-3	180.0
2400			
2.	Salal NHPC (J&K)	Unit-2	115.0
308.95			
3.	Hasdeo Bango M.P.	Unit-1	40.0 *
113.98			
4.	Penna Ahobilam A.P.	Unit-1	10.0
		Unit-2	10.0
19.68			
5.	Upper Sileru A.P.	Unit-1	60.0
54.30			
6.	Mallapur Karnataka	Unit-1	4.5
		Unit-2	4.5
20.59			
7.	Kallada Kerala	Unit-2	7.5
16.06			
8.	Maniyar (PVT.) Kerala	Unit-1	4.0
13.22			
9.	Sone Western Bihar	Unit-3	1.65
34.20			
10.	Upper Rongnichu Sikkim	Unit-3	2.0
		Unit-4	2.0
28.32			

* Not included in 1993-94 capacity addition programme.

STATEMENT-II

Power Projects Cleared/Appraised by C.E.A.

Sl. No.	Name of the Project/ State/Type	Capacity (MW)	Date of Submission	Date of Clearance	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6
NORTHERN REGION					
Haryana					
1.	Yamunanagar STPS St.I (NTPC)	4x210=840	25.3.88	10.10.88 (Original) 23.6.92 (Revised)	Investment decision awaited.
Rajasthan					
2.	Anta CCGT St.II (NTPC)	3x100+ 1x130=430	6.9.88	21.3.90 (Original) 14.3.91 (Revised)	Additional Gas linkage for base load operation and investment decision awaited.
Uttar Pradesh					
3.	Rihand STPS St.II (NTPC)	2x500=1000	30.6.87	16.5.88	Investment decision awaited. Cost estimates under updation.
4.	Unchahar TPS St.II (NTPC)	2x210=420	3.8.92	20.10.91	Investment decision awaited.
5.	Koteshwar HEP (THDC)	4x100=400	8.8.89		Forest clearance rejected.

6. Tehri St. II PSS (THDC)	4x250=1000	10.10.88	Investment approval awaited.
Punjab			
7. SYL Canal (PSEB)	2x18+2x7=50	18.12.87	Investment approval awaited. No forest land involved.
Himachal Pradesh			
8. Dhanwari Sunda HEP (HPSEB)	2x35=70	8.10.91	Investment approval awaited. Referred for Investment clearance.
9. Kol Dam HEP (NJPC)	4x200=800	10.8.88	Investment approval awaited.
10. Chamera St. II (NHPC)	3x100=300	11.5.92	Investment approval awaited.
11. Malana HEP (HPSEB)	2x43=86	23.4.93	Investment approval awaited. Referred for environmental clearance.
Jammu & Kashmir			
12. Sawalkot HEP (J&K)	3x200=600	13.1.93	Environmental clearance on 9.5.89. Forest clearance on 29.5.89. Investment approval awaited.
13. Baglihar HEP (NHPC)	3x150=450	14.3.91	Investment approval awaited.
14. Parnai HEP (J&K)	3x12.5=37.5	27.11.92	Referred for environment clear- ance. Forest clearance not appli- cable. Investment approval awaited.

1	2	3	4	5	6
WESTERN REGION					
Gujarat					
15.	Pipavav CCGT (GPCL)	615	2.7.87	30.10.89 (GEB) 14.3.91 (GPCL)	Gas linkage was not confirmed. GPCL revised the feasibility reporting Dec., 93, envisaging use of Naptha till gas becomes available.
16.	Gandhar CGTT (M/s Gujarat Torrent Energy Corp. Ltd.)	655	7/93	12.11.93	
Madhya Pradesh					
17.	Vindhyachal STPS (NTPC)	2x500=1000	6.7.87	10.8.88 (Original) 8.5.89 (Revised)	Investment decision awaited.
18.	Pench TPS (M/s Century Power)	2x210=420	7/92	16.11.93	
19.	Omkareshwar (MPP)	8x65=520		14.12.93	Investment approval awaited.
20.	Marikhhera HEP	2x20=40		23.4.93	Investment approval awaited.
Maharashtra					
21.	Dabhol CTCC (M/s Debbhol Power Company)	2015	4/93	12.11.93	
SOUTHERN REGION					
Andhra Pradesh					
22.	Kothagudem TPS St.V (APSEB)	2x250=500	29.3.93	9.12.93	Investment decision awaited.

23. Jegurupada GTCC (M/s G.V.K. Industries)	216	9/92	12.11.93	
24. Godavari GTCC TPS (M/s Spectrum Power Generation Ltd.)	2x208=416	1/93	14.12.93	
25. Priyadarshini Jurala REP Karnataka	6x36.9=221.4	10.3.92		Awaiting investment approval.
26. Mangalore STPS St.1 (NTPC)	2x210=420	25.4.89	2.1.91 (Original)	Investment decision awaited.
27. Sarapadi HEP (KPCL) Kerala	3x30=90		4.12.90	Awaiting investment approval.
28. Kayamkulam STPS St.1 (NTPC)	2x210=420	24.1.89	31.8.90	Investment decision awaited.
29. Kasargode DG Sets (KSEB) Tamil Nadu	3x20=60	20.3.92	16.12.92	E & F clearance and investment decision awaited.
30. Neyveli TPS Extn. (NLC)	2x210=420	23.10.87	10.8.88 (Original) 4.12.90 (Revised)	Investment decision awaited.
31. Pillaiparamnalur CCGT St. 1 (TNEB) EASTERN REGION Bihar	300	5.3.91	14.5.91	Firm fuel linkage & CGWB clearance awaited.
32. Muzaffarpur TPS Extn. BSEB	2x250=500	25.5.90	9.2.93	Investment decision awaited.

1	2	3	4	5	6
33.	Maitron RB TPS St. I (DVC)	4x210=840	3.10.88	19.10.88	Compliance with Section 29 of ES Act and E&F clearance awaited.
34.	North Karanpura STIS St. I (NTPC)	2x500=1000	17.11.89	8.5.90	-do-
Sikkim					
35.	Teesta St. V HEP (Govt. of Sikkim)	3x170=510		23.4.93	To be referred for E&F clearance. Investment approval awaited.
36.	Teesta St. III (Govt. of Sikkim)	6x200=1200		4.12.90	Referred for environmental forest clearance. Investment approval awaited.
West Bengal					
37.	Farakka Barrage (WBSEB)	5x25=125		11.11.91	Referred for environmental clearance. Investment approval awaited.
NORTH EASTERN REGION					
Tripura					
38.	Agarthala GT (NEEPCO)	4x21=84	14.1.91	1.7.92	Investment decision awaited.
39.	Rokhia GT Phase II (Govt. of Tripura)	2x8=16	21.11.90	14.3.91	Investment decision awaited.

Arunachal Pradesh				
40. Kameng HEP (NEEPCC)	4x150=600	30.4.91	Referred for environmental clearance. Investment approval awaited.	
Manipur				
41. Loktak Down Stream (Govt. of Manipur)	3x30=90	27.11.92	Referred for environmental and forest clearances. Investment approval awaited.	
Mizoram				
42. Dhaleshwari HEP (NHPC)	3x40=120	10.10.88	Environment clearance rejected for MOEF. Referred for forest clearance. Investment approval awaited.	
43. Tuirial HEP (Govt. of Mizoram)	2x30=60	15.9.92	Referred or environmental clearance. To be referred for forest clearance. Investment approval awaited.	
44. Tuivai HEP (Govt. of Mizoram)	3x70=210	12.10.93	To be referred for E&F clearance. Investment approval awaited.	
Madhya Pradesh				
45. Maheshwar (M/s. S. Kumar)	10x40=400	12.11.93	Final financial package awaited.	

Encroachment on P&T Land

4702. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN:
SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI
ASHRAF FATMI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any cases of encroachment on the land belonging to the department of Post and Telecommunications have come to the notice of the Government during the last two years;

(b) if so, the number of such cases detected in each State till date; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check the recurrence of such encroachments in future and the action taken against the guilty officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Status of Tellichery-Mahe Bye Pass

4703. SHRI K. MURALEE DHARAN:
Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the status of Tellichery-Mahe bye-pass proposal;

(b) the reasons for delay in starting the work on this bye-pass; and

(c) the present status of Quilandy deviation on NH 17 Calicut district, Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANS-

PORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The work of land acquisition in part length is in progress.

(b) The work would be started after the land for the entire bye pass has been acquired. There is, therefore, no delay.

(c) The modified proposal for Quilandy deviation along with phased programme for improvement of entire stretch for NH-17 in Kerala is still awaited.

[Translation]

Silver Mines in Bihar

4704. SHRI PREM CHAND RAM:
Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted in Bihar to explore the possibility of silver mining; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Power Finance Corporation

4705. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the objectives of the Power Finance Corporation;

(b) whether the Power Financing Corporation has any role to play in view of the increasing entry of multi-nationals; and

(c) the steps being taken to re-assess the role of Power Finance Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The main objectives of the Power Finance Corporation are to finance the various power projects in the State Electricity Boards, by providing capital loans as additionality to the Plan allocations and to function as a Development Financial Institution to bring about improvement in the working of State Electricity Boards.

(b) It is envisaged that the role of Power Finance Corporation in channelising domestic and international resources to the Power Sector will increase in the coming years, in tune with the increasing requirement of the Power Sector.

(c) The Power Finance Corporation had adopted a Corporate Plan during 1991-92. The lending policies of PFC and priority for financing various projects and schemes were reviewed in the context of the implementation of the 8th Five Year Plan and necessary modifications were carried out. Provision has also been made for financing Pre-Investment Studies undertaken by Power Utilities and for financing employment of consultants by SEBs for preparation of project reports, power purchase agreements etc., in the context of the private power development initiative.

Teesta Hydel Power Project

4706. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of Teesta Hydel Power Project;

(b) the estimated cost of the project and the quantum of power likely to be generated; and

(c) the time by which the project is likely to be completed/commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c). Teesta Canal Fall-I-IV Hydro-electric Project (3x3x7.5 MW) in West Bengal is funded under a loan from Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF), Japan. The project is in an advanced stage of execution. The latest cost is estimated at Rs. 366.27 crores. The quantum of power likely to be generated is 335 Million Units. The project is scheduled to be commissioned in 1995-97.

Pakistan's Nuclear Programme

4707. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE:
SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:
SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI:
SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:
SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the recent reports regarding Pakistan's weapon oriented nuclear programme and its acquisition of know-how from various countries in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) and (b). Government are aware that Pakistan has a clandestine Weapon-oriented nuclear programme. This programme has been and is sustained through acquisition of materials and technology from foreign sources.

Government constantly monitor all developments having a bearing on India's security and take necessary measures to safeguard it.

Deposition of Film Print with Archives

4708. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to bring Legislation to implement a resolution passed by UNESCO, which makes it mandatory for film producers in the country to deposit one print each of any new film made by them with the National Film Archives of India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

Damodar Valley Corporation

4709. SHRI BIRSINGH MAHATO: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to implement the recommendations of the Expert Committee on Damodar Valley Corporation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c). The Raghavan Committee which was set up to advice on the Damodar Valley Corporation's corporate strategy and structure has submitted its report to the Corporation. The Government could consider its recommendations only after the Corporation, considered these recommendations and sent a proposal to the Government.

[Translation]

Postal Consultative Committee In Madhya Pradesh

4710. SHRI MAHENDRA KUMAR SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Postal Consultative Committee has been set up in Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details of its composition and the criteria adopted for the same?

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

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Post Offices In Himachal Pradesh

4711. MAJOR D.D. KHANORIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of requests received from different quarters during last one year for opening of new post offices in Himachal Pradesh; and

(b) the number of post offices sanctioned and opened during the above period, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) 225 requests were received for opening of new post offices during the last one year (1993-94).

(b) The number of post offices sanctioned and opened during 1993-94, district-wise is shown in the attached *Statement*.

STATEMENT

Number of Post Offices opened during 1993-94 in Himachal Pradesh

S. No.	Name of District	No. of Post Offices opened	
		Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices	Departmental Sub Offices
1	2	3	4
1.	Bilaspur	6	-
2.	Chamba	3	-
3.	Hamirpur	5	-
4.	Kangra	18	1
5.	Kullu	9	-
6.	Kinnaur	2	-
7.	Lahaul Spiti	-	-

1	2	3	4
8.	Mandi	21	1
9.	Shimla	1	1
10.	Solan	10	-
11.	Sirmour	8	-
12.	Ura	7	-
Total		90	3

Joint Ventures with Chinese Company

4712. SHRI C.P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited (KIOCL) is going to set up a joint venture with the Chinese company, Jinan Iron & Steel General Works; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). M/s. Jinan Iron & Steel General Works of China who buy iron ore concentrates and pellets from Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited (KIOCL) have indicated their interest to KIOCL to set up a Joint Venture to implement a proposed scheme of KIOCL to set up a pig iron and ductile spun pipe plant.

A view on the joint venture proposal of M/s. Jinan Iron & Steel General Works of China can only be taken by KIOCL after the feasibility report of the project is received and the techno-economic viability of the project is established.

**Organisation of Seminar by
Transport Advisory Forum**

4713. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA

GAVIT: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a seminar was recently organised by Transport Advisory Forum;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any study has been conducted regarding accidents in the Capital (Delhi) as well as in other Metropolitan cities;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the suggestions made by this Seminar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (b). No Transport Advisory Forum has been set up Central Government. However, a Seminar on Road Safety was organised on 5.1.1994.

(c) to (d). Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

(e) The remedial measures suggested in the Road Safety Seminar held on 5.1.1994 to minimise the road accidents are given in the attached *Statement*.

STATEMENT

Remedial steps suggested in the Road Safety Seminar held on 5th January, 1994 to minimise road accidents are as follows:

(i) Audio, visual, leaflets etc., relating to 'do' and 'don't' for

different categories of road users should be made and presented in more improved style.

(ii) Ministry of Education by means of enactment should make 'traffic education' a part of prescribed curricular for school children.

(iii) All Motor Driving Schools which have mushroomed must be regulated and controlled by the State agencies. These Driving Schools should have proper infrastructure facilities and qualified instructors.

(iv) Since pedestrians and cyclists are major victims of road accidents, special education campaign is required towards educating them in road discipline.

(v) Improvement of geometrics along the hill sections.

(vi) Provisions of guard rails on approaches to bridges and high embankments, etc.

(vii) Signalling the unmanned railway level crossings and providing warning signs and rumblers.

(viii) Removal of speed breakers on National and State Highways and conforming to international standards where speed humps are absolutely necessary.

(ix) Better street lighting in urban centres and along the main ghats.

(x) Improving the quality of driver education and training, and

stricter control over the driving licence.

- (xi) To have each road provided with proper road markings so as to induce proper lane discipline.
- (xii) To maintain and provide sufficient pedestrian facilities.
- (xiii) To improve road lighting system on a systematic basis.

Foreign Cargo Vessels

4714. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a huge foreign cargo vessel at Mangalore Coast has begun to sink;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the authorities are ignorant of the development; and
- (d) the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

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

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

Losses at Copper Mines

4715. SHRIMATI DILKUMARI BHANDARI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of all the copper mines in the country and the details of

their profits earned or losses suffered during 1991-92 and 1992-93;

(b) the copper mines where workers still work with traditional and inefficient devices; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to modernise the copper mines and to improve the working conditions in these mines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) Hindustan Copper Limited (HCL), a Public Sector Enterprise of the Central Government, and Hutti Gold Mines Company Limited (HGML), a Public Sector Undertaking of the State Government of Karnataka, operate the following copper mines in the country. In addition to these organisations, Sikkim Mining Corporation (SMC), a joint venture of Government of Sikkim and Government of India, also produces copper concentrates from polymetallic ore mined from their mine at Bhotang.

- HCL: 1. Khetri
2. Kolihan
3. Chandmari
4. Dariba
5. Mosaboni
6. Pathargora
7. Surda
8. Kendadih
9. Rakha
10. Malanjkhanda Copper Project.

- HGML: 1. Chitradurga
2. Kalyadi

The profit/loss of these Organisations during the last two years were as shown below:—

	(Rs. in lakhs)		
	HCL	HGML	SMC
1991-92	5490	(402)*	0.08
1992-93	2640	(422)*	18.85

* Only in respect of copper units.

(b) and (c). The copper mines of HCL and HGML are by and large mechanised. SMC, where modernisation is underway, presently uses conventional method of mining.

[Translation]

Doordarshan Facility in Jharkhand area of Bihar

4716. SHRI SIMON MARANDI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to provide facility of all the five channels of Doordarshan to the tribal and backward people of Jharkhand area of Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the allocations made for this purpose during 1993-94 and 1994-95?

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

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

[English]

Calcutta Telephone Directory

4717. SHRI AMAL DATTA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to speed up the publication of a telephone directory for Calcutta Telephones;

(b) the progress made so far in this regard;

(c) whether any decision has been taken for publishing the directory forthwith without waiting for collection of money from advertisements which will entail a long time; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). Fresh tenders for publication of Calcutta Telephone Directory with yellow pages have been called for and the last date of receipt of tender was 25.3.94. The tenders are being processed by the Calcutta Telephones.

(c) and (d). Calcutta Telephones has been permitted to float another tender for bringing out directory departmentally if the tender already called for, for yellow page directories, does not succeed.

Dredging of Calcutta-Haldia Port Navigational Channel

4718. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) The total cost involved in the dredging of the Calcutta-Haldia Port Navigational Channel and the part thereof borne by the Calcutta Port Trust and the Union Government.

(b) by when the dredging operations are likely to be completed;

(c) the amount of loan which has not as yet been repaid by the Calcutta Port Trust;

(d) whether the Government have decided that no further moratorium of loan repayment would be granted to Calcutta Port Trust; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The total annual cost of dredging for the Calcutta-Haldia Port Navigational Channel during the year 1993-94 was Rs. 87.46 crores approx. (provisional). Out of this the Union Government subsidy was for an amount of Rs. 18.36 crores.

(b) Annual maintenance dredging of Haldia Calcutta Navigational Channel from the sandheads of CDS is of perennial nature.

(c) The amount of loan which has not yet been repaid by the Calcutta Port Trust as on 31st March, 1994 is Rs. 509.45 crores.

(d) and (e). Government have decided to freeze the loan amount extended to Calcutta Port Trust on account of Haldia Dock Project together with interest liability as on 1.4.92.

New T.V. Kendras

4719. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the total expenditure incurred in his Ministry for the years 1990, 1991 and 1993;

(b) the amount spent for programmes on education;

(c) how many new Doordarshan Kendras are likely to be commissioned during 1994;

(d) the present stage of these Doordarshan Kendras; and

(e) the time by which these are expected to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) The total expenditure incurred year-wise by this Ministry is as given below:—

(Rs. in lakhs)

1990-91	10,53,05.75
1991-92	10,88,85.72
1992-93	12,48,39.88

(b) The break-up of the expenditure incurred for programmes on education is not maintained.

(c) to (e). Programme Production Centres, and 325 TV transmitters of varying power are expected to be commissioned into service during 1994-95 subjects to timely supply of equipment, availability of requisite infrastructural faci-

lities and timely completion of civil works at the sites.

Indian delegation for the UNHRC in Geneva

4720. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN:
Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the members of the Indian delegation that had participated in the recent session of the United Nations Human Rights Commission in Geneva including those who were not

deputed for the entire duration, with their designation and the duration of stay in Geneva; and

(b) the total expenditure on the delegation, excluding members based in Geneva, with break-up by accommodation, transport, telephone charges, hospitality and D.A.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) The Indian delegation to the recent 50th UNCHR comprised the following members:

Sl. No.	Name & Designation of Delegate	Duration of Stay	
		Arrival	Departure
1.	Dr. Manmohan Singh, Fin. Minister	1.2.94	5.2.94
2.	Sh. N. K. Jain, PS to Fin. Minister	1.2.94	5.2.94
3.	Sh. Farooq Abdullah, Ex-Chief Minister J&K	1.2.94 8.2.94 26.2.94	5.2.94 18.2.94 10.3.94
4.	Sh. Atal Bihari Vajpayee, MP & Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha	11.2.94 7.3.94	18.2.94 10.3.94
5.	Ms. Sujata Manohar, Chief Justice of Bombay High Court	13.2.94	23.2.94
6.	Sh. V.K. Grover, Secretary, MEA	19.2.94	10.3.94
7.	Shri Salman Khurshid, MOS(EA)	22.2.94	10.3.94
8.	Smt. Savitri Kunadi, JS(UN)	22.2.94	12.3.94
9.	Sh. M.H. Ansari, PR/AMB, PMI, New York	23.2.94	11.3.94
10.	Dr. L.M. Singhvi, High Commr. of India, London	24.2.94	2.3.94
11.	Shri B.C. Mishra, Ex-Secy., MEA	26.2.94	11.3.94

Sl. No.	Name & Designation of Delegate	Duration of Stay	
		Arrival	Departure
12.	Shri Prakash Shah, Amb., E/, Tokyo	27.2.94	11.3.94
13.	Shri Mohan Chiragi, Editor, Qaumi Awaz	2.3.94	11.3.94
14.	Shri T.N. Kaul, Ex-Foreign Secy.	2.3.94	11.3.94
15.	Ms. M. Manimekalai, First Secretary PMI, New York	1.2.94	12.3.94

(b) The details of expenditure incurred on the delegation are being compiled and will be placed on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

VLPT at Ghandiyal in Pauri Garhwal

4721. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the residents of Pauri Garhwal in Uttar Pradesh had given representation for setting up of very low power T.V. transmitter at Ghandiyal;

(b) whether the T.V. transmitter has been sanctioned for Kaljikhhal instead;

(c) whether any survey has been conducted to identify suitable geographical site before sanctioning VLPT at Kaljikhhal, and if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government propose to reconsider its decision of setting up of VLPT at Ghandiyal in view of persistent demand of local residents; and

(e) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e). Whereas a separate VLPT at Kaljikhhal has been sanctioned, action has also been initiated to survey the uncovered parts of Pauri-Garhwal district including Ghandiyal with a view to identify locations for more transmitters in order to improve coverage of TV in the region.

[English]

T.V. Serials on Culture

4722. DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to telecast new T.V. serials on culture during 1994-95; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b). The names of serials in historical/cultural category approved under the sponsored scheme are given in the attached *Statement*. The actual telecast of these programmes except 'Akbar the Great' (already on the air) will, however, depend upon fulfilment of terms and conditions and other programme requirements of Doordarshan from time to time.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Name of Serial
1.	Hijrat
2.	Sindhoori
3.	Narthaki
4.	Jagat Guru Shankaracharya
5.	Fankar Ka Fan
6.	Atit
7.	Akbar the Great (Already on the air)
8.	Shri Muthuswamy Deekshitar
9.	Patta Mahadev Shantala
10.	Kartoos
11.	Nirala
12.	Behte Pani Ki Kahani
13.	Paani Rudrama
14.	Anmol Moti

Sl. No.	Name of Serial
15.	Dharti Veeron Ki
16.	Kalapani
17.	Aamarpali
18.	Alha Udhal
19.	Roopmati
20.	Songs from North East India
21.	Rajabadal
22.	Om Namah Shivay
23.	Swathanth Rath Samar Senani
24.	Jai Hanuman
25.	Ganga Itihas Ki Mahadhara
26.	Nautanki Katha Mala
27.	Bulle Shah
28.	Sadhana
29.	Maharani Durgavati
30.	Hardaul
31.	ISURI
32.	Maina Sundri
33.	Parakrama
34.	Karwan
35.	Rang Manch

Abolition of Octroi

[Translation]

4723. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:
Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chief Ministers' Committee constituted to look into the transporters proposal for abolition of Octroi, has recently submitted their recommendations to the Union Government and the Government have studied the ramifications of these recommendations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Post Offices in Maharashtra

4724. SHRI DATTA MEGHE:
SHRI RAM KAPSE:
SHRI MANIKRAO
HODLYA GAVIT:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new post offices sanctioned and opened during 1993-94 in Maharashtra, district-wise; and

(b) the number of post-offices proposed to be opened in the State during 1994-95?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The number of new post offices sanctioned and opened during 1993-94 in Maharashtra, district-wise is given in the attached *Statement*.

(b) State-wise target for opening of post offices during 1994-95 has not yet been finalised.

STATEMENT

Details of the number of post offices sanctioned and openend during 1993-94 in Maharashtra, district-wise

S. No.	Name of District	Sanctioned		Opened	
		Branch Post Offices	Departmental Sub Offices	Branch Post Offices	Departmental Sub Offices
1.	Ahmednagar	6	1	6	—
2.	Akola	1	—	1	—
3.	Amravati	3	—	3	—

S. No.	Name of District	Sanctioned		Opened	
		Branch Post Offices	Departmental Sub Offices	Branch Post Offices	Departmental Sub Offices
4.	Buldana	1	—	1	—
5.	Bhandara	1	—	1	—
6.	Beed	1	—	1	—
7.	Chandrapur	1	—	1	—
8.	Dhule	7	—	7	—
9.	Gadchiroli	7	—	5	—
10.	Jalna	1	—	1	—
11.	Jalgaon	1	—	1	—
12.	Kolhapur	1	—	1	1
13.	Nagpur	1	1	1	—
14.	Nanded	—	1	—	—
15.	Nasik	5	—	5	—
16.	Osmanabad	1	—	1	—
17.	Pune	9	14	9	7
18.	Raigad	4	—	4	—
19.	Ratnagiri	2	—	2	—
20.	Solapur	2	1	2	1
21.	Satara	8	—	8	—
22.	Sangli	1	—	1	—
23.	Thana	9	—	9	—
24.	Yeotmal	3	—	3	—
Total		76	19	74	9

Western Programmes

4725. SHRI RAJESH
KUMAR:
SHRIMATI SHEELA
GAUTAM:

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

(a) whether the Western T.V. programmes are continuously increasing on AIR/Doordarshan in the name of modernisation;

(b) if so, whether there is grave threat to the Indian culture due to telecast of large number of such programmes on AIR/Doordarshan; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) The percentage of programmes from foreign sources broadcast by AIR and telecast in the primary service of Doordarshan is negligible. However, more programmes from western TV organisations are being telecast on the satellite channels to meet the programme requirements of Doordarshan.

(b) and (c). No, Sir. The programmes are previewed before broadcast/telecast.

[English]

Low cost telephone system

4726. DR. RAJAGOPALAN SRIDHARAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether New Zealand has offered a low cost telephone system recently;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether the suitability of this telephone system in Indian conditions has been examined;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

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

(b) to (e). Does not arise in view of (a) above.

[Translation]

Amount spent on Construction, Repair and Maintenance of National Highways

4727. SHRI SHIVRAJ
SINGH CHAUHAN:
SHRI GIRDHARI LAL
BHARGAVA:
SHRI JANGBIR SINGH:
SHRI BIR SINGH
MAHATO:
SHRI GOVINDA
CHANDRA MUNDA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the allocation made and the amount spent on the construction, repair and maintenance of National Highways during each of the last three years, State-wise and work-wise;

(b) the amount proposed for the same purposes during the current financial year, State-wise;

(c) whether the amount given to different States for the purposes have not been found adequate;

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

(e) the time by which the additional amount is likely to be released to the States; and

(f) the details of amount to be released, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The amount for construction, maintenance and repairs for the National Highways allocated to the States is released in lump sum and not against the individual work. The allocations made and the amount

spent on the construction/repair and maintenance of National Highways during each of the last 3 years state-wise is given in *Statement-I*.

(b) The amounts proposed for development during the current year 1994-95 is given in *Statement-II*. Amount proposed for maintenance State-wise, is not yet decided.

(c) and (d). The amount given to the States for the development and maintenance of National Highways is not adequate due to overall constraint of resources.

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

STATEMENT-I

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of State	1991-92		1992-93		1993-94	
		Maintenance & Repair	Development	Maintenance & Repair	Development	Maintenance & Repair	Development
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1279.42	2455.00	1249.44	2600.00	1716.42	4580.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	84.36	48.00	35.41	80.00	33.51	80.00
3.	Assam	1018.09	1225.00	1039.625	1275.00	1355.22	1400.00
4.	Bihar	1012.30	1142.00	1072.66	1385.00	1276.45	1920.00
5.	Chandigarh	16.00	28.00	15.48	25.00	14.00	25.00
6.	Delhi	163.00	550.00	171.80	700.00	208.21	550.00
7.	Goa	191.97	930.00	208.308	850.00	245.05	570.00
8.	Gujarat	918.89	4770.00	881.37	4650.00	1033.95	6350.00
9.	Haryana	362.29	1060.00	380.83	1870.00	513.86	3200.00
10.	Himachal Pradesh	518.77	1140.00	529.55	1150.00	881.70	1200.00
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	45.00	50.00	143.39	50.00	94.54	40.00
12.	Karnataka	990.02	1775.00	1105.85	1880.36	1234.19	2900.00
13.	Kerala	586.54	1120.00	587.82	1400.00	726.15	3050.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1195.69	1850.00	1213.25	1915.00	1316.28	1850.00
15.	Maharashtra	1620.00	3358.00	1506.677	3280.00	1815.54	3080.00
16.	Manipur	51.67	250.00	73.32	250.00	130.47	300.00
17.	Meghalaya	206.19	450.00	170.27	387.00	231.13	470.00
18.	Nagaland	3.50	48.00	3.50	50.00	7.29	45.00
19.	Orissa	859.98	1384.00	738.52	1375.00	1016.11	1350.00
20.	Pondicherry	6.83	120.00	5.78	44.64	16.02	50.00
21.	Punjab	579.98	2850.00	638.97	2800.00	661.30	2200.00
22.	Rajasthan	1054.61	1800.00	1141.02	3095.00	1339.97	4200.00
23.	Tamil Nadu	979.91	1422.00	1134.69	1600.00	1643.67	3150.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1312.05	6025.00	1394.96	4995.00	1710.52	4750.00
25.	West Bengal	1284.35	1634.00	1071.51	2230.00	1760.45	3500.00

STATEMENT-II

Sl. No.	Name of State	Amount proposed for development during the current year 1994-95
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3250.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	80.00
3.	Assam	1400.00
4.	Bihar	1700.00
5.	Chandigarh	25.00
6.	Delhi	100.00
7.	Goa	300.00
8.	Gujarat	5000.00
9.	Haryana	4600.00
10.	Himachal Pradesh	1200.00
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	40.00
12.	Karnataka	2450.00
13.	Kerala	3100.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1550.00
15.	Maharashtra	2600.00
16.	Manipur	300.00
17.	Meghalaya	400.00
18.	Nagaland	15.00
19.	Orissa	3200.00
20.	Pondicherry	50.00
21.	Punjab	2200.00
22.	Rajasthan	4100.00
23.	Tamil Nadu	1700.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	8300.00
25.	West Bengal	2800.00

[English]

LPT/HPT at Rajapur, Maharashtra

4728. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether LPT and HPT have been sanctioned for Rajapur in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the same are likely to be set up and commissioned;

(c) whether the selection of site range has been sacrificed for the convenience of employees by seeking only Urban areas; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b). No, Sir. a Very Low Power TV Transmitter (VLPT) is proposed to be set up at Rajapur in Maharashtra. The TV transmitter is expected to be commissioned into service during 1994-95 subject to timely supply of equipment and availability of requisite infrastructural facilities.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Dissemination of Information on AIDS

4729. PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any plan to start special campaigns on electronic media to make the general populace aware against the dangers of Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS); and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SHING DEO): (a) and (b). AIR and Doordarshan are already broadcasting/telecasting programmes on awareness about AIDS, employing different programme formats. In addition to these regular programmes, a

tele-serial on AIDS is also envisaged to be telecast by Doordarshan in the near future.

[*Translation*]

**T.V. Transmitters in Jalgaon,
Maharashtra**

4730. DR. GUNWANT RAMBHAU SARODE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to install low capacity transmitters in Ravar and Edalabad Tehsils of the Jalgaon district in Maharashtra;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SHINGH DEO): (a) to (c). There is no proposal to set up Low Power TV Transmitters (LPTs) in Ravar and Edalabad Tehsils of Jalgaon district in Maharashtra. With a view to strengthen TV service in the district, a High Power TV Transmitter (HPT) is envisaged to be set up either at Jalgaon or at Akola subject to availability of suitable site and approval of the scheme by the competent authority. On Commissioning this HPT, is expected to provide satisfactory TV service to both Ravar and Edalabad Tehsils of the district.

**Employment Generation in food
Processing Industries**

4731. SHRI GUMAN MAL
LODHA:
SHRI SHIVLAL NAGJIBHAI
VEKARIA:
SHRI SURENDRA PAL
PATHAK:
SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up at least one agro-based industry in each district of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether seminars, conferences and workshops on fruit preservation and processing are held in rural areas to educate the farmers;

(d) if so, the details of such seminars/workshops held in 1993-94;

(e) whether women are encouraged to take up employment in agro-based food processing units, especially in Gujarat and Maharashtra; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI). (a) and (b). Ministry of Food Processing Industries does not set up food processing units directly in a State. However, Government encourages setting up of food processing industries in different parts of the country.

(c) and (d). Though such seminars have not been held by the Ministry specifically in the rural areas, Ministry is assisting in setting up food processing training centres in the rural areas and 121 such centres have already been assisted in the first two years of the 8th Plan. These Centres, besides training, would, alongwith district industry centres and State Nodal Agencies, disseminate information on various aspects of food processing.

(e) and (f). Emphasis for training rural women in the agro-based industries is given in the food processing training

centres so as to ensure that they get 'Hands on' experience in setting up and managing small food processing unit.

[English]

Development of Shipping in Goa

4732. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any master plan has been formulated for the development of shipping in Goa during Eighth Plan period;

(b) if so, the details thereof including modernisation, strengthening of infrastructural network and broadening and strengthening of roads leading to the port in Goa to facilitate container traffic;

(c) whether the container transport is not possible at present through Mormugao Port and for Goa Shipyard due to absence of broad metallic road network; and

(d) if so, the provision of funds made during Eighth Plan period for the construction of road network for container traffic there?

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

(b) Does not arise,

(c) The cargo mix at Mormugao Port Trust does not have the possibility of being containerised.

(d) An amount of Rs. 123.00 crores has been provided for undertaking various schemes for the development of Mormugao Port during the 8th Plan (1992-97).

Broadcasting Code

4733. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH:
SHRI S. B. SIDNAL:

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

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision to revive broadcasting code;

(b) if so, whether there are any concrete proposals for reviving external service of All India Radio to strengthen its transmission to all parts of Africa; and

(c) if so, the salient features of the revival of broadcasting code?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) The broadcasting code of All India Radio governing broadcasts on AIR by individuals continues to be in operation. Hence, the question of its revival does not arise.

(b) External Services of AIR are already directed to different parts of Africa. Efforts are being made to extend transmission to areas not already covered at present.

(c) Does not arise.

Anti-India Activities by Pak Missions

4734. SHRI M. V. V. S. MURTHY: Will be Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of anti-india activities being carried out by Pak Missions in various countries including Kuwait and Sri Lanka;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government had taken up this matter with those countries in regard to Pak's misuse of their soil against a third country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof; and the response of those countries thereto, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). The Government is aware that Pakistan, through its Missions abroad, contrary to international conventions, is using the soil of some neighbouring countries to organise activities against India and in most of the countries indulging in a disinformation campaign against India. Government have brought such activities of the Pak Missions to the notice of the local Governments. In Sri Lanka, where the Pak Embassy screened a film, entitled 'Kashmir—A Disputed Legacy by Alistair Lamb', and in Kuwait, our Missions made appropriate demarche and received satisfactory responses from the two Governments. Our Missions have also taken appropriate measures to counter Pak Missions' disinformation campaign directed against India.

Privatisation of A. I. R. and Doordarshan

4735. SHRI S. B. SIDNAL:
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:

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

(a) whether the Government propose to privatise A.I.R. and Doordarshan as well as provision for up-linking facilities for Indian broadcasters through Indian satellites;

(b) if so, whether any concrete proposals have been formulated in this regard;

(c) whether some neighbouring countries like Nepal are offering up-linking facilities;

(d) if so, whether any Media company in private sector has submitted a proposal with Kathmandu's up-linking facility;

(e) whether the BBC is also ready to collaborate with Doordarshan in this regard; and

(f) if so, the time by which a decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b). No, Sir, There is no proposal to privatise All India Radio and Doordarshan. As far as allowing setting up of uplinking facilities by private agencies is concerned, the matter is under consideration of the Government.

(c) Neighbouring countries like Nepal have not, as on date, offered uplinking facilities to INSAT for broadcasting.

(d) No such proposal has been submitted to this Ministry.

(e) Government is not aware of any proposal by the BBC for collaboration with Doordarshan in provision of uplinking facilities.

(f) Does not arise.

Talks with foreign Minister of China

4736. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he held wide-ranging discussions with the Chinese Foreign Minister in Tehran during March, 1994;

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

(c) whether India-China accord on the Line of Actual Control and other related issues were also discussed; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA). (a) to (d). The External Affairs Minister Shri Dinesh Singh met the Chinese Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Mr. Qian Qichen on March 6, 1994 in Terhan. The External Affairs Minister extended an invitation to the Chinese Foreign Minister to visit India which was accepted in principle. It was noted that the bilateral relations between the two countries were progressing well, and that the peace and Tranquility Agreement was a step forward. The Ministers agreed to intensify economic cooperation including in export of iron ore from India to China. On Jammu & Kashmir, the Chinese Foreign Minister stated that China supported direct negotiations between India and Pakistan. Both Ministers noted that 1994 marked the 40th anniversary of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, which would be commemorated in both countries.

[Translation]

Gujarati Programmes on Metro Channel

4737. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether no importance is given to the Gujarati programmes by the sponsors of the Metro Channel programmes;

(b) whether the Government propose to restore the time formerly allotted to the Gujarati programmes in Gujarat; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SHINGH DEO): (a) At present, the Metro Channel does not carry Gujarati programmes.

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

[English]

Food Processing Units in Meghalaya

4738. SHRI PETER G. MARBANI-ANG: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to set up food processing units in Meghalaya in view of raw material availability there; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) (a) and (b). No, Sir, Ministry of Food Processing Industries does not set up Food Processing units directly in any State. Some proposals seeking assistance under various Plan Schemes of the Ministry for setting up food processing units in Meghalaya have been received actions on which have been initiated.

D.E.S.U.

4739. SHRI TARA SHINGH:
SHRI MANORANJAN
BHAKTA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to write off the massive debt of over Rs. 300 crores to be paid by DESU;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) Whether DESU had submitted any proposal in this regard;

(d) whether the writing off of debts of DESU would affect other State Electricity Boards; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c). DESU owes Rs. 3288 Crores mainly to Badarpur Thermal Power Station (BTS) for the purchase of power as on 1.4.1994. There is no proposal to write off these dues or any other amount outstanding against DESU.

(d) and (e). Does not arise in view of reply to parts (a) to (c) above.

Equipment Bridges

4740. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether equipment bridges are used on Highways;

(b) the type of equipment bridges available in the country and cost of construction of each for 100 m span and its comparison with normal RCC bridges; and

(c) whether introduction of the same is likely to speed up construction and commissioning of roads and Highways in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Presumably, by the term equipment bridges, Hon'ble Member means Bailey Bridges. The Government of India are constitutionally responsible for matters relating to National Highways only. Bailey Bridges are used on National Highways as an emergent measure and that too

only for spans upto 50 m. No such bridges have been used on National Highways for 100 m span.

As Bailey Bridges are used in emergent cases only, the cost of construction of such bridges cannot be compared with RCC bridges, which are of permanent nature.

(c) No, Sir. The Bailey Bridges are used only as an emergent measure.

Advertisement on Doordarshan

4741. SHRI S. M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received representation from "The Indian Society of Advertisers" for the ban on advertisements of some products on Doordarshan; and

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

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

(b) Does not arise.

Seminar on Nuclear Proliferation

4742. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI: SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Federation of American Scientists had conducted any seminar on nuclear proliferation and confidence building in Fudan University, Shanghai recently;

(b) if so, whether India had also participated in the seminar;

(c) the subjects discussed and the outcome thereof;

(d) the names of other countries that participated in the seminar: and

(e) the extent of usefulness of the seminar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Yes Sir. The Fudan University is collaboration with the Federation of American Scientists and the Center for policy Research. India conducted a "Workshop on Possible Inter-linked South Asian and Worldwide Nuclear Arms Control and Disarmament Initiatives" in Shanghai from 24 to 26 February 1994.

(b) An Indian delegation comprising Dr. Raja Ramanna former Minister of State, Gen. (Retd.) K. Sundarji, Former Chief of Army Staff, Shri A. P. Venkateswaran, former Foreign Secretary and Dr. Brahma Chellaney, Research Professor, Center for Policy Research, New Delhi attended the Workshop in Shanghai. There was no official Indian participation.

(c) According to press reports the Workshop covered issues relating to Security Perception of and Nuclear Arms Development in Southern Asia, Finding the Linkage: stopping producing Unsafeguarded Fissile Materials, Finding the Linkage: A Global CTBT?, Finding the Linkage: Further Reductions in the Nuclear Arsenals of the Acknowledged Nuclear Weapons States?, Controlling the spread of ballistic Missiles: Regional and Global Consideration and Regional Cooperation and Confidence Building."

(d) Participants attending the Workshop came from USA, Pakistan and China.

(e) According to press reports, it is part of an ongoing academic dialogue. The Workshop is the first in a series of similar meetings that have been planned by the organizers.

Agreements with Kazakhstan

4743. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreement and Memorandum of Understanding were signed between India and Kazakhstan during Prime Minister's visit to that country; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) yes, Sir.

(b) The two agreements signed during PM's visit to Kazakhstan are:

(i) Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan on Cooperation in Science & Technology. The agreement envisages *inter alia* exchange of scientists and scientific information, holding of bilateral scientific and technical seminars, exhibitions, and joint identification/formulation/implementation of application-oriented research programmes in industry, agriculture and other fields. The Agreement also envisages setting up of a joint committee for scientific and technological cooperation and promotion of contacts between

Government agencies and scientific institutions.

(ii) Protocol on Cooperation between the Ministry of External Affairs of the Republic of India and Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan. The Agreement envisages regular consultations between the two Ministries, deepening bilateral cooperation in diverse fields like political, trade, economic etc., training of Kazakh diplomats in India and exchange of delegations.

12.00 hrs

[*Translation*]

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR (Faizabad): Mr Speaker, Sir, on 7 December, 1992, about 23 temples were demolished and lit on fire at Mewat, distt. Gurgaon, Haryana. Further, the cows were also killed on the road by throwing them down and properties of thousands of people were destroyed. In this connection, 15 cases were filed against 669 offenders. Seeing this destruction, the Chief Minister of Haryana had in a public meeting on 30th December, 1992 assured to give stringent punishment to these offenders. Thereafter, on 11-12 February, 1994 the Chief Minister of Haryana, in his public meetings at Tauru and Punhana, made an announcement to withdraw the cases against them. This announcement puts a question mark on our judicial system. Further, it has also given encouragement to the guilty persons and the sentiments of the victimised people have been hurt. Notwithstanding this, the leaders of these offenders were falicitated in a public function.

MR. SPEAKER: When a question about Shri Mulayam Singhji was raised in this House, at that time you had objected to that. But today, you are raising a point

about the Chief Minister of Haryana in this House.

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA (Padrauna): Mr. Speaker, Sir,... (*Interruptions*)...

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: This is not going on record.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER This will not go on record. What Shri Vinay Katyarji speaking, that will go on record.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not want to speak about Government or the Chief Minister. My submission is that after demolition of a disputed structure on 6th December, were put into the prison but at the same time the Chief Minister of Haryana announced withdrawal of the cases against the people who had demolished undisputed structures and were indulged in killings. This action has encouraged the offenders a lot whereas, the common man is finding it difficult to live a smooth life.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in my constituency, Faizabad, 8 people were detained under Gunda Act as bombs were recovered from their houses. But later on, they were let off. There was one Shri Anil Kalia, a worker of Shiv Sena. Nothing was recovered from his house nor any case was registered against him but he was detained under Gunda Act.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I request you to intervene in the matter and give instruc-

[Shri Vinay Katiyar]

tions not to withdraw the cases against the offenders. otherwise, justice will not survive. In this regard, I request you that the Hon'ble Minister may make a statement in the House.

SHRI BRISHIN PATEL (Siwan): Mr. Speaker, Sir, 480 teachers of BCCL, Dhanbad have been sitting on Dharna at Jantar Mantar for the last five months. They are being exploited by the BCCL management by giving them a meagre salary of Rs. 800 to Rs. 1200. In this connection, I want to raise two points. The first is regarding conducting an enquiry and the second is regarding consideration. As regards the enquiry part, I would like to draw the attention of the House that the Government of India provides Rs. 2.40 crore as grant to the schools being run under B. C. C. L. Dhanbad. Under BCCL, Dhanbad, about 100 schools, including the Central School and the D. A. V. School, are run to impart education to the children of the workers of BCCL. The point worth inquiring is that when the Government of India bears the whole expenses of the Central School and in D. A. V. School, the children are charged Rs. 150 per month why then these schools are given 80 per cent of the above grant. The schools which provide free education to the children of poor workers of BCCL get only 20 per cent of the grant. This issue is required to be looked into. Why only 20 per cent of the total grant is being given to those schools where free education is given to the children of the workers and why 80 per cent of the total grant is being given to those schools who are earning from other resources also? The second point is that the 480 teachers of these schools can be given the same salary as is given to the teachers of Bihar Government, The former Minister of Coal, Shri Sangmaji had decided in the meeting

of the Board of Directors that after 1991, these teachers would be given the same salary as is given to the teachers of the Bihar Government but the Government has been inattentive to this issue so far and is finding itself unable to take a decision in this regard. Sir, through you, I request that the Ministry of Coal may be directed to look into the case of the teachers who have been sitting on dharna for the last five months. (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PETER G. MARBANIANG (Shillong): Sir, I want to raise the matter of the butchers' strike in the national capital of Delhi.

The stalemate regarding Idgah slaughter house continues. The butchers' strike has entered its 40th day today. There seems to be no sign of an understanding being arrived at over this issue.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Marbaniang, this is *sub judice*. This is not for this Parliament to consider.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You know that it cannot be raised like this.

SHRI PETER G. MARBANIANG: The whole of Delhi is suffering. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This matter is in the court. It cannot be raised like this.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Ferozepur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your kind attention towards the problems of employees in Fazilka district, contiguous to the border area of Pakistan. After the war of 1971 the Government had decided to give border allowance to the employees working within a belt of 16 kilometres from the border in Gurdaspur, Amritsar and Ferozpur districts. It used to be given from 1973 to 1988 but the Government abruptly discontinued it in 1988. On account of this, thousands of posts of teachers, head masters and doctors are lying vacant in every department. Before the elections in Punjab, the hon. Home Minister of the country had visited Dera Baba Nanak and Gurdaspur in Punjab. There he had declared that he would restore the border allowance which was discontinued earlier. But it is matter of great concern that instead of restoring border allowance, the Government has started the recovery of the allowance given 15-20 years ago. As a result, the employees working in this belt of the border have started getting themselves transferred from these districts. Now, there are thousands of posts lying vacant in this belt. I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards this aspect and request that the problems of these border employees may be resolved at the earliest. The amount of border allowance deducted so far from their salaries may be given back to them and the recovery may immediately be stopped.

[English]

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj): Mr. Speaker Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the House to the proposed establishment of a permanent firing range on the Chhota Nagpur Plateau in Bihar which would

cover nearly 1500 square kilometres and about 245 villages and displace and evict 2.5 lakh people. This areas was being used for occasional firing range purposes but now land has been acquired without due and proper notification for the purpose of a permanent firing range. This has agitated the local people who have been subjected to repeated eviction and displacement in the name of development. Recently, they held a demonstration in Delhi and also submitted a memorandum to the Government. Sir, this step shall violate the Forest Conservation Act as well as affect the ecological balance of the area and considering that there is an organic relationship between man and habitat, eviction and displacement of the tribal people from this area shall deeply affect their life on the Chhota Nagpur Plateau. They have formed a Jan Sangharsh Samiti and this problem is acquiring a political dimension. I would not like that the Government should disregard the feelings of the tribal people. Indeed, the entire tribal area is seething with rage and frustration and we should not allow it to explode into violence. Therefore, I would like the Government to reconsider this move. I fully appreciate that defence has got its needs and that its requirements must be met but since this had been met previously without too much of damage and without displacement and eviction, I suppose that the old arrangement should continue. Therefore, I would request the Government that considering the feelings of the people of this area. they should review the decision.

[Translation]

SHRI KESRI LAL (Ghatampur): There is acute shortage of potable water in my constituency, Ghatampur and its adjoining areas of Bundelkhand, Fatehpur, Banda, Itawa and a new district, Akbarpur. There the water level has gone

[Shri Kesri Lal]

down and the women of that area have to fetch water from a river which is four or five kilometres away.

MR. SPEAKER: The State Government has to make arrangements for supply of drinking water.

SHRI KESRI LAL: The Indian hand-pumps installed there can be changed by the Government of India. The Union Government should release more funds to the Collectors of Uttar Pradesh so that the arrangements for supply of potable water to the people of the areas like Bundelkhand, where the level of water has gone down, can be made. Sir, through you, I make this demand from the Government.

[English]

SHRI P. C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha): Sir, there has been heavy rain and wind in several parts of Kerala which have caused serious destruction of plantations. Farmers are finding it very difficult because Government of Kerala will not be able to give due compensation. For one rubber tree, the compensation given is only Rs. 40 whereas even if Rs. 2000 is given as compensation, it is too low. I had been to my constituency yesterday and I found that in one panchayat ward itself 50,000 rubber trees alone were uprooted by the winds. The hon. Finance Minister is here. I urge upon the hon. Finance Minister to find a new way out to solve this problem because natural calamities are occurring every year and we are not able to give any compensation to the farmers. Even compensation cannot be paid by the Government of India. So, I request and suggest the Finance Minister to bring up a scheme of group insurance where all farmers can

be benefited. Service cooperative banks, agricultural agencies and State Governments could cooperate and give premium. By this, I am sure that the farming community could be saved and unless something is done in this respect, we are going to suffer very heavy loss in the coming years. I would urge upon the Minister for agriculture to look upon this as a special case and give some aid to Kerala as compensation to farmers, especially to farmers of my constituency where heavy loss has occurred due to recent rain and winds.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam): Sir, the Government's decision to put coconut oil in the OGL List is causing serious concern to the people of my State. As a consequence of this decision the import of coconut oil will be there. This import will be a total disaster for the agriculturists of my State. Already, the coconut price is going down and there was a demand to have a remunerative price for it. The support price was fixed at Rs. 2350 per quintal. In one day only after the announcement of this decision to put coconut oil in the OGL List, the price has gone down by Rs. 10 per quintal. Last year, during the same period, the price was only about Rs. 4300 per quintal, whereas today it is Rs. 3300 per quintal. And, if this import is allowed, the price will become Rs. 2500 per quintal. This will cause a real problem. The entire economy of our State is dependent on the coconut.

MR. SPEAKER: When we are going to discuss the Budget, why are you raising it in Zero Hour?

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Sir, this decision of the Government is going to create a real problem for the people of my State. Our farmers are suffering because of this. So, I request that the coconut oil should be excluded from the OGL List.

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN (Karad): It is reported that the Central Government has quietly decided to close down the Growth Centre Scheme. This scheme, which was launched in 24 States, has sought to set up about 70 Growth Centres during the Eighth Plan including six centres in Maharashtra. This scheme has a provision for an investment of Rs. 30 crore in each centre. This was very crucial for the geographically balanced industrial growth in the country. If this scheme is shelved, it will be a great blow to the effort to eliminate the regional disparity. And, also the investment of about Rs. 90 crore, which has already been incurred, will go down the drain. I request the Government to make a Statement in this regard.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Yadav, are you really interested to raise the issue? There will be some difficulty, not political but legal difficulty, in discussing this.

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura): Mr. Speaker, Sir, you also tried your best in this matter, A meeting was also held in your Chamber regarding electoral reforms and you had time and again asked the Government....

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You are not supposed to discuss what all was discussed in the Chamber.

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: The Government has not taken up the issue of identity card and electoral reforms during the last four years, with the required speed. In this connection, a meeting was held in your chamber where papers were

to be circulated. The Report of the Goswami Committee, on which there was a unanimity, as well as the report regarding appointment of two Election Commissioners are with the Government. As far as the question of Code of Conduct is concerned, it is being publicly debated. We are afraid that a constitutional crisis on the matter of identity cards may arise after 1995. I have risen to express my concern inspite of your not allowing me....

MR. SPEAKER: There is no problem in conducting the proceeding of the House in this way.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: I have contacted on telephone many Ministers and Shri Shuklaji, in particular.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Shuklaji had told me on telephone that the papers are being circulated and he would be calling the meeting in a day or two.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, please listen to me. This matter has been dragging on for the last four years. It is the task to be performed by us i. e. the Parliament and those who are in the Government. I would like to submit that a crisis has developed here. All the Chief Ministers and we have already expressed our opinion and now it is up to the Government to make up their mind regarding implementation of the reforms. The Government should give us, some time-bound programme for it and it should be done in this session itself. If the time runs out then we will have to face great difficulties. Therefore, I would like to tell the Government that they should bring about comprehensive changes by chalking out a time-bound programme. This must be done immediately and they should tell us about the deliberations which took place in your chamber.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Shukla, would you like to respond in any way? I think you are looking on this side.

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): Well, we would like to take initiative in this matter and call all the Leaders of the Opposition to discuss this matter. It had been discussed once in your Chamber and again I request you to find some time to invite all the Leaders so that we can have a consensus in this matter and then proceed along. I can assure the hon. Members, particularly Mr. Sharad Yadav, who had been raising it from time to time, that we are as keen as him to sort out this matter in such a proper manner that it does not create any difficulty in our democratic process.

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Will it be done in this session? The Hon'ble Minister should confirm that it will be done in this session itself.

[English]

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: It is very difficult to say. It depends upon our deliberations. We will certainly like to do it as quickly as possible.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh): Sir, I want to draw the attention of the Government, through you, to the reported pressure on the Government of India to change its Nuclear Proliferation Policy.

Sir, it is a well-established fact that this Policy has got the national support and we had been taking a stand from the

very beginning that there should be a total ban on nuclear armaments and even on research and development. We had never agreed, Sir....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Yadav, we are going to discuss the Demands of the Foreign Affairs Ministry. I think that is first in the list now for discussion. You will be entitled to raise this issue in a proper manner.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: Sir, I agree with you. But the only thing that I want to say is that the Government should make its position clear. There has been a continuous pressure from the United States of America for a Regional Conference, for capping the nuclear things and a lot of apprehension is there in the minds of the people. Therefore I would like that the Government should take this House into confidence. Because it is a well-established national policy that we will not agree to stop our work so far as development of nuclear capability for peaceful purposes is concerned. But there is a pressure that the Government should agree to some kind of a Regional Conference or a Multilateral Meeting. So, the Government should make its policy very clear that there will be no change in its policy without taking into confidence the Paliament.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittorgarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the submission that I wish to make is this. You have pointed out that we can discuss this when the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of External Affairs are taken up. My difficulty is that this whole question is dealt with by the Ministry of External Affairs only under the Disarmament Desk. So far as the Ministry of External Affairs is concerned, they deal with Disarmament at the United Nations. The Ministry of Defence does not deal with this subject at

all. Now, in between these two Ministries and the confusion of the Government and the impending visit of the Prime Minister to the United States of America, doubts arise in respect of a retraction by the Government on the established position of India about not accepting anything other than the universal non-discriminatory regime. Now, if it is to be universal, then whether (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Then what makes us to think that the Government is going to take a different stand?

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: I am delighted, Sir, to hear this thing from you.

MR. SPEAKER: I would like to know what makes us to think like this.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: It is reported to have agreed for a multilateral negotiation. That is why this doubt is there. This is where the Government should make its stand very clear.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Let me answer this question as to what makes us to think like this, Sir, apprehensions are raised by pronouncements of the Government itself. Suggestions are given that there is a plan afoot to hold a Nine-Nation Conference. Nine-Nation Conference is not universal. Is it to be 9+2+2 or is it to be 5+2+2?

MR. SPEAKER: This is a complicated issue. You are entitled to raise it at that time.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: I agree with you. Because it is complicated, it is all the more necessary that the Government removes all doubts on this issue and comes forward with a statement at the earliest.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: I say that these apprehensions are totally unfounded. It is because when this matter appeared in the newspapers, there were some misreporting regarding the Prime Minister's reported statement in the Army Generals Conference and thereafter, the Prime Minister's Office made it clear that as far as the Government of India is concerned, their stand on this Non-Proliferation Treaty is same as it used to be.

It has to be universal and non-discriminatory. So, there is no change, whatsoever, in the Government's established position, as far as this matter is concerned.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: Has the Government agreed for multilateral negotiations in the meanwhile?

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: As far as Government of India is concerned, there is absolutely no change and there would be no change in the matter.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI (Pune): What discussion is going to take place?

[*Translation*]

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhinagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was not present in the meeting of the representatives of various parties held in your chamber, but Shri Jaswant Singhji was there representing our party.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: We would like very much to invite you.

[*Translation*]

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: I have just heard the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs saying that he wanted to involve

[Shri Lal K. Advani]

a consensus among all the parties. I do not understand on which issue he wants to evolve a consensus because there is no dissension. So far as our stand is concerned, it has already been made clear by Shri. Jaswant Shinghji in that meeting that we are interested in the issue of comprehensive electoral reforms. Moreover, a consensus has already been evolved on this issue in a high level meeting chaired by Shri Dinesh Goswami and that must be implemented and other initiatives can also be taken in this regard. But the Government always talks of only one issue for consensus from that of the identity cards or the powers of the Election Commission. I think the issue is more serious and it should therefore be taken in that way. We want to know whether the Government proposal to take any action on the issue of electoral reforms or not? Several reports have been submitted during the last 20-30 years. These reports may be implemented, laws may be enacted and, it would be better if we could do something in this session.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJI (Bolpur): We have been having meetings on doubt. And you had been kind enough to call us the other day for a discussion on this very important subject. So far as the general issue of electoral reforms is concerned, we have been saying—I have also said on behalf of my party—that there are reports and reports not only today but from 1971 onwards; and on various issues of electoral reforms, the thinking is that they are urgent; there has been a large area of consensus. Things have drifted because the Government of India have been unable to make up their mind. They are either exercising their mind or not at all. But, they have not come to a

decision even on Dinesh Goswami's Report of 1990. I asked the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs about it. He must have taken some decision on this. This Law Minister says that he is ready with a Bill. I do not know whether it is a comprehensive Bill or not. But that has to be tackled.

I would also request the Government and all my friends here that there are some important matters which have become extremely urgent because of an open threat that is being given to put the entire parliamentary system of the Government in a cold storage, as it were; there is a threat not to hold elections. There are emergent issues which have to be tackled.

So far as the principle of identity card is concerned, nobody is denying. The question is—everybody knows—of wherewithal. All the State Governments have agreed in principle. Who would deny it? On behalf of my party also I have committed to it because I was a Member of the Dinesh Goswami Committee. As a matter of fact, we have been now and then suggesting that a scheme has to be framed for the purpose of financing this: some mechanism has to be found out. If the process had started in 1990, we would have solved it a long time ago. As I said, this was not done. Our report was not given keeping in mind the present incumbent or the present incumbency. It was done when this gentleman was not there at all; when there was no conflict as such, because it was felt necessary. Therefore, on some issues, as Mr. Sharad Yadav has rightly said, we have to take decisions. We are almost entering now in the month of May. In another six months' time, I do not know what he can do or what he cannot do or what he will do. We have been requesting the Prime Minister also. I saw him more than once on this issue. Something has to be done.

Just merely procrastination will not help us. If everybody wants identity cards, have it. But find out the method. Do it, where is the procedure; where is the money? This is very very important, We do not want impasse. It is also necessary that because of some proceedings in the Supreme Court, a decision cannot be implemented regarding the multi-member composition of the Election Commission. Therefore, it is high time that we clinch this issue.

Sir, I request the Government to make up its mind very soon, so that under your leadership also we can sort out this matter. We have taken some initiative, therefore, I request the Government to take a very-very urgent action.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: There is no difficulty in Government making up its mind quickly. We want to do so after consulting hon. Leaders of Opposition. We have held a meeting in your chamber once. I have requested to hold another meeting as and when we find time. We should be able to develop a consensus between us. Government's view point has been clearly put forward to the leaders and we are quite clear in our mind as far as these matters are concerned, But we would like to have a consensus in this matter with the Opposition so that there is no controversy in the action that we take on this matter.

MR. SPEAKER: I think, it was decided to hold a meeting in the Speaker's Chamber because it is easier for the leaders of the parties to meet when the Parliament is in Session.

Secondly, we had the opportunity of discussing some of the recommendations in the Goswami Committee's Report. My

impression is that on certain points there should not be any difficulty and there is likely to be readiness on the part of the Government and the other parties are likely to agree on those things. But there are certain points on which there are lot many difficulties and I am afraid, it may be very difficult to come to any conclusion and take the decision. We would certainly like to hold a meeting, two meetings and long meetings and consider all the issues and try to come to a sort of an agreement which will help us to improve upon the electoral process for which there have been discussions in the House, reports outside and Committee reports also. If something can be done would be very happy about it.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA (Balasore): Sir, crop insurance scheme has not been implemented in Orrissa...

MR SPEAKER: No, Please. Time is over now. Half-an-hour is over now. We are discussing Budget and you can raise that issue at that time. Now Message from Rajya Sabha, please.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No, half-an-hour is over now.

12.33 hrs.

[English]

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:—

"In accordance with the provisions of Rule 127 of the Rules Of Proce-

ture and Conduct of Buisness in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 22nd April, 1994 agreed without any amendment to the Manipur Panchayati Raj Bill, 1994 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on 22nd April, 1994."

[English]

12.33 ¼ hrs.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE FROM THE SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE

MR. SPEAKER: The Committee on Absence of Members from the sittings of the House in their Sixth Report presented to the House on 22nd April, 1994 have recommended that leave of absence be granted to the following Members for the period mentioned against each:—

*1. Shri Gurudas Kamat	2.12.93 to 22.12.93
2. Shri Govinda Chandra Munda	8.12.93 to 24.12.93
3. Shri R. Surender Reddy	2.12.93 to 24.12.93
4. Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh	14.8.93 to 28.8.93; 2.12.93 to 30.12.93; and 21.2.94 to 17.3.94
5. Shri R. S. Mane	21.2.94 to 17.3.94
6. Shri Ram Naik	29.3.94 & 30.3.94 and 18.4.94 to 13.5.94
7. Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha	18.4.94 to 13.5.94"

Is it the pleasure of the House that leave as recommended by the Committee be granted?

12.34 ¼ hrs.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBRES: Yes.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

Sixty-Fifth Report

MR. SPEAKER: The leave is granted. The Members will be informed accordingly.

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT (Agra): Sir, I beg to present the Sixty-Fifth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Public Accounts Commit-

tee relating to Central Pollution Control
Board-Audit Review.

[English]

12.35 hrs.

[English]

12.34 ½ hrs.

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON
COMMUNICATIONS**

Sixth Report and Minutes

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly):
Sir I beg to present the Sixth Report
(Hindi and English versions) of the Stand-
ing Committee on Communications on
Ministry of Communications—Demands
for Grants (1994-95) and the Minutes of
the Sittings of the Committee relating
thereto.

[English]

12.34 ¾ hrs.

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS**

Fourteenth Report

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE
(Jhalawar): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table
a copy (Hindi and English versions) of the
Fourteenth Report of the Standing Com-
mittee on Science and Technology, Envi-
ronment and Forests on the Detailed
Demands for Grants (1994-95) of the
Department of Electronics.

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON
TRANSPORT AND TOURISM**

Tenth Report

SHRI IMCHALEMBA (Nagaland): I
beg to lay the Tenth Report (Hindi and
English versions) of the Department Re-
lated Paliamentary Standing Committee
on Transport and Tourism on Demands
for Grants 1994-95 of the Ministry of
Surface.

[English]

12.36 hrs.

**BUSINESS ADVISORY
COMMITTEE**

Thirty-Ninth Report

THE MINISTER OF WATER RE-
SOURCESS AND MINISTER OF PAR-
LIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA-
CHARAN SHUKLA): I beg to move:-

"That this House do agree with the
Thirty-Ninth Report of the Business
Advisory Committee presented to
the House on the 22nd April, 1994,
excluding item Nos. (1) and (2) of
paragraph 2 of the Report since
disposed of by the House."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the
Thirty-ninth Report of the Business
Advisory Committee presented to
the House on the 22nd April, 1994,

excluding Item Nos. (1) and (2) of paragraph 2 of the Report since disposed of by the House."

The motion was adopted.

this year too while sanctioning new projects. There is no substantial allocation for any new project. And even where allocations were made in the past they are seldom implemented in time. This has resulted in escalation of costs and undue delay.

[English]

12.37 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) Need for immediate setting up of a Regional Passport Office at Kottayam, Kerala

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam): Lakhs of passport applications are pending in the three passport offices in Kerala. viz. Trivendrum, Cochin and Calicut. The inordinate delay in getting a passport is causing lot of hardships to the job seekers outside the country. The inadequacy of staff and large number of passport applications pending processing are the reasons for delay. Therefore the people of Kerala are demanding setting up of a new Passport Office at Kottayam. This will help the people of Kottayam, Idukki and Pathanamthitta Districts. Hence, I request the Central Government to take urgent steps for setting up a Regional Passport Office at Kottayam.

(ii) Need for early construction of a railway line between Angamaly-Kumaly and Madurai, through Idukki district, Kerala

SHRI PALA K. M. MATHEW (Idukki): There is a general feeling among the people of Kerala that the State has been given a raw deal by the Railways

I request that backward areas of Kerala, like Idukki, should be given special consideration by the Railways. A new line from Angamaly to Kumaly to Madurai through the middle of Idukki district is urgently required. This should be sanctioned with a time-bound programme for completion.

I urge upon the Government that the proposed new lines for Kerala should be sanctioned only with a carefully worked out time-frame and stipulated date for completion. I request the Minister to consider this in the current year itself.

(iii) Need to run special trains between Kerala and Delhi during the ensuing summer season

[Translation]

*SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Palghat): Sir, special trains used to be run between Kerala and Delhi every year during the summer season. This used to help reduce the unprecedented rush during this season. But this year no decision has so far been taken to run special trains to Kerala. The reason for this may be that the Nizamuddin-Mangalore Express has been introduced. Although, this train has been introduced, this could not help to reduce the summer rush. Even now, no reservation is available on the Kerala Express for the next one-and-a-half months. The passengers usually get the response "No Room

Available*. I request the Government that in order to save the passengers from such hardships the following steps may kindly be taken:

- (1) Special summer trains may be run between Kerala and Delhi as is done every year.
- (2) Surprise checks should be undertaken at the Reservation counters to avoid foul play.
- (3) Strengthen the machinery to identify the touts and punish them.

(iv) Need to open a Navodaya Vidyalaya at Saharsa in Bihar

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV (Saharasa): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Saharasa district is the most backward district of Bihar. Due to lack of educational facilities, the number of illiterates have increased considerably there. The main reason for its backwardness is the frequent fury of floods and drought in this area. On account of this, the people are living in poverty and they face great difficulty in giving education to their children.

Therefore, I request the Union Government that in order to impart cheaper education to the children, of Saharasa which is a commissioner also, orders for opening a Navodaya Vidyalaya have without any delay may be issued so that the people may provide the facility of proper education to their children and this area may make progress in the field of education.

(v) Need to lay railway line between Rishikesh and Karnprayag in Garhwal region of Uttar Pradesh

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (Garhwal): Mr. Speaker, Sir since independence, about

Rs. 46000 crore have been spent so far on expansion of railway network but the amount spent on expansion and survey of railway line in Garhwal region has been inadequate. Around 1930, a railway station was constructed at Kotdwar (Garhwal) but till date steam engines are being used on this line through during British rule, a survey for laying a railway line between Rishikesh and Karnprayag was conducted, there has been a sea-change in the technology. Therefore, there is an urgent need to conduct another survey for laying a railway line in this area.

Therefore, I request the Union Government that immediate arrangements for laying railway lines from Rishikesh to Karnprayag and other places may be made so that the Garhwal region which is a 'no-industry' and backward area may be developed.

(vi) Need for early construction of a bridge over river Shil-Torsa on National Highway No. 31, Jalpaiguri, West Bengal

[English]

SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS (Jalpaiguri): I like to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that there is an urgent need for construction of a bridge over the river, SHIL-TORSA on NH-31 at Falakata, Jalpaiguri, West Bengal. It is a long-standing demand of the people not only of Jalpaiguri but also of the North Eastern India. A number of representations were made to the Union Government on this pressing matter but to no avail. This bridge will play a vital role in improving communication system in North Eastern India. The people of this area are very much agitated on this issue. Under these circumstances, I urge upon the Government to take immediate measures for the construction of the aforesaid bridge.

(vii) **Need to accord sanction to the proposal of Bihar Government for declaration of new National Highways in the State**

[Translation]

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI (Sitamarhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the total length of National Highways in Bihar is 2,118 kilometres which is far less than the length of highways in other states. Since 1974 that is even after a period of about 20 years, no sanction for construction of new National Highways in the state has been accorded, whereas during this period several thousand kilometres of new National Highways have been constructed in other states of the country. The National Development Council had recommended to declare six roads covering a total length of 1000 kilometres as National Highways but the Union Government has not taken any decision in this regard so far. In 1990, a proposal for declaring certain roads in Patna, Muzaffarpur, Sitamarhi, Sursand and Bhithamor, with a total length of about 1400 kilometres, as National Highways was sent to the Union Government for approval, but it is still pending with the Government.

Therefore, I request the Union Government that for a backward state like Bihar, approval for National Road Construction Scheme for a construction of roads on a large scale may be accorded so that it could help in the development of that area.

12.44 hrs

GENERAL BUDGET, 1994-95
GENERAL DISCUSSION

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now we take up further General Discussion on the Budget (General) for 1994-95.

The General Discussion on the Budget has taken place for 30 hours and 21 minutes. The time allotted was ten hours only and all the Parties which were given in the time had consumed the time which was allotted to them. All the same, the views of some of the leaders of the Parties also should be heard on this and we would like to know those views.

I think, at about 5 p.m. it should be possible for the Finance Minister to reply to the General Discussion on the Budget. Up to that time, we will allow the Members to make their views known to us.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Bombay—South Central): Sir, I want to speak on this.

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow you. But you make your points very briefly.

Now Shrimati Dil Kumari Bhandari will speak.

Shri Indrajit Gupta, would you like to speak in the afternoon?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): Sir, if you permit me, I will speak.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Vajpayee also wants to speak. Shri Somnath Chatterjee also wants to speak on this.

Now, I call Shrimati Dil Kumari Bhandari to speak.

SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI (Sikkim): Mr. Speaker, Sir, every year when the hon. Finance Minister presents his Budget Speech, I always come to this august House with a strong hope that at least this year the hon. Finance Minister would be a little liberal and generous to the people of the hills

and the Himalayan regions of India, in terms of budgetary relief and allocation and devolution of financial resources. But all these years, I have gone back to my home State, Sikkim, with shattered aspirations and with a feeling of severe alienation.

12.46 hrs

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

However, being the lone representative of the people of Sikkim, I cannot remain shattered and unheard. I am constrained to say that nothing has been done for removal of regional imbalances in the country. The hill areas of India, constituting about twelve per cent of the total geographical area and six per cent of the national population, have been neglected all these years. The socio-economic composition and also the development pattern have been lopsided even after independence of our country, accelerating the process of impoverishment inequality and hardships in the hill areas or the hilly regions.

Hilly regions, right from Jammu and Kashmir up to Arunachal Pradesh, including Sikkim, are industrially backward. You would kindly agree with me, Sir, that these regions can very well be used for promotion of various value-added industries. The regions have the much required dust-free atmosphere, but we do not have adequate infrastructures and accessible raw materials and we lack in proper incentives to both the local entrepreneurs as well as the entrepreneurs from outside. I am again at pains to point out that the hon. Finance Minister has completely ignored the interests of the hill States, like Sikkim, in announcing duty relief and other incentives to the entrepreneurs who have initiated ventures in such inhospitable

terrains. It is heartening to note the hon. Finance Minister's announcement that the five years tax holiday, to new investment in the industrially backward States, like Sikkim, announced in the last year's budget, would also be extended to other backward districts which were not covered last year. This concession has had some palpable impact on the State like Sikkim. Investments are pouring in but again, in the absence of effective infrastructure, the take off is very dismal. Against this background, may I make a humble suggestion to the hon. Finance Minister that hill States in India and Sikkim in Particular, should be given special duty relief in terms of import of raw materials and in the process of production and marketing, for at least the next few years to come. They should involve new sector like infrastructure electronics, semi-conductors, software and traditional sectors like carpets and handicrafts, which have huge export potential.

All said and done, the best set in a hill State has always been the service sector and most importantly tourism. This is one sector which has not only shown ample promise but also ability to absorb the increasing challenges of unemployment. The hon. Finance Minister would kindly agree with me when I propose that this sector should no more remain in the hands of the Government alone. The private sector should be encouraged to join in wherever it is worth. This should be more so in a State like Sikkim because of the lack of both infrastructural and Financial resources with the State Government.

Our experience in the State has been that unless we extend certain unilateral incentives the private sector always shies away from participation. For example, in the tourism sector also whenever the State Government extended certain attractive incentives, the

[Shrimati Dil Kumari Bhandari]

dearth of the private sector participation has never been recorded.

But, if I may say so the State Governments alone cannot do such promotional activities. To a great extent it is your policies, hon. Finance Minister, that determine the upswings and downswings in the service sector activities. May I, therefore, request the Finance Minister to announce a new incentive policy that would involve the entire services sectors in the hill States?

Sir, I would be failing in any duty if I do not put on record of the hardships the people of my State, Sikkim, have been subjected to due to the pre-Budget and post-Budget price hike of essential commodities. More than anything else. I believe the degree of adverse impact has been much higher and serious in Sikkim than on many other States. This is because of the very difficult terrains we have in Sikkim along with other features like poor infrastructure and our square dependence on other neighbouring States. In fact, the increase in the food price along with the hike in petroleum prices has cascading effect on the overall inflation on which the State Government has no control.

The impact of the quantum hike of prices, of late, has taken a serious turn into political violence by the anti-social elements in Sikkim which, otherwise, can boast of being the most peaceful State in the country.

^ Sir, last but not the least, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Finance Minister to a very disturbed situation in Sikkim. Sir, while thanking you for exempting the Bhutias and Lepchas from the provisions of Central Income-tax

laws as proposed in your 1994-95 Budget. I would like to draw your kind attention to a very serious implication of the extension of Central Income-tax laws to Sikkim with effect from 1995.

I hope, Sir, you have been receiving a lot of representations from all sections of the people of Sikkim and recently the former Chief Minister, Shri Kazi Lendung Dorzi, who was the architect of merger of Sikkimese people with the Indian Union, has also given his representation to this effect.

Sir, you are aware that Sikkim, though not in the North Eastern Council of States, is one of the most backward States of the Indian Union and has a very different politico-historical setting when it became a constituent State of India in 1975. It is a well-known fact that the agitation of 1973 against the Chogyal was a product of the economic frustrations of the vast majority combining all ethnic groups. In fact the ethnic issues have been so vital to the society and polity of Sikkim that even the then Maharaja of Sikkim, time and again, brought forward various policies to safeguard the social and economic interests of the three major ethnic groups, namely Bhutias, Lepchas and Nepalese.

I will speak in detail when I get a chance to speak on the Finance Bill. But, may I request the hon. Finance Minister, through you, Sir, to kindly reconsider his decision and exempt the ethnic Sikkimese of Nepali origin also from the Central Income-tax rules?

With this request I thank you for giving me time to speak.

SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HANDIQUÉ
(Jorhat): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise

to support the Budget of 1994-95. All through these four Budgets in consecutive years, a definite pattern and a philosophy has been emerging into shape. You will remember, the first Budget of this Government, in 1991-92, was presented at a time when the country was passing through a deep financial crisis. Survival was then the keynote. In the 1992-93 Budget, economic viability superseded the economic expansion since the series of structural reforms measures were the need of the hour to save and tone up the economy even with the harsh consequence and pain in its wake. In the 1993-94 Budget there was somehow a breakthrough. Things were picking up as a result of these reforms. Development and economic expansion of services to the community and matters academic made their presence felt.

But the budget of 1994-95 however burst upon the economic scenario with a boldness, a boldness that sweeps critics off their feet. This boldness is not born out of desperation, but out of mature thinking and strategy at the heart of which lies the Government's commitment to socio-economic growth and objective.

Sir, it is interesting to note that in the context of massive surges in reserves and fiscal deficit an argument has been put forward that the budget focusses more attention on the aspect of destabilisation than structural adjustment. It appears, no doubt, on the surface that the expenditure supersedes revenue receipts. But this is too simplistic a way to look at the points at issue. The optimism of the Finance Minister that the supply side will respond handsomely to the stimulus and that revenue buoyancy will make up the reduced rates is not just a facile and idle optimism. It needs to be viewed in depth.

Sir, one school of opinion rightly comments like this:

"The real problem is not so much in the quantitative dimension of the fiscal indicators as with the qualitative dimension, that is, the structural expenditure and revenue and financing of the budget. It is the quality of revenue mobilisation as well as the expenditure strategy that must cause concern not so much the quantity of resources or expenditure."

I am not saying that the quantity does not matter. Quantity does matter, but it is not an overriding concern in a developing economy saddled with debts, troubled about inflation and yearning for equitable growth. It is in this context that the Finance Minister said in the course of his speech that fiscal experts are unanimous that it is possible to reduce the rates and yet mobilise additional revenues by improving tax administration and compliance. We have to bear in mind that in the present economic situation, strict adherence to the dogma of fiscal stabilisation would have stifled industrial growth. So, it boils down to this question. Shall we let the theory of fiscal stabilisation dictate things and let the prospect of socio-economic growth go on the rocks? No Government committed to the socio-economic cause can leave the entire issue of economic benefits to the poor to the market. Our Prime Minister has repeatedly asserted that the ultimate aim of the reforms is to reach the poor so that in the process the lot of the poor improves and in that journey to the goal, we have given much latitudes and concessions to the industrial sector to ensure a rapid growth with a tax system that provides potential for saving and thereby investment and increasing the ability to take risks, corporate tax has been raised to 40

[Shri Bijoy Krishna Handique]

per cent and import duty has come down to a maximum of 65 per cent. So, it is for the industry to grow or perish. But rural development can never wait. Let us take an illustration on this point from the budget of 1994-95. Rural development is on top priority in the national agenda for the Government. If the Government has to wait for fiscal stabilisation, a mere structural concept, the rural development today would have been in the cold storage, thus giving the go-by to people's aspirations. So, in contrast to his earlier budgets, the Finance Minister has augmented the Plan outlay for the social sector by 17.4 per cent. Rural outlay has been increased by 40 per cent. Emphasis is on rural development, education, health and family welfare.

Sir, in several concessions that have been given to the rural sector, the Finance Minister has proposed Rs. 2,200 crore for food subsidy and Rs. 900 crore for fertiliser subsidy. The outlay for the department has been increased from Rs. 5,010 crore in the last year's budget to Rs. 7,010 crore this year. In 1992-93, it was Rs. 3,100 crore. For the next Employment Assurance Scheme which is being implemented in 1,752 identified blocks, an outlay of Rs. 1,200 crore has been provided as compared to Rs. 600 crore last year.

13.00 hrs.

The allocation of Jawahar Rozgar Yojana has been enhanced by Rs. 545 crores and goes up to Rs. 3,855 crores. These measures form part of the philosophy of the Budget.

What we need to do is to contain the deficit of Rs. 6,000 crores. The revised figure for 1993-94 is Rs. 9,060

crores. It is, no doubt, a very hard task ahead. For, if the actual deficit overtakes the Budget estimates and if the supply side does not respond to the incentives in the Budget, then we no doubt face a grim prospect. It is an onerous and difficult task but definitely not an impossible task. Tighten up your belt in tax administration and compliance, cut down wasteful expenditure to zero and you can still have a spell of growth without taxation despite fiscal deficit. That is the challenge of the situation implicit in the Budget. It is not, however, a permanent deviation from the trend path which is followed in the last three years. It is not the calculation of the Finance Minister that fiscal deficit is no problem. As a matter of fact, the really disturbing dimension of the Budget is the massive increase in fiscal revenue and primary deficit. Against a budgeted figure of Rs. 34,058 crores, the fiscal deficit has shot up to Rs. 32,727 crores. This is, no doubt, a cause for serious concern. Because you will note that the Finance Minister himself has recently in a meeting of the Confederation of Indian industries refocused industry's attention on the massive tax evasion now playing havoc with the Government revenue. There is no doubt that this malaise is the greatest threat and industrialists will have to blame themselves if Government chooses to slap down a penal tax regime. It is also high time that Government constituted a Committee on Expenditure to control Government expenditure and, as suggested by Dr. Chellaiah in one of his recent comments on the Budget, it is rather a calculated risk necessitated by compulsion of circumstances and not gambling, as alleged particularly because deficit is on safe level in view of the 13 billion dollars foreign exchange reserves, current account deficit is at less than 0.5 per cent, moderate inflation rate, comfortable foodgrain stock and expected export growth by 15 per cent in 1994-95. Is not

then this challenge worth taking instead of tinkering with conventional measures, hedging each with a surfeit of pusillanimous cautiousness?

The other point I would like to highlight is the Defence outlay on which I have, however, some reservations. In the international scenario unipolarised, with checks and balances effectively during the bi-polar world having gone, some serious threat perceptions emanate externally and also internally in the form of trans-border terrorism in a bid to destabilise the country. You will remember this is heightened by Pakistan's recent near successful attempt of getting arms supply from America. Because of the last four years resource constraint, armed forces were denied their dues. According to the Director of the Institute for Defence Studies and Analysis, Shri Jasjit Singh, a retired Air Commodore, writing on defence of India, said:—

"The country has allowed defence spending as a proportion of GDP in real terms to slump from slightly over 4 per cent in 1986-87 to a mere 2.44 per cent in the original Budget of 1993-94, a decline of 40 per cent during a period of sluggish economic growth."

So, an increased Defence outlay is not only the answer to the situation but a morale booster to our armed forces. But Defence outlay in this year's Budget, needs a few clarifications as to the size of the funds actually made available. This year's 20 per cent increase in the Defence Budget is not so great in real terms. The increase in absolute figures of Revised Estimates of Rs. 21,500 crores over the Budget Estimates of Rs. 19,180 crores for 1993-94 is 12.1 per cent. This is equal to the inflation rate of 8.5 per cent and growth rate of the economy. In other

words, the defence expenditure as a percentage of GDP will remain the same. The increase in Budget Estimates for 1993-94 is just about seven per cent. Surely, next year's inflation rate and growth rate together will exceed this percentage. Consequently, the Budget Estimates for 1994-95 as they stand will register a decline in percentage. Thus, it appears that the Finance Minister's attempt to provide the Armed Forces with a budget that could meet the minimum of requirements had fallen substantially. You will remember that the Armed Forces had been promised some Rs. 102,000 crores for the Eighth Defence Plan covering the 1990-91 to 1994-95 period. This figure now shows that there is a shortfall of some Rs. 8000 crores in terms of 1990 prices. I hope the Finance Minister will have a second thought on this point.

Before, I conclude, I could refer, in a few sentences, to the outlay for Science and Technology which is down by 2.5 per cent. Compared to the 1993-94 Revised Estimates of Rs. 4395.18 crores, the 1994-95 Budget Estimates come down to Rs. 4235.24 crores. Even the assurances of the Finance Minister in the last year's budget to boost up matters academic particularly, research work, did not make much headway. Research Centres and Universities are still languishing. I hope matters academic, which the hon. Minister himself claims are so dear to him, will not get a short shrift in the coming year too.

There are some instances of taxation which are inexplicable. I will give two instances. One is tax on the soaps. Soap as a typical product of the small-scale industry occupies a major part of our daily life in spite of the superior products of the big companies. It is not only that. The small-scale industries have got a great

[Shri Bijoy Krishna Handique]

role in creating employment opportunities. This protection to small-scale industries has to continue in the interest of creating employment. Otherwise, the nation will face a massive social unrest.

Secondly, there is a 10 per cent tax on the branded ayurvedic medicines. As far as the ayurvedic medicines are concerned, we want them to expand and prosper. At the same time, you will remember that they are the medicines for the common, poor people. But it has been unreasonably taxed. I do not understand why it is taxed. I hope this tax will be withdrawn.

I would just like to refer to the North-Eastern region in a few sentences. In view of the growing decline in the State allocations, I would like the Finance Minister to consider the position of the critical States like those in the North East and a few other States outside this region. Besides, during the last year's Budget, the Finance Minister made an announcement of five years' tax holiday for the North-Eastern region. Many in the whole country thought that it was a great opportunity for us. But we in the North-Eastern region took it cool. For, we knew that there would be no takers. The reason is obvious. In a region where there is no industrial infrastructure, the five years' tax holiday is no attraction at all. By the time the entrepreneurs build it up from a scratch, that five years' will fly off. So, they are back in the square in respect of taxation. So, unless it is 10 years' tax holiday with Government's some positive steps in creating infrastructure, such concessions would remain just a cosmetic application to the ills of the region.

In conclusion, Sir, you know the hon. Finance Minister represents the

North-Eastern region in this Parliament. I hope, he knows by now what ails this region, what hurts the sentiments of the people of this region and what pains the awareness that they have yet to find an assured place in the map of national development. I hope, the hon. Finance Minister will rise to the occasion as he represents the North-Eastern region.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Bombay—South Central): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Congress Government has prepared the current budget keeping in view the forth coming Lok Sabha elections. No attention has been paid in it to the common people, the workers, the peasants, the unemployed and the Government employees. On the other hand, special attention has been paid and facilities given to big industrialists, the affluent classes, the NRIs and the foreign companies. India's independence has been mortgaged with the IMF and the World Bank by bowing to their dictates and decreasing the customs duty on many items. The Congress Government has deviated from all traditions regarding presentation of budget in the Parliament because 28th February is the day fixed for budget presentation but this Government made a pre-budget increase in the prices of foodgrains, petrol and other essential commodities, thus rendering the presentation of budget itself irrelevant. The Government has announced in this budget that no new taxes will be imposed but the Congress Party wants to take political advantage out of it. Through this budget, the Government is collecting donation from the industrialists for funding the next elections. The Government has reduced many taxes in favour of industrialists but they have not allowed the benefits of these facilities reach the common people, similarly, despite decreasing the prices of certain items by the Government, their prices in the

market have not come down. There is no impact of this decrease in the market.

The hon. Finance Minister's budget speech does not give any indication as to how the prices would be controlled.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as per the report of the Auditor General, an expenditure of Rs. 13,937.77 crores incurred upto 1988 under the head Petrol has not been shown anywhere in the budget. I cannot understand as to where did that money go? The Government should fix the price of petrol between Rs. 4 and 5 per liter because the Government has collected Rs. 5,008.37 crores by imposing Oil Development cess for 28 years. The Oil Board should have given this amount to the Industry Board but it has not been given to the latter. Nobody knows as to where did the Government spend that money? On the one hand, the Government is looting the poor and on the other it is increasing the prices of petrol, as a result of which the prices of all other commodities are shooting up.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government also earns profit in transport. It earned Rs. 8,052.85 crores from the transport sector. I want the whole matter to be investigated. Today, this Government is looting us and I do not understand as to how will it control the prices when, tomorrow, foreign companies enter the country? The Government should clarify the exact position in the House.

The condition of mill workers in Bombay city has worsened due to the anti-mill worker policy of the Government. At the time of nationalisation of NTC mills, the Government had made a commitment to protect the employment of the workers but in practice, it is not being done so. Many NTC mills are lying closed today and about 70,000 workers have been

rendered jobless Where shall they go? This Government is not ready to restore employment to them despite the Supreme Court's ruling to this effect. The Government gives Rs. one crore only to the NTC for repair of 120 mills all over the country but it gives Rs. 300 crore to meet the requirement of the VRS scheme meant for retrenching the workers. I was also there in the tripartite committee of NTC, Bombay in which it was decided that no mill would be allowed to become sick and closed down.

But the decision was taken to close NTC mills in total disregard of the decision taken on 9th instance. The premises of these mills worth crores of rupees are being sold out and this Central Government is pushing our Marathi people out.

The Government of Maharashtra has proposed to give 50 per cent equity capital in order to run these NTC mills on Co-operative basis and has asked the Central Government to give 40 per cent capital. I would, therefore, request the Government to give the 40 per cent equity asked for in order to save lives of the workers who are ready to contribute the rest of 10 per cent.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government is not supplying cotton to them and in reply to my queries in the tripartite meeting and in the Parliamentary Consultative Committee to this effect, they said that they would indulge in corruption if cotton was supplied to them. I cannot understand what type of Government they are running? The mills are not getting raw material due to which many workers are sitting idle. I would, therefore, request the Government to seriously consider the Government of Maharashtra's proposal of permitting these mills to be run on co-operative basis and accept the same so that the poor workers may make both ends meet.

[Shri Mohan Rawale]

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the deficit of Rs. 6000 crores shown in 1994-95 has been deliberately shown on lower side. Last year's budget deficit was less and it was said that it would come to Rs. 9060 crores instead of an estimated Rs. 4314 crores. In fact, this deficit would not be less than Rs. 15000 crores and its burden will fall on the poor and the general masses. The Government will go on increasing the prices everytime in the same manner. The prices of essential commodities increased by 8.1 per cent in 1993-94. In 1992, the increase was to the tune of 2.5 per cent. The prices of wheat increased by 8.1 per cent that of rice by 6.9 per cent, vegetables 39.1 per cent, onion 147.7 per cent, tea 7.5 per cent, coffee 28.3 per cent, meat 9.8 per cent and spices 24 per cent. Where is Governments' election promise of reducing the prices within 90 days. This Government believes in giving slogans but does not implement them.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Income Tax worth crores of rupees is outstanding against the big people which should be collected from them, so that there is no need to impose more and more taxes.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, finally, I would like to say that a theft of Rs. 66 crore had taken place in Igatpuri. The Government had later agreed that the theft was of Rs. 2 crores only. I have a written proof with me but it has not been known till date as to where did that money go? Petrol was drained out of wagons. There was a big scandal. We had raised a hue and cry over this in this House. The scandal was published in the newspapers but what happened to the stolen petrol is not known to anybody.

Ships from abroad are procured for breaking in India. No cargo can be

brought in those ships destined for India as per the rules. But some mischievous people give very high bids in order to procure those ships from abroad and bring cargo in them. By this, the Government suffers loss of customs duty on the one hand and on the other, the genuine people engaged in ship breaking industry are not able to procure these ships. I shall cite an example of this.

Messers N.G. Industrial Services Private Limited with its office at 208, Tulsiani Chambers, Nariman Point, Bombay procured ships from abroad for the purpose of ship-breaking out brought 150 containers in one ship, M.V. Ocean Blessing,' containing contraband goods worth Rs. 200 crores. There were explosives also in it. That ship was harboured at the old Mangalore port in the State of Karnataka. That company is engaged in such activities. Written complaints from different parties were sent to the Government umpteen times to this effect but the Government turned a deaf ear to those and that company is making strides in this illegal business. It is obvious that many officers are involved in it. The Government should initiate a full-fledged enquiry into this matter and find out the source of money mobilised for the purpose.

Mazhgaon Docks, a Public Limited Company, had a contract of Rs. 760 crores of Bombay High Shore. That contract was awarded to Larson and Tubro, a limited company in tandem with the high officials because they gave lower quotations. There are 150 labourers in the Mazhgaon Docks working on temporary basis and they have not been made permanent for the last 10 years. They are being laid off presently for want of work.

About 60 lakh people live in the slums of Bombay. Rs. 17,944 crores in the shape of taxes are collected from

Bombay city. We should get 10 per cent of that amount for the repairs of old houses and improvement of slums. As many as 300 families migrate to Bombay every day.

I thank you for granting me time to speak.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned for lunch to reassemble at 2.20 p.m.

13.21 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Twenty Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[English]

14.20 hrs.

At 14.20 hours quorum bell was rung. No quorum was made. At 14.23 hours quorum bell was rung again and no quorum was made. At 14.26 hours once again quorum bell was rung and no quorum was made.

14.31 hrs

ANNOUNCEMENT RE: ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE TILL 14.45 HRS. FOR LACK OF QUORUM

SECRETARY-GENERAL: There is no quorum. So, the House cannot meet. We cannot start the House till there is quorum. Honourable Speaker has directed that the House will meet at 2.45 P.M.

The Lok Sabha reassembled at Forty Seven Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[Translation]

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have to make a submission. The whole Cabinet keeps away from the House and quorum is not complete. It is waste of time. This is a blot on the Parliamentary system and this is being done frequently. This time too, barring 1-2 Ministers, the rest are absent. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, kindly give a ruling on it.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is being done under a conspiracy since the time Shri Mallikarjun has taken over as the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): There is no conspiracy. It is the usual trend. In fact, if every Member of Parliament feels that it is his responsibility to attend the House, it is obligatory on his part to attend the House as people's representative, then there is no problem. But, nobody can say anything to an Hon. Member of Parliament. He is supreme and all pervading.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Does it mean that he is justifying the mass absence of the Council of Ministers from the House? (*Interruptions*)

[Shri Bhogendra Jha]

[Translation]

Mr. Deputy Speaker, kindly give your ruling on it.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Everybody has taken note of it.

[English]

GENERAL BUDGET 1994-95—
GENERAL DISCUSSION—Contd.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House will now take up further discussion on the Budget (General) for 1994-95. Prof. K. Venkatagiri Gowda.

PROF. K. VENKATAGIRI GOWDA (Bangalore South): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir. I rise to speak on the Union Budget for this year presented by the Finance Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh on the 20th February, 1994. This Budget is historic. This is historic in the sense that it opens new vistas of macro-economic management of the economy. This is the fourth Budget of Dr. Manmohan Singh. I am sure he is going to present two more Budgets during the Tenth Lok Sabha. In doing so he will be equalling, if not excelling, the distinguished record set by Sir C.D. Deshmukh in the early fifties when he presented six Budgets to the Parliament.

The Budget has evoked many varied reactions. Some say, it is pro-inflationary or pro-cyclical, others say it is not so. Prices have risen now, they are only seasonal and they are bound to come down to the single digit level. Some say it is pro-growth, others say it is anti-poor. So some of these reactions are

scientific, some are ideological and some are blatantly idiosyncratic. India is a democracy where everybody has got the right to express his or her opinion on the Budget. It is not done in order to make comments on these opinions or reactions. When Dr. Manmohan Singh assumed office as the Finance Minister in 1991, he inherited a hopeless economic mess. Inflation was raging at 17.5 per cent. The fiscal deficit was 8.4 per cent of GDP. The exports were sluggish. The imports were surging. The payment deficit was of the order of 3 per cent of the GDP. The external debt and the internal debt were rising. There was poverty in the country. According to the UNDP Report, there are 42 crores of people who are poor in the country, of them 25 crores of people are extraordinarily poor wallowing dust, dirt and destitution. This was the inheritance of Dr. Manmohan Singh. But he has been able to weather the storm and place the economy on the road to progress, on the road to economic growth. When this scenario was there, Dr. Manmohan Singh made good with the assistance of his Cabinet colleagues and Prime Minister to adopt new economic reform measures and they are on the way. It is hoped that the economic reform measures will be successful in course of time.

The Budget is a mixture of excitement, expectations and apprehensions. It is excitement because it attempts to rationalise and simplify the Indian tax structure based on the Chelliah Report so as to make it pro-growth. The Income-tax exemption limit has been raised from Rs. 30,000 to Rs. 35,000. The taxpayers are left with more disposable income which they can consume or invest. In either case aggregate demand rises to ward off the ongoing recession in the economy. The Corporate tax rate was reduced from 51.5 per cent to 40 per cent. This will leave the Corporations with more resourc-

es for technological upgradation and modernisation of industries at the same time the lending rate was reduced 15 per cent to 14 per cent, by one per cent. This will enable the Corporations and Companies to borrow more and spend more on investment. This will also enable the consumers to borrow more and spend more on consumption. These are necessary to ward off the ongoing recession. At the same time the Finance Minister has reduced the Customs Duty. This will promote the import-intensive exports. This will help to bridge the balance of payments' gap. He has also reduced the excise duties in order to make goods cheaper. Last year, the excise duties were reduced and he wanted the industries to pass them on to the consumers in the form of lower prices. When they did not do it, he had said that the concessions would be withdrawn. Then they obliged. This year also he has reduced the excise duties in an attempt to reduce the market price of goods. This is done in order to raise the demand for goods. This will help to remedy the ongoing recession in the economy.

It is expected that unemployment would be mitigated; it is expected that poverty would come down; it is expected that the rate of economic growth will rise from the present level of 3.5 per cent to 5.5 per cent. At the same time, there are also several apprehensions. One of the main apprehensions is that the balance of payment crisis would increase the prices. The inflation which was 3 per cent in 1991, now it is 5 per cent. The apprehension is that now the deficit may rise again because of domestic inflation. The other apprehension is the danger of inflation. The inflation was 17.5 per cent in 1990-91. Thanks to the competent economic management of the economy by Dr. Manmohan Singh. The rate of inflation came down to 7.5 per cent in August; but

since then, it has begun to rise, and at present it is 10.52 per cent. This was due to several factors. Before the Budget, there was a rise in sugar prices; there was a rise in wheat prices; there was a rise in the price of LPG cylinder. Again there is a rise in the railway fare and freight charges; it has a castigating effect on inflation. The apprehension is that it may rise further. But the Finance Minister says that the rise in the inflation rate is due to seasonal factors which are only temporary; and when these factors become weak, the inflation rate would revert back to the single digit zone. Let us hope that it will do so and the Finance Minister will be proved right.

The budget deficit is of the order of Rs. 6000 crores. The fiscal deficit is of the order of Rs. 55,000 crores; and these two deficits will certainly push up the inflation rate. But the Finance Minister says that because of growth in the economy, the tax yield will increase and it will help reduce the fiscal deficit and the budget deficit. It is hoped that he will be proved right.

The balance of payment deficit has come down to .5 per cent. It was 3 per cent 2½ years ago. It is hoped that export would rise and import would come down. When he took over as Finance Minister, the foreign exchange reserves were 1.1 billion dollars enough to meet two week import; but now they have risen 15 billion dollars. The Government is contemplating investment of these reserves in foreign government securities and commercial bank assets; and at the same time, the Government should also use these two reserves to repay high cost of external debt for if the foreign exchange reserves remain at this level, they contribute to monetary expansion, which is inflationary. To reduce the monetary expansion, it is

[Prof. K. Venkatagiri Gowda]

15.00 hrs.

necessary to reduce the holding of foreign exchange reserve to a reasonable level.

There is black money in the country; it is of the order of Rs. 1,70,000 crores. Many politicians and bureaucrats and industrialists accumulate vast sums of black money and black assets. They are un-accounted money on which no tax is paid; and this black money is fuelling inflation and defying restrictive fiscal and monetary policies. The Reserve Bank of India may raise the lending rate in order to curb borrowing and spending and reducing inflation. But the borrowers avoid going to the banks and they go to the parallel economy to borrow and spend with the result that despite the rise in the lending rate, spending will not fall and the rate of inflation continues unabated.

The defence budget should be stepped up. It is true that in this budget, defence spending has been raised from Rs. 21,000 crores to Rs. 23,000 crores; but owing to rising inflation, there is a fall in the real defence expenditure. India is within the ring of fire surrounded by hostile neighbours. Pakistan is sore with India on the Kashmir issue. China is sore with India on the border issue; Nepal is sore with India on the issue of immigration of Indian nationals to that country. Bangladesh is sore with India on the Chakma refugees and sharing of Ganga water. Sri Lanka is sore with India on the LTTE issue. The only country which is friendly with India is Maldives. But even in the event of war between India and Pakistan, the ethnic consideration may make Maldives side with Pakistan. It is, therefore, necessary for India to be prepared for any eventuality in the event of war especially between her and any of its neighbours.

Now there is no clear nuclear policy in India. Pakistan has become a nuclear power. It is utilising it to its nuclear potential. At the same time, China has become a great nuclear power, but India has not yet placed itself on the road to nuclear proliferation.

India has refused rightly to sign the NPT, unless this NPT covers Asian regions including Pakistan and China. Therefore, India should make efforts to produce nuclear bombs, not to attack Pakistan or China but in self-defence because in the early 50s Churchill propounded the doctrine of defence through deterrence. If India has got nuclear weapons, other countries will not have the courage to attack India. It is, therefore, necessary for India to draw a clear nuclear policy and produce nuclear bombs, keeps them ready so that they may be launched on any country which makes efforts to attack it. Therefore, it is necessary for India to increase its defence expenditure and also produce nuclear bombs so that India may be safe in the context of hostile neighbours.

Now there is a question of subsidy on fertilizers. The World Bank and the IMF are against subsidies. I do not know why? The American farmers are getting subsidies on farm output. European countries are also giving subsidies to their farmers but these two institutions are against Indian Government giving subsidy to Indian farmers.

Suppose the fertilizer subsidy is withdrawn, the fertilizer prices rise. When these rise the research findings show that when the fertilizer prices rise the demand for fertilizer and the input falls, with the result yield falls. When farm yield falls,

farm export falls and at the same time the food prices rise. When the food prices rise there will be rise in wages and rise in wages generates two inflations—demand pulls and cost push. Therefore, it is necessary for India to continue fertilizer subsidy for some more time.

India is not yet a market economy but is on the road to it. So, before India becomes full fledged market economy, it is necessary for the Indian Government to give subsidy to farmers. Now the point is the Indian economy has built in to it two crises—the inflationary crisis and the balance of payment crisis. These two crises were gifts made by Nehru to India in 1956 when he launched the Second Five Year Plan. We hope that next Budget will cure the inflation crisis; will cure the payments crisis; will support economic growth; will reduce poverty; and will generate employment so that India may become a heaven; India may become a happy country to live in.

I hope that Shri Manmohan Singh will devise the next Budget in order to remedy inflation, remedy payment deficit; in order to remove poverty and generation employment. I hope he will do it next time.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South): Sir, I rise to support the Union Budget 1994-95 and I must congratulate the Finance Ministry for their excellent performance.

Sir, it is a most unique feature that Dr. Manmohan Singh has presented the Union Budget for four successive years. The Union Budget of 1994-95 therefore, presents a coherence, continuation and an approach to an economic goal which was outlined by the Finance Minister in June 1991, when the Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao, Leader of the Congress Party assumed the charge of the Government.

When the present Government took over the administration the country was on the throes of grim economic crisis and you know, the Finance Minister had to address himself to these challenges by bold and decisive steps to retrace the situation and the economy showed speedy signs of recovery with the result that our foreign exchange reserves showed substantial increase and the rate of inflation was brought down within a reasonable level. In 1991, the inflation was about 17 per cent. But within the hat dropping of the Finance Ministry and the officials it came down to 7 per cent.

But now the inflation rate has gone up to about 10.5 per cent. So, I request the Government to look into this and ensure that the inflation rate does not go up again. When it had come down in the year 1992-93 to seven per cent, how has it gone up again to 10.5 per cent? The Government has to look into this matter.

Coming to price rise, there is price rise. If we go to the market we find that in every market there is a different type of price rise; specially the prices of sugar, wheat, rice, edible oils, vegetables, all essential commodities have risen. I know that there is an Essential Commodities Act. But I do not know why there is no unanimous policy. In some States some prices have risen. In Delhi also it is so.

In our State last week the price of sugar was Rs. 10 per kg. but this week it has gone up to Rs. 15. I do not know the reason. I request the Government to look into the matter seriously because if the prices rise, it is the common people that will suffer. That is why the Government should control the price rise immediately so that the common people do not suffer.

The Government must convene a meeting of the Chief Ministers and other

[Kumari Mamata Banerjee]

Ministers who are concerned with this subject and take some concrete steps so that the prices do not go up. Because, it is a fact that before the presentation of the Budget the prices of LPG, petrol and other things were increased and again the prices should not increase.

It is also a fact that in the Budget the Plan assistance from the Centre to the States has been increased from Rs. 18,010 crore to Rs. 19,304 crore in spite of the fiscal deficit being estimated at six per cent of the GDP. The outlays for the State Plans have been increased by 13 per cent, from Rs. 41,251 crore to Rs. 46,582 crore.

It is also a fact that the Central Government is giving maximum importance to rural development and rural areas. Forty per cent of the Budget provision is given for Rural Development Programmes. That is very welcome. I must welcome it. At the same time, the Government have been given Rs. 1200 crore for the Employment Assurance Scheme for the unemployed youth and the Government have also increased the funds for Jawahar Rozgar Yojana from Rs. 3855 crore to Rs. 5,500 crore. But I request the Government to see what is happening in our country now-a-days. It is a fact that our friends in the Opposition will criticise the Government because they are not in power. Simply just for the sake of criticising they criticise the Government, to politicise issues.

15.09 hrs.

[SHRIMATI SANTOSH CHOWDHARY in the Chair]

Normally what happens now-a-days is whatever the Government gives, 50 per

cent of the funds—I do not know whether they are being spent in the district for development works or due to the proper monitoring system or due to corruption or whatever it is—are not properly utilised. The funds are misused like anything.

Take, for example, the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana. As the Central Government is assisting the State Governments, the Government has to see whether those funds are being properly utilised or not. In my State I have seen—it is reported—that funds to the tune of Rs. 80 lakh allocated to a project were missing. There is no information as to whether the money has gone. It is reported that in North 24 Paraganas District of West Bengal in a place called Bashirhat the District Magistrate himself had written a letter to the Chief Minister that there was no trace of those funds. That is going on. (*Interruptions*)

If I am wrong, they can bring a privilege motion against me. But if I am not wrong the Government must look into the matter. I am not politicising the matter. The fact remains that the funds meant for Rural Development should be utilised properly because, the Government is giving funds for NREP, RLEGP, DRDP, for Self-employment Schemes Programme, for the Employment Assurance Programme, for Indira Awas Yojana, for Jawahar Rozgar Yojana and the Nehru Rozgar Yojana.

I am telling you, if I am not wrong, fifty per cent of the funds is either misused or there is no trace of that money. I have asked a specific question, whether these funds in some areas have been utilised properly or not. The reply was very horrible. The Ministers do not give the reply. That is the problem. But I know what is happening. I request the hon. Minister to see that there must be some audit report and see that the State

Government is a monitoring agency. They will monitor the matter. But it does not mean that the Government money should be misused. This is not the money from any individual and this is the public money. In every area, the State Government is misusing the money like anything. The Government should view this matter very seriously and see that a proper monitoring system is evolved.

Madam, I want to raise one important issue regarding the Chit Funds. I think, the Minister should take a serious note of it. Madam, you may remember that when the Security Scam had taken place, I had seen in this House that the Opposition friends had shouted like anything. I had also condemned these things because this was due to the failure of the banking system. We have to think over it because this is the public money.

I am telling you about West Bengal that—I do not know about other States—more than a sum of Rs. 1,000 crore has gone. What has it gone? Some non-banking financial investment companies like Janpriya, like Favourite Investment Company, have taken money from the rural people, from the rickshaw pullers, from the agricultural farmers, and from the workers and now there is no trace of this money. What our State Government has done is that they had arrested three or four people after 10 or 15 years when the money has reached more than a sum of Rs. 1,000 crore. Now, I want the Minister to institute either a CBI Inquiry or a Commission of Inquiry in this regard because a sum of Rs. 1,000 crore is not a matter of joke. Why has the State Government reacted earlier? Even I can show you the letters written to the RBI also. Madam, you will appreciate that in our country, the unemployment problem is increasing day by day. The unemployed youth do not have any opportunity to get

a job. Now the unemployed youth have got some scope in these investment companies. They worked as agents. They have started their work. They collected the money. Now they are not getting the money from the investment companies. They are not returning the money to the borrowers. Now what has happened? Two or three unemployed youth had committed suicide because they did not get any justice. One unemployed youth, who was an agent, had written a letter to me saying that he had written a letter to the RBI on 19.4.90, to the Chief Minister of West Bengal, and to all the financial institutions but they have not yet reacted. After four years were over, the money which he has got back is only Rs. 1,000. Madam, where will the rickshaw pullers get the money? They had deposited all their money in these investment companies. There must be some guidelines from the Government in this regard. Whenever a chit fund company issues their advertisement in the newspaper, from the beginning the Government should see whether this company is a genuine one or not and the Government should set up a Cell for this purpose. Why should the people suffer? They are not responsible for this. They are just crying. They are not getting the justice. Only you can arrest three or four people. But what is the result? Will all the people get back their money? They do not get back their money.

I must say that some politicians and one portion of the administration are totally backing the chit fund companies. I demand that there must be some Commission of Inquiry in this regard. When the money of the people is involved, why can there not be either a CBI Inquiry or a Commission of Inquiry on this matter? The people should get justice and they should not cry in the roads. Otherwise, one day the people will revolt.

[Kumari Mamata Banerjee]

I know that in West Bengal this is happening. So, my request to the Government would be that they should look into the matter seriously and let us be informed in this House about the situation. I have already written a letter to our Finance Minister regarding this Chit Fund and I have got the reply that the matter is being looked into. I do not want the matter only to be looked into, I want proper result, so that the people get the money in proper time...*(Interruptions)*. Government is doing nothing because they are also getting money. I am telling this to you, Madam, and if I am wrong, they can bring a privilege motion against me. Can they deny the fact that one Herona Investment Company has sponsored a State Government programme? I am mentioning the programme also. It is Haldia Festival. Who inaugurated that programme? The hon. Chief Minister and the hon. Governor of West Bengal inaugurated that programme. If I am wrong, they can contradict it. But I am not wrong. What I am saying is true and I am saying it from the reports.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please wind up now.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Madam, it is a big scam.

MR. CHAIRMAN: But there are so many other Members also who want to speak.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: O.K., Madam, I shall be very brief. But this is a very serious matter and this company, in the name of chit fund, is looting the common people. So, on behalf of the common people, I think it is my moral duty to raise this matter inside the House to get justice.

Now I come to the point about the NRI investment. You will appreciate, Madam, that the number of approved proposals of NRI investment in our country is about 1,857 but for West Bengal it is only four. So, I request the Government to see that more money is invested in West Bengal. I know that our State Government is totally bankrupt. Everybody is saying that it is a Peerless-sponsored Government. Peerless is also a finance investment company. If they do not give the money, the Government will not be able to have even a cup of tea. So, everybody is saying that our Government is a Peerless-sponsored Government and that is why I say that our Government is a bankrupt government. It is a fact that the Eighth Five-Year Plan has not yet been discussed in our State, even though two years of the Plan are already over. Sometimes they are saying that Rs. 1,700 crore is the Plan Budget, sometimes they are saying it is Rs. 1,200 crore and sometimes they are saying that the Plan Budget is Rs. 1,000 crore. They have not yet discussed it. I want my State to develop. I know there are some infrastructural problems. There may be some different types of problems for the State, but on behalf of my State, I appeal to the Government that they should look at these problems seriously. Though we have got a Government in the State but they cannot walk properly. And if they cannot walk properly, then the Central Government has the moral responsibility to look after this physically handicapped baby in a proper way so that our people do not feel that they are handicapped and they are isolated from the mainstream.

Thirdly, I would like to request the Minister regarding the small-scale industries, especially the hand-made soap industry, the umbrella industry and the cottage industries. We do not have any employment opportunities for the unem-

ployed youth but the small-scale industries have got the employment potential. So, we have to see that the tax pressure does not affect these industries. I do not know how many small-scale industries have already closed in our country. In our States itself, their number is 23,000. I do not know about the other States. It may be more than one or two lakh. So, I request the Government to withdraw the excise duty or the tax, especially from the small-scale industries.

It is because they should not be overtaxed and they should not suffer from over-taxation. I also request the Government to see one matter seriously regarding Ayurvedic and Homoeopathic medicines. Mostly the rural people use the Ayurvedic and Homoeopathic medicines. But due to the extra central excise duty, they are feeling that they will not be able to supply the medicines properly to the poor, my request would be to see the matter seriously and take suitable action.

At the same time, I request the Minister to see that the funds provided for the SC/ST and for the minorities are used properly. They should be used properly. If you find out, if you start an evaluation to know how much funds have been utilised for the SC/ST and for the minorities, you will come to know the details. Government have the 15-point programme for the minorities. But I know that there are some States which have not yet utilised these funds properly. Please find out this matter also with all seriousness.

About National Textile Corporation I want to say that though it is under Textile Ministry, the funds should be allocated from the Finance Ministry. I know that thousands of workers are involved in this industry as regards NTC and NGMC are concerned. The Prime Minister also assured in Maharashtra that they are not

going to be closed down. If they are not going to be closed down, whether the Government are aware that in seven mills in West Bengal and in Bihar the employees are not getting salaries? It is already stopped. They stopped all the production because they are not getting money. I would like to request the Government to see the matter seriously.

Regarding unemployed youth, I must say something. The unemployment problem is increasing. The figures have gone up. There are a few crores of unemployed youth in my State itself. It is too high. It is number one. When the Congress was in power during 1972-77 in the State, at that time the number of unemployed youth came down from 17 to 12 per cent. But within the 17 years regime of the Communists, it has gone up from 12 to 400 per cent. Can you imagine this? I know it is not possible for the Government to offer them Government employment in every sector. But Government should see that there must be some infrastructure and some programme through which the unemployed youth can stand on their own legs.

I raised this issue so many times in this House. It is a serious matter. Government must call an exclusive meeting of the National Development Council or this. Madam, N.D.C. is a very important body where the Prime Minister is the Chairman and other Chief Ministers are members. This is a very important committee. So, when the unemployment problem is increasing day by day, can the Government not call an NDC meeting to discuss this unemployment problem seriously so that the unemployed youth of this country should not think that they are isolated and should feel that they are very much in the national mainstream? I want that our next generation should not go astray. Their energy should be utilised by constructive

[Kumari Mamata Banerjee]

work. That is why I request the Government to see this matter seriously. Government can call a meeting of the NDC and can involve all the Chief Ministers and other Ministers and other Departments also. There must be something specific for the unemployed youth. Otherwise, Madam, I am telling that if this is not done, it will be very disastrous for the next generation. That is why my request would be to see the matter very seriously.

Madam, you are very kind enough to allow me to speak. I do not want to discuss more matters. But, of course, I request the Government to see about the issues raised by me like price rise, small scale industry, unemployed youth, chit funds and more investments to West Bengal seriously. I also want that the Government should see how the funds are utilised and to see that they are utilised properly.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM (Inner Manipur): Madam, Chairman, although I rise to support the Budget I have to say that I do not appreciate the attitude of the Finance Minister in not giving special considerations in respect of the States in the North-Eastern region. The North-Eastern region in the country has remained as a dark region. In spite of the fact that the Finance Minister is chosen from that region to the Parliament, we do not find adequate funds being provided for the development of that region. That is why, I express my disappointment over the Budget.

There are certain States which were created or established on political con-

siderations and in the interests of the country. On their own they cannot manage their affairs with the domestic income or whatever they earn. They have to depend entirely on the grants from the Central Government. In this Budget, 90 per cent grant and 10 per cent loan is proposed. What we have been demanding is that more than 100 per cent, that is, the total development expenditure of these States must be born by the Central Government. The States are Mizoram, Manipur, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Assam, Tirpura and some other non-viable States. They have become our baby, the baby of the country. We cannot deny it. They were established or they were created to be States because of political considerations and it was also in the interests of the country. That is why, they have become liabilities of the country. So, we must take care of them by investing more money, by granting more money because we know that there are plenty of raw materials and plenty of resources. The lands are fertile and the climate is good. There are potentials for producing power. Many projects can be taken up there for generating enough energy which can be made available to other neighbouring States also. But because of lack of capital to invest for earning returns out of the projects, the States remain quite backward.

Madam, I would like to mention particularly about my State of Manipur with authority that there are some projects and if they are taken up a lot of energy can be produced. There is a hot take hydro-electric power project. When it is completed, it can share energy with Nagaland, Assam and with other neighbouring States. Likewise, there is another Loktak downstream project has been proposed. If it is taken up it will again supplement its power to the neighbouring States.

But the clearance is not given, because the bureaucrats at the Centre are keeping it pending for not putting a comma or a full stop in the proposal. So, it is held up here without clearance. So, these non-viable States must be provided with adequate funds. It is not a question of the hundreds. We demand for Rs. 1,000 crore annually. Only in that case, when we invest the money and when we get the return from the investment, the liability of these States can be overcome. That is why, I cannot appreciate the present Budget.

Madam, I have said already that there are plenty of resources and raw materials. As you know, Manipur is a fertile land for producing agricultural products. But enough irrigation facilities are not provided. About 15 years ago, some canals were constructed, but they were left incomplete. As a result of that, no return can be earned from them. If they are to be completed more funds have to be provided. Then the return will come from them, the State will be self-sufficient and the agricultural products can be provided to other States.

Madam, I appreciate that the hon. Finance Minister has provided funds for the establishment of two Central Universities in Assam. I appreciate this measure. I demand that one Central University must be provided for the State of Manipur also. The State deserves that, but it is not provided in the Budget. Manipur has scenic beauty. Many people from inside the country and also from outside the country like Japan, America, England and from so many other places want to visit Manipur because it has scenic beauty. But there is no resource for the development of tourism. We cannot provide good hotels for them. So, the tourism industry is left without development.

Madam, I shall now come to the latest political situation in the State of Manipur. As you know and as the House knows there is President's rule now in Manipur because the law and order situation is not good. On account of that, President's rule is imposed there. Why is there unrest in that part of the country now? It is because of the frustration of the youth. The youth get frustrated and take to violence because of unemployment there. So, they have gone underground now. They are employed by some misguided persons. At the moment, although under the imposition of the President's rule, there is a lull for a short period, it is a lull before a storm because these underground organisations have withdrawn from their confrontation with the security forces for the time being.

But they have now started employing youngsters, by giving them money. They have collected the money as ransom from the employers and other rich persons in the State.

In the context of the present political situation, I propose that the popular Ministry in the State must be restored or the Assembly must be dissolved. I am not proposing for extension of the President's rule because it gives more annoyance to the people. I propose that the popular Ministry must be restored. If it is not possible, the Assembly must be dissolved. That should be the clear stand to be taken by the Government in the interest of the country.

As regards the small scale industry, as pointed out by Kumari Mamata Banerjee, sales tax against the small scale industry must be waived because in such a small State, we cannot have the big industry. We have to depend on small scale industry and the people who are

[Shri Yaima Singh Yumnam]

engaged in the small scale industry must not be harassed by leaving sales tax on their produce.

I request the Central Government to monitor the funds provided for the development of the State. Otherwise, as Kumari Mamata Banerjee pointed out, so much funds are misused and are not being properly used.

In response to our protest, our cry and our revolt against the Central Government for not looking after the North Eastern region properly, the North Eastern Council was established some years back. At that time, there was some hope that the Council would be able to provide some programmes there. We have a lot of projects but there are no funds. The programmes remain on paper and are not implemented because N.E.C. has no enough funds. Without giving adequate funds, the North East Council will be rendered useless. Without funds we cannot have the programmes implemented. I would request the Finance Ministry for providing more funds to the N.E.C. so that small States in that region can take up the programmes in the interest of the country.

Lastly, I support the demand that Sikkim must be included under the North Eastern Council. As Mrs. Bhandari has appealed for inclusion of Sikkim under the purview of the North Eastern Council, I support her demand. The merger agreement must be respected in full. Otherwise, the youth are very much disappointed and it will create more trouble in future. The merger agreement of Manipur with Indian Union must be respected in toto.

This august House in kind enough to recognise Manipuri as a language to be

put in the Eighth Schedule, but even today I cannot speak in Manipuri because the Secretariat cannot appoint any Interpreter. So, I urge upon the Hon. Speaker to appoint an interpreter in Manipuri so that I can speak in Manipuri.

SHRI UMRao SINGH (Jalandhar):
Madam, I rise to support the budget proposals as brought by our learned Finance Minister.

We, Punjabis, are known as good farmers, good soldiers and good sportsmen. But now Shri Manmohan Singh and his Secretary, Shri Montek Singh Ahluwalia have established beyond doubt that Punjabis can also put the economy of the country on right lines and improve the economy in the field of agriculture.

Punjabis are settled not only in India but in most of the developed countries. We are all proud of them because whenever I meet them, they always feel happy and proud of Shri Manmohan Singh and I would like to convey their sentiments and views for the information of the Members here.

The Budget has brought very appreciable improvement in the tax administration. It simplified the tax laws and modernised the tax structure by laying great emphasis on the tax compliance and also eliminated the chances of tax evasion. Production has been made competitive in the national and international markets. I think it is for the first time that an effort has been made in which various aspects of the economy have been taken into consideration.

I would like to say that in this Budget there are very few fiscal change.

Whenever we pass the Budget, there are new set of notifications and new set of changes in the income-tax law and in the other fiscal laws. But this time Shri Manmohan Singh has brought minimum fiscal changes with no embarrassment to the people. It helped not only the people of our country but also the Indians settled abroad. I just mention about the Indians settled abroad because they are mostly from my Constituency. There are lot of proposals in the Budget, But still, I would like to speak about a few proposals so that in implementing the Budget proposals, the Finance Minister can look into these recommendations which, I think, may be helpful.

We expect lot of investment from the NRIs. I can say that they are keen to invest but if we expect them to come here and put up industries, though they will be very happy to come here. But if we allow them to invest in India. I think every Indian settled abroad will like to invest something in this country provided we give a good return to them as a dividend or some such thing, as a return to their investment. I think the Government should formulate schemes and invite the NRIs not only to come and put up their factories but also to ask them to invest in various factories that are coming up. I hope they will very gladly come and invest in this country in such factories and another ventures.

The other very important point concerning the NRIs is the dual citizenship. This point has been hanging on since long. Our neighbour Pakistan has already given dual citizenship to all the Pakistanis who have settled abroad. Now, This is a genuine demand of all the Indians whether they have settled in the United Kingdom or whether they have settled in America or whether they have settled in any other part of the world. That

will help them to come here frequently and that will give them a lot of incentives to invest here because then they feel this country of their own. Though still they have their feeling, yet once they take the passport of another country and adopt the citizenship of that country, they feel shy of coming here and investing here. So I strongly feel that the Government should come forward with the legislation of granting dual citizenship—especially the Home Ministry must do something which deals with the specific subject. I think if they favourably consider it, it will help matters. The NRIs have got enough money and they will gladly come and invest here. Most of our problems will be solved by the NRIs who are keen to help us.

Then, there are a series of points which I would like to put forward here about the NRIs. There are the aspects of purchase of land and other property here. Now they cannot do it without the approval of the Reserve Bank. They cannot sell here, they cannot buy the property here, So, these irritants should also be removed because we have done away with all the other quota and licence systems we have simplified the procedures relating to putting up of industries here. So, this thing should also be simplified so that a lot of people could come here and invest here. They send the money and their money should be used for productive purposes, for building houses and for other productive purposes.

Similarly, they have a complaint about visas. We have the Foreign Minister sitting here. I would like to bring to his notice that there are a lot of problems for getting visas, renewal of passports. I think the Ministry already is doing a lot. But if something more is done, I think it could be helpful in motivating them.

[Shri Umrao Singh]

We have international airports in all those places from where the people have gone abroad except Punjab. We have the Punjabis all over the world. Now, they come to Delhi, land here and then go to Punjab. They are facing a lot of inconveniences and harassment. I would humbly request the Government and the Minister for Civil Aviation to do something in this regard. Of course, they have started a chartered flight from Amritsar. But this is not enough. We should have an international airport in Punjab especially in Jalandhar, Ludhiana. We should start international flights from there which will greatly help them to coming here and becoming a partner in the development of our country.

Now, I would like to say something on agriculture. The credit facilities which have been mentioned by the Finance Minister are very encouraging. We appreciate them. But still in order to improve the credit, I would like to put forth two suggestions. One is, that the produce of the farmer should be pledged and he should be free to get money from the bank on the basis of the produce pledged in the warehouse whether it is located in his farm or somewhere else, as in the case of goods are pledged by industrialists and other people, the produce of the agriculturist should also be pledged; he should be given liberal financial loan from the bank and when he sells his produce, may be at the time when he gets a good price, I think, then the bank can get back the money which has been lent.

The other proposal regarding credit is this. I would like to stress that the farmers should be given pass books. Now we have got pass books of banks about our deposits. Now a farmer has his land

and that land is registered in the land record which is available in the Revenue Office, Tehsil and other places. If the farmers are issued the pass books and on the basis of those pass books, the banks give them the limit of credit, then the farmers will be free to go to that particular bank to take credit. And when his need is over, he can deposit it. When he again needs the money, he can take it back. His land should be pledged on the basis of the pass book. He can sell his land only if the banks permit. I think, by having this pass book, he need not go to any other agency or land development bank or a cooperative bank. We have so many institutions which have been provided for helping the agriculturists. But actually, they are an impediment in the process of helping the farmers. I suggest that the farmers should be entitled to have the credit on the basis of pass books.

Now I come to the free movement of foodgrains. The hon. Finance Minister has mentioned here that the restriction on domestic movement of foodgrains and other agricultural goods must be completely removed. But I would like to know who is going to remove it—whether this statement itself will remove the restriction or still the Government has to issue a notification for this. It is a very welcome step. Farmers have appreciated it. In the past, farmers had been fighting on this score and they had been taking their grain from one State to another as a defiance of food zones. Now if this is accepted, the Government should clearly announce this.

About the exports, I am happy that the Government has encouraged the agricultural produce. Who is going to export? I would like to know whether it will be the present export houses or the farmers concerned. I would like to suggest that the Government should come

forward for having a consortium of farmers or some such agency where the farmers have got the interest. If the farmers sell their produce in the market and if the market is purchased by traders and they are going to export, then they are getting the benefits advantage and not the farmers. There should be a consortium of farmers who should be encouraged to have this export. Only when farmers are allowed to export, then only they can take advantage of agricultural export. Otherwise, there may not be any incentive.

Now I come to air freight. We have enough of good vegetables, fresh vegetables which we can export to Middle East. But the air freight is so high that it is very difficult to export. Pakistan and other countries have helped their farmers by reducing the freight charges. I request if something can be done in this regard so that we can get lot of foreign exchange by selling our vegetables to the Middle East and Far East where they are greatly required. If we can open up our international road barriers, we can have ready access to Pakistan, Afghanistan and other countries and it will be more helpful.

I would like to say a few things about wealth tax. The Wealth Tax Act has been amended. We have a provision that agricultural land is exempt from the wealth tax. That was done in 1981 when Madam Indira Gandhi announced it and the law was passed. Now this agricultural land which was exempted under the Act, for this another Act was passed in 1991 which has included urban land for assessment also. Now urban land means the land situated in any area which is comprised within the jurisdiction of a municipal committee or a notified area.

This kind of exempting the agricultural land and then, again, bringing the

land which is in a particular area is against the spirit of the Act. I think there is a contradiction. If you want to exempt the agricultural land, it should be clearly exempted because this provision is being misutilised by the officials at the lower levels and notices are being given to the farmers who own agricultural land and the agriculturalists are being harassed. The Government should clearly lay down a policy on the agricultural land.

I would like to submit that there is an apprehension in the small scale industry that because of this 10 per cent duty there will be inspector raj on them. If you can have certain modalities without having these inspectors. I think, the industrialists will be very happy to pay. We can have self-imposed discipline. We can ask them to pay gross duty on the basis of their gross produce or something like that. It should be decided so that all the small industries are not harassed. They are not afraid of paying the duty, but they are afraid of the multiple number of inspectors who would be visiting their factories and taking from them.

With regard to watches, Madam, your parents live at a place where there are a lot of watchmaking factories. I would like to say that lot of credit is being given for the import of watches and machinery and other components. I would like to say that under the garb of importing the components for the watches, which are permitted under reduced duty, the department has allowed complete movement. Now complete movement is like importing the whole watch itself. If you allow the full movement of a quartz watch to be imported, then nobody will make a watch in the country. So, I suggest that the full movement should be discouraged and the duty on that should not be reduced so that the local manufacturers, the local industries would not suffer at the expense of the

[Shri Umrao Singh]

foreigners who can smuggle or who can sell their goods at a cheaper rate because they have better means for manufacturing.

And the last thing I would like to say is about smuggling. I have great regard for the Finance Minister.

"Agar kuchh baat karta hoon, maza ulfat ka jatta hai,

Agar khamosh rahta hoon, kaleja munh ko aata hai."

On the matter of smuggling, there is no breakthrough in the country. We have improved our economy, we have liberalised our economy, but as far as smuggling is concerned, no effective steps have been taken.

Madam, my personal experience is that once I was coming from Singapore and when I booked my seat I was told that flight was full. But when I came to the airport, I saw that it was empty. When I came to Madras, I was told that due to the visit of a special team of custom officials, all the passengers were stranded. When a special team goes, people in Singapore and Hong Kong come to know that a special team of custom is coming to such and such airport. If that is the state of affairs we cannot stop this smuggling. We should have a proper check at the airport, we should have a proper check at the places where the smuggling is taking place. There are places, markets in the cities where, openly, smuggled articles are being sold. If you want to help our industries, if you want to improve our economy, smuggling should be curbed by strong measures because smugglers do not keep any account, they do not pay and tax, they do not pay any duty and they play with the economy of a country.

So, I stress that strong measures should be taken against the smugglers.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): Madam Chairperson, the skill of any Finance Minister, when presenting his Budget, is to make a realistic estimate of the anticipated deficit for that year.

16.00 hrs.

Now when this Budget was presented here in February, Dr. Manmohan Singh had estimated the anticipated deficit at about roughly Rs. 6000 crore. It is bad enough, but that was his estimate. What I want to point out is, a most alarming thing that is taking place in the economy is the fact that for the last twelve successive weeks the wholesale price index is steadily going up and along with it naturally the rate of inflation is also going up. Whatever the Minister may say that the inflation is coming down, the facts prove otherwise.

16.01 hrs.

[SHRI TARA SINGH *in the Chair*]

As you know in the last couple of weeks it is officially admitted that the rate of inflation has crossed the double digit mark. I think the last time that happened was perhaps in 1992. Now it has crossed the double digit mark and I do not know where it will stop. The rate of inflation has already gone up to more than 10.21. The Finance Minister has issued some statement recently assuring people that this inflation rate will be brought down. Perhaps he means in the next financial year. I do not know, this financial year is not completely over. He has pointed out to the fact that we have such comfortable foreign exchange reserves for example.

Foreign exchange reserves are no doubt running at a big figure of 16 billion dollars. But I would like to know from the Government how much of this foreign exchange reserve is accounted for by high interest carrying loans and secondly by deposits by the NRIs. The remainder of this foreign exchange reserve may or may not be credited to export earnings, but the bulk of it comes under these two heads of loans and NRI deposits. I do not know how this is going to solve the problem of inflation. Inflation has taken place, is taking place because we had warned during the Budget discussions that the high rise of administered prices together with the new burdens which were put on the people in the shape of higher railway fares and so on and a wide range of increased prices of essential commodities including petroleum products which affects transport, which affects the price of all commodities, which are carried to the market, would lead to a push of inflation. I think in the last twelve weeks what we had said is coming true.

I find that the prices of food articles in the index are rising much faster than the general index is rising. This is a matter also of concern for the vast bulk of our people. We have come to a stage where prices have become so unmanageable that the Government has now announced that it is putting cotton, sugar and edible oils on the OGL. The price of sugar has gone so high that the only way the Government can think of reducing the price of sugar in our country is to put it on the OGL and allow some 10000 tonnes of sugar to be imported again. The same is the case with edible oil. A small part of the price of sugar and edible oil is supposed to be controlled by the Government.

The bulk of it is uncontrolled. It is in the hands of private traders; it is in the

hands of this open market which we talk so much about. A friend over there from the Punjab was just not saying that tax compliance has become much better than before; tax evasion has become much less than before; and therefore, the Government should be congratulated. I wish it was what he is saying. But, I do not know whether I should place more reliance on what he says or what is said publicly by one of the key advisors, fiscal advisors to the Government, the Chairman of the Tax Reforms Committee, you know, his name is frequently mentioned here—Dr. Raja Chellaiah who has produced so many reports on various sectors which are very much to the liking of the Government. But here what has he said? He was speaking at the Plenary Session of the Annual Meeting of the Confederation of Indian Industries. Dr. Chellaiah made a scathing attack on the Government's functioning. He said:

"While the Government was concentrating on improving the tax structure, the more important task of improving tax administration for achieving a better tax compliance was left untouched; and as a result tax evasion was rampant in the country."

This is what Dr. Chellaiah says, not I. He also says:

"The pressing needs of the economy such as taxing the agricultural sector and farmers has not been done as they were tied up with votes."

That we all understand. Not only this.

"This remunerative prices were being increased without any consideration or rationale, also due to political considerations."

[Shri Indrajit Gupta]

Any way, I am not so much concerned just now with that fact or with the fact that this calculated deficit of Dr. Manmohan Singh is likely to go completely astray, if this trend continues which we are seeing since the Budget was presented; that the anticipated deficit of Rs. 6,000 crores may go over to Rs. 10,000 crores by then because there is no stopping this inflationary rate which is developing. I would like to know what they propose to do about this and it is due to bigger budgetary deficits, constantly getting bigger, monetary supply rising all the time and that this inflationary pressure on the economy is increasing.

So, Mr. Chairman, the main point I want to make first is that the whole of this Budget calculations, the whole philosophy behind this Budget is all likely to be completely upset, unless this tremendous inflationary pressure is curbed and reversed which I do not think, the Government with its present economic policy is capable of doing. Therefore, I do not know what is the prospect before us.

There is a journal, Sir, which is brought out by the IMF and the World Bank, known as '*The World Economic Outlook*'. This is a survey which is released on the eve of the annual spring meeting of the IMF and the World Bank. It says in the last issue:

"The Budgets for fiscal 1994-95 while incorporating significant tax and tariff reforms..."

The part of it, of course, they approve of.

"...envisages only a modest reduction in the fiscal deficit."

In actual practice, now we find that it is the opposite; it is not a reduction at all.

"High real interest rates associated with persistently large Budget deficits have contributed to the recent search in capital inflows which has complicated monetary management."

They are putting it in a very polite language, of course. I would say, it would completely upset the plans of monetary management which the hon. Finance Minister wanted us to be convinced about.

Now, Sir, one or two other points I would mention. I am not going to make a long speech. I would like to know, for example, when we talk of liberalisation, does it mean, scope for more competition or less competition. Always we have understood that liberalisation will mean that in the functioning of the market, there will be scope for greater competition. That is the meaning of liberalisation. Previously, we said that because the public sector, especially in this country, had been given so much protection, it was functioning within a sheltered market and so on. Therefore, it was not exposed to competition. And, therefore, it became inefficient. This is what the Government says. And therefore, its productivity has gone down, etc., etc. So, obviously, the reverse should be true. If there is going to be liberalisation in the economy, it should mean more competition, not less competition.

Whether that is domestic monopoly or foreign monopoly, the concept of monopoly is the opposite of competition. If you want to destroy competition, you

have to set up monopolies leaving no scope for free competition. What is happening now? What is the Government's economic policy? Is it strengthening monopolies or not at the cost of free competition? Even big companies here in India, like the Hindustan Lever and the Tomco, belonging to Tatas, are allowed to merge. In the market for soaps and detergents and so on, which are made by both Hindustan Lever and Tomco, if two giants are just to merge together, then, in the market for detergents and soaps, is there going to be more competition or less competition? They will corner the market. They will corner 90 per cent or more of the market. Other competitors will not get a look-in. This is being allowed. This trend is there. There are so many other examples. So, this does not conform to liberalisation at all in my understanding. Perhaps the Finance Minister will care to explain to us how it happens.

There is another serious matter. The promoters are allotting shares not at market prices but at preferential prices, concessional prices, reduced prices, to big multinational corporations which want to increase their shareholding in many companies here. The Government has not put any restrictions on it. Now a newspaper report has appeared in *The Business Standard* which says that things have gone so far that now Government is getting alarmed. And they are thinking of two alternatives to remedy this situation: either to bring in some amendment to section B1(i)(a) of the Indian Companies Act or giving the Reserve Bank of India the powers to invalidate the transfers to shares which have taken place by the promoters at throw-away prices. The multinationals are cornering these shares at throw-away prices thanks to the promoters. The only issue which is still under dispute, I am told, is the fact whether this RBI should be asked to exercise its

powers with retrospective effect or not. I do not know how much money altogether has gone to the profit of the multinational corporations due to this kind of fraudulent transactions. But we should be told: is this a question of strengthening monopoly or weakening monopoly?

This is a direct accretion to the strength of the foreign multinational corporations and their monopolistic positions. What has this to do with liberalisation of the economy, I do not understand, apart from the fact that huge sums of money are being cornered by these few companies? So, when we discuss a budget, we have to discuss also the economic philosophy behind it. It is not only a question of figures and calculating how much deficit there will be and all that. In my opinion, according to the figures given, deficit is bogus. The whole thing is going to get cockeyed, not absolutely cockeyed, by this huge inflation which is developing and galloping. I do not believe the assurances given that this inflation will be curbed or reversed. It cannot be curbed as long as this policy is followed.

Then, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister why he has declared a war on the small scale industries. What harm has the small scale industries done to the economy of this country? My friend over there comes from Punjab, a State where small sector is one of the dominant features. They have contributed so much to the economy of the country. They are now contributing 30 per cent to the exports of the country. If you take all the small scale industries put together, you can find that they are responsible for about 30 per cent of the total exports of the country. But, in this Budget, a whole lot of domestic small scale industries are being threatened with virtual extinction by a big rise in excise duties put on them.

[Shri Indrajit Gupta]

Everybody knows about this. Excise duties have been raised so steeply on plastics, iron and steel products, woollen garments, man-made filaments and yarn and pharmaceuticals produced by SSI that many of these units are facing closures. I was in Punjab a few weeks ago and I found that these small scale unit owners are absolutely desperate. They say that they cannot carry on and they will have to close down and thousands of workers will have to lose their jobs. What is the idea and what is the philosophy behind it? You want to crush the small scale industries out of existence and on the other hand strengthen only these monopolists! Is that the meaning of liberalisation and competition? I would like to know about this. These are all very disturbing features which we are seeing. There was a talk about widening the tax net and bring more taxpayers into the net. Well, not an innocent man like me but Raja Chelliah himself hints at the fact that the most affluent section in the agricultural sector should also contribute something, after all these years, to the country's revenue. They do not pay a single pie at present, apart from all the subsidies they get in fertilisers, diesel, water and electricity rates. Nobody grudges about it. They have made the country proud. Punjab and Haryana particularly have fed the country and so on, Nobody grudges that. But after all, this is not done out of love but is done for money and if you say that money has accrued with only a handful or rich farmers, I am prepared to accept that. Why should they not contribute something or a little to the revenue of the country? Anyway, widening the tax net, according to Mr. Manmohan Singh, means that some part of the commission which the stock brokers get in the share market will be taxed for the first time. The commissions of the stock brokers will be

taxed. Now, I would like to know how these commissions are going to be identified and calculated and how they are going to be taxed. Is it possible to find out the commissions which the stock brokers are getting? How are they going to be computed? It is impossible to compute and this tax will mean nothing. Then, there is a proposal to drastically restrict the percentage of shareholders held by general insurance companies. As you all know, they are in the public sector and some of the financial institutions, banks and so on may be justifiably criticised for poor customer service or poor performance and all that but this cannot be said about general insurance sector which has performed very well and which has done very good service.

Facts and figures are there which can be shown. But, now, in the name of widening of tax net the proposal is to impose drastic restriction. The General Insurance Companies are being asked that they must impose ceiling on the percentage of share holding. They invest in so many other companies, and other places, to make money. Now, they are asked that they must impose restriction on the percentage of share holding, which means that the monetary position of these General Insurance Companies will suffer dubiously for no fault of their own.

These companies have been making good profits. They do not run in losses. So, as far as public sector is concerned, I only wish to say that all public sector undertakings do not run in losses. Some public sector undertakings do run in losses. Many public sector undertakings are showing good profits. But the order books of many public sector undertakings, since this change in the Economic Policy which is slashing down import tariffs and allowing big foreign

companies to come here to explore our market, are showing a drastic fall. They do not have orders in machine tools power generation equipment and in many other fields. In the next three-four years their order books will be blank. Many of them do not have working capital. The Government has declared that it is not going to give any working capital to them, which means no budgetary allowances.

So, we have a limited technological base in this country and much of it depends on the public sector. Without a proper scrutiny, proper investigation or proper inquiry, this way of scrapping and weakening our technological base by starving the public sector of funds should not be done because in the long run it is going to pay us dearly. It will be a very costly exercise. I can say it with all confidence.

Finally, I would say that the Government has a philosophy which it expounds every year – at least the present Finance Minister and earlier Ministers also used to say frequently – that less you tax the people more they will comply with the tax laws and more you tax them, more they will be attempting to evade tax. So, it is better to tax less. But, this is applying to whom! This is applying to corporate sector. This is applying to the rich people. The National Council for Applied Economic Research – it is not an outfit of Left party, it is a Government body – has brought out a Survey in which it says that top 5 per cent of the population of our country owns 30 per cent of the wealth. Therefore, the plea is that this richer section, in which corporate sector is included, should not be taxed less but more. But, where does the money come from? Where from the Government gets resources which it wants, because the whole taxation policy is lopsided. This way, it will not be able to either get

resources or to ensure that whatever money it allots will really be spent for productive purposes; for building up the productive assets. That is not what is being done. The Finance Minister has complained somewhere else that he is also concerned about the fact that industrial production is very sluggish. Why is it sluggish, that should be found out. Why these people, who are given so many loans and incentives, do not spend bulk of this money for developing productive assets in the interest of the country and why do they spend it for speculative purposes? Why was it done? We do not know whether any part of the money which was lost through big frauds going to be recovered.

About this bank scam, we were promised here that there would be follow-up action within four months and all that (*Interruptions*)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum): Three months from 30th December. That is long over.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: There are hon. Members sitting here who were there in the JPC.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: In the Annual Report of the Finance Ministry it is mentioned that the Finance Minister has promised to give Action Taken Report in three months' time from 30th December.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: I am thankful to the hon. Members of the JPC who had elicited from the Minister the assurance that a follow-up Action Report would be presented now.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Gupta wind up now.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: I have to wind up. What can I do? The whole country is being wound up. It does not matter if I am wound up.

So, Sir, the last point that I will mention is this. The bank scam had accounted for so many thousands of crores of rupees which had been misappropriated or stolen or diverted. We are waiting for an Action Taken Report. There was another big amount of money which was lost – which was much less compared to the bank scam, which was just a chickenfeed – in the Bofors' deal. My point here is that, one gentleman belonging to this company was suspected or accused of being one of the recipients of that money which was paid by the Bofors Company as a consideration to somebody here – we do not know who – in order to ensure that the order for the Bofors' gun would be given to them. It was a secret. Now, it is out in the press everywhere. He is the head of the Hindujas' Company. He had challenged the Government. Mr. S.P. Hinduja had accused the Government by saying that the Government is not serious about getting that money back from the Swiss Banks. Had you asked for the specific documents relating specifically to the Bofors deal, the Swiss Banks would not have now been in a position to go on delaying and delaying in giving those papers. You have not done that. He said that the Government agencies had asked in such a general, vague and abstract way for some papers that it gives time to the people there to delay. It gives them excuse to go on wasting time and saying that they want more details, more particulars and more facts. Why have they not done that? They know as to how it is to be done. I will say that the agencies of the Government which are dealing with this matter, are defaulting in their duties and the Government does not pull them up

though the Government goes on saying that they are very keen about it and in a day or so, the papers will be received. According to Mr. Hinduja, who is probably better versed in these matters than the Government is, says that the Government will never get the papers, if they go on like this. The Government should ask for specific documents. They should not ask for mountains of papers. They should ask for specific documents relating to Bofors, relating to those accounts which are there in the banks. It is because they are numbered. They have got the code names. If the Government asks for them, they will get them. He had come out openly in a section of the press with a big interview actually accusing the Government, charging the Government with laxity in this matter.

So, I would like in this matter also that the hon. Finance Minister should tell us where the matter stands.

I cannot support a Budget like this. It is absolutely a disastrous Budget for the country and the fruits of it will be evident, Sir, after a few more weeks or months.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow): Mr. Chairman, Sir I have before me two speeches of the hon. Finance Minister and both relate to the budget. One of the speech was delivered here on the floor of the House and the other has been distributed among the Members in the form of a booklet. The two speeches very from each other.

A few couplets read by the hon. Finance Minister during the course of presenting his budget are not there in the printed speech. The Members have got the printed speech. His speech delivered in the Lok Sabha will serve as a document

but one will have to make a lot of research work for the purpose. Our coming generations should know that India had a Finance Minister who not only talked of financial matters but used to be poetic also, during his speeches. The Finance Minister said - "Lamhon ne khata ki thi, sadiyon ne saza payee"..... He may probably be referring to the present moments of committing blunders, the punishment whereof will be borne by the future generations.

Sir, the hon. Finance Minister wants to touch the skies standing on the ground but he should see that his feet are not uprooted in the process. The Finance Minister wants to change the direction of the winds. His courage deserves commendation. There is really a need to change the direction of the winds. But, Sir, who knows that the changed direction of the winds will lead our boat to the shore or to a whirlpool. The Finance Minister read another couplet "Unan, Misra, Roman sab mit gaye jahan se...." It would have been better if the Government had rejected the GATT and thereafter had read the couplet—which means that many countries have doomed but we have stood steadfast. At times it seems that the couplets cited by the hon. Finance Minister were not very relevant to the subject but it is good that he quoted some couplets. It hardly matters that Shri Somnath Chatterjee did not like his quoting the couplets..... (*Interruptions*)

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Before I could understand by turning to the translation, he came to another topic. I said, enough is enough. It is impossible to keep pace with that; and he was not coming to the Budget at all, because he had nothing to say on that. (*Interruptions*).

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Finance Minister read his couplets very elaborately and our comrade could have comprehended their contents being translated if he wished so(*Interruptions*).... he must have been at a loss as to how the couplets were related to the budget. But as the other comrade has said just now that the budget also reflects a philosophy, the economic philosophy. It is another thing that today we differ with that philosophy, that is the philosophy of the ruling party but the kind of India we want to build(*Interruptions*).... the budget should reflect a glimpse thereof.

[English]

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum): Poetry is the music of the heart which can have a fine expression in the Budget...(*Interruptions*)...

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Now I would come to the budget because time at my disposal is limited. Mr. Chairman, Sir, my complaint is that the budget discussion took place in two parts which neither did justice to the budget nor did it reflect the feelings of the House in toto. A discussion took place in the other House, and the Finance Minister gave the reply but the discussion is being prolonged here. Had the discussion taken place earlier, the hon. Finance Minister might have made amendments in some of his tax proposals in the light of our suggestions. This too was delayed. The budget should not be dealt within this shabby manner. I hope, this point is kept in mind during the discussions to be held on next year's budget.

[Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the optimism expressed by the Finance Minister while presenting his budget is far from reality. This fact has been proved correct in regard to inflation, as has been said by comrade Indrajit Gupta that the Government was warned about the increase in the rate of inflation and rise in prices after the budget was presented but it did not accept that. Inflation has crossed double digits now. I do not want to repeat what the Finance Minister said earlier about inflation. His speech of 1991-92:... (*Interruptions*).

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:
Leave that aside, he has conceded that there were lacunae....(*Interruptions*).

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
But here are no indications that inflation can be checked in near future because their present assessment and the assessment they made during the previous budget have proved to be wrong excepting the foreign exchange reserves. The fiscal deficit, the revenue deficit and the amount of interest on the loans have increased. The hon. Finance Minister had criticised it in his speech at that time and had said that it effected the inflation as well.

It is good that the foreign exchange reserves have increased and the hon. Finance Minister deserves compliments for it. But we would like to know from which sources this foreign exchange reserves have increased, as Shri Indrajeet Gupta has also expressed his desire to know the details of the foreign sources. As compared to last year, the foreign debt has increased and the domestic loan has just gone double. I will be happy if the hon. Finance Minister condemns it. We reach at the conclusion on the basis of the

data available with us. From which sources foreign exchange reserves have increased? There should be transparency in this regard. The issue of openness and transparency is the common topic of discussion now-a-days. I would like to submit that even in the preparation of budget there should be transparency. Leave the area of taxes, where the custom duty is to be increased and where the excise duty is to be reduced, there should be discussion in the House and through out the country on it. There should be a continuous and open discussion on the budget allocations. Such practice is followed in other countries of the world like Japan; why then we cannot do it? How much money is to be allocated for the removal of poverty, how much allocation has been made, how much allocation should be made, can it not be estimated before presentation of the budget, can a discussion not be held on it?

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I was talking about foreign exchange reserves. The hon. Finance Minister should take the House in confidence on the foreign exchange reserve issue. How much is the actual investment out of it? According to the information available with me, the foreign investment during 1993-94 is touching 3 billion dollars but out of it, only 425 million dollars are in the form of direct investment. During 1992-93, the direct investment was to the tune of 343.5 million dollars, taking that into consideration there is not much increase in the foreign investment. The rest of the foreign exchange has come in the form of portfolio investment. It is 1.36 billion dollars and out of it, 1.1 billion dollars have come in the three months of October, November and December. Most of the finance has come in the form of finance capital and not in the form of productive capital. If this data is correct,

then, it will not be appropriate if we do not take care of other aspects of economy, merely on the fact that the foreign exchange reserves have increased.

The hon. Finance Minister has presumed some things for sure in this budget. First of all, he has presumed that like the last six years, monsoon will be normal this year also. It is true that our agriculture depends on Monsoon but it is a hard fact that while preparing the budget it should also be taken into consideration. That even today various parts of the country are facing famine and scarcity. I had been to Rajasthan. Sixty thousand labourers are engaged in relief work there and there is a demand to increase their number to one lakh. Same is the condition in various parts of the country. The hon. Finance Minister should take it as the good luck of the country since he has seen six good Monsoons continuously and good crops. He is presuming that this year also the Monsoon will be normal. He is also presuming that the tax relief given to the domestic and foreign industries will increase to the industrial growth rate between six to eight per cent. He is also presuming that the law and order situation will be normal and there will not be social tension in the country. He is also presuming that the oil price in international market will not increase. He has also presumed that the relief provided to the middle class will increase the demand and this increase in demand will lead to the setting up of new industries and the industrial recession will be removed and the capacity of the industries which is not being utilised will be utilised properly. The hon. Finance Minister also presumes that the foreign investment will increase.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, ours is a large country having complicated problems. Efforts should be made to ensure that the

social tensions are not there. But if the social tensions crop up and deficit is increased, and the hon. Finance Minister holds the Ayodhya incident and the bomb blasts responsible for it, then it will not be proper and such things do have their own effects. Such incidents can take place in some or the other part of large country like ours and taking this into consideration, the economic policy and the tax proposals should be formulated. No one knows which turn our relations with the neighbours may take or what serious developments may take place at any time in Utranchal. If the whole budget is prepared on the presumption that all the circumstances will remain favourable, then the country will not make economic development at a fast pace. Problems are not so easy and the circumstances are not always favourable. Therefore, it is necessary for the hon. Finance Minister to take these things into account.

I would like to know from the hon. Finance Minister as to why these social tensions be allowed to crop up? Why an effort is not made to solve these before hand? Does the hon. Finance Minister not have any role in it? Whether the hon. Finance Minister is associated only with the Finance Ministry? The Home Ministry is independent and can work at its will. Is every Ministry independent? Ayodhya incident was resolved belatedly. And the hon. Finance Minister is holding it responsible. That is a religious issue, a cultural and national issue but if affects and will affect the economy. Therefore, do not let the social tensions come up. I do not know whether the Cabinet ever discusses such issues or not.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, we had expected in this budget from the hon. Finance Minister that he would bring such tax proposals which will result in stabilizing the prices, increase the employment

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opportunities, reduce disparities and the country will move towards self reliance but the tax proposals do not show such signs.

There is recession in the industry. Many industries are in the queue for taking help from the B.I.F.R. They want to take loan. When the Government is taking loan then why the private industries should lag behind in taking loans. Besides, the decreasing employment opportunities can lead to social tensions. If the factories are closed down on a large scale, people will come on roads. If the prices are not brought under control, then there will be social tension. The hon. Finance Minister will be responsible himself for that.

The hon. Finance Minister, in his speech has said that the number of unemployed registered with the employment exchanges has come down by one per cent. We know that if someone gets his name registered with the employment exchange and does not get employment within a stipulated period, he is supposed to get his name renewed as it is not registered for ever. The Government claims that employment opportunities are available with the employment exchanges. The number of unemployed has reduced. How much the employment opportunities have increased, please give the details? Statistical organisation does not support this claim. Does the Government not have the data regarding the increased employment opportunities and the number of people who have got jobs? They will be the real test. Do not see the decreasing number in the register. I have collected some of the data. The million man days under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana have decreased. The grants given for the removal of poverty schemes and other schemes have been reduced. I have the

data regarding the families which were to be given assistance under I.R.D.P. During 1989-90, 3.35 million families were given assistance. During 1990-91, this figure came down to 2.90 families. During 1991-92 and 1992-93, 2.54 million and 2.06 million families were given assistance respectively. Same is the fate of the Jawahar Rozgar Yojna. We would like to know from the hon. Finance Minister as to where the figure regarding employment opportunities are increasing? The way the investment is going on, only the big industries will flourish. The foreigners also have interest in the big industries. In fact, their schemes are harmful for small scale industries. The organised sector cannot provide more employment opportunities in the country. We want the new technology. This is the age of automation. Such a situation will come up when industrialisation will increase but the employment opportunities will decrease. In such circumstances, the hon. Finance Minister has imposed excise duty on small scale industries. Shri Indrajeet Gupta has rightly said and I too had used these words in Gorakhpur yesterday that the hon. Finance Minister has waged a war against the small scale industries.

Lamhon Ne Khata Ke Thi, Sadiyon
Ne Saza Paye.

The small scale industries provide more job opportunities; they play their role in foreign trade also and do not centralisation of power and capital. May be there are some small scale industries which take the undue advantage of these facilities. Does it not happen in case of the big industries? From thread to umbrella the hon. Finance Minister has thrown his net in such a way that the small fish have been trapped while the big crocodiles have escaped. The factories are closed. I myself have met the hon. Finance Minister alongwith a delegation but it

seems that he has made up his mind. The supporters of GATT think that the small scale industries are not so important. They have no place in globalisation. The goods manufactured by the poor under tin sheds have no use. I hope the hon. Finance Minister provides some relief to the small scale industries in his reply. Serious studies have been conducted regarding the small scale industries. The PAC had also analysed that some people are taking undue advantage in the name of small scale industries. The logic is that if the small scale industries are earning money and are not ready to pay the taxes, then this issue can be considered over. On the other hand, the small scale industries claim that they are ready to pay the taxes but they should be freed from the clutches of Inspector's Raj.

The hon. Finance Minister has not mentioned many other points in his speech for which notifications were issued over night. Early in the morning the inspectors were present at the gates of the factories. The factories were locked and they were sitting in the chairs outside. People's eyes are on the Parliament and the Parliament is looking at the hon. Finance Minister. Does the Government intend to introduce the inspector's rule once again? The income from the small scale industries is estimated Rs. 100 crore only. Ways and means of tax recovery should be found through negotiations with the small scale industries so that the Government's income is not affected and at the same they get rid of inspector's Raj also. Such arrangements should be made. Otherwise, by not taking care of small scale industries, if we expect that there will be no tensions, there will be equal distribution of property and everyone will participate in the prosperity of the country, then that hope is not going to fulfilled.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Finance Minister has increased the defence budget marginally. That is not proper. The security of the country is in danger. Our neighbours are trying to get more and more deadly weapons. We should be vigilant. We have long sea boundaries. Everyone is proud of the achievements of our scientists in the field of missiles and space technology and we would like to give compliments to them. But this progress should not be stopped under any pressure. Security of the country is of the prime importance.

The budget estimate during 1993-94 was 19 thousand 800 crore rupees but the revenue expenditure was 21 thousand crore rupees. The revised budget for 1994-95 is 23 thousand crore rupees. This increase is merely one per cent which is inadequate and if inflation is taken into account, then this increase is negligible. This Government is aware of the fact that today we have not moved forward. The hon. Finance Minister might be knowing that 65% of the approved budget is spent on the establishment. Invention, research, manufacturing of new arms or procurement of new arms and modernisation are the dire needs of the hour. Those who command our forces know all these things. From where the money will come for that purpose? Our defence specialists claim that if we acquire a sophisticated weapon today, it takes years in utilising that weapon and as our personnel have to be trained for that. Keeping this thing in view, we will have to think it over again. This House will not have any objection to providing more funds for defence but if there is any scope to save or reduce the expenses, we must take care of that.

The hon. Finance Minister has levied a new tax, service tax. Doubts have been raised as to whether it will last long.

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What is the need of imposing this service tax? The service on which this tax has been imposed has nothing to do with utility and efficiency. The Government wants service tax, so it has imposed 5 per cent tax. There is apprehension that today it is 5 per cent, tomorrow it will be increased. It is not a wise step. Reduction in customs duty and increasing the excise duty is not the way to encourage competition. Just now Shri Indrajeet Gupta was saying that competition does not mean that foreign companies start capturing our companies. Such steps should have been taken as would make the Indian companies international companies on the basis of the quality of their products but the present policy of the Government does not leave any scope for it. At present the trend of capturing the Indian companies is going on. It should be stopped.

Foreign capital should not be invested in forward trading. The share market is mismanaged today. It seems that the Government does not have any check on it. It must be regularised, otherwise there will be once again a big scam like the securities scam and it will not be traced even after setting up the J.P.C. as to where the huge amount of five thousand crore rupees have gone? Again a J.P.C. will be constituted to find out the facts.

Mr. Chairman Sir, the people should earn, save and invest their money in productive activities, not in forward trading. But today, the tendency of earning quickly by investing in the forward trading has increased. Whether we will encourage foreign investment in this market?

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is good that we have returned a part of the loan taken

from the I.M.F. Our image will improve in foreign countries as a result of this. But I feel that there should be more transparency while seeking loans from IMF or World Bank and we should know about the amount of loan sought and the conditions imposed by them for it, etc.? Can we not reach at a consensus on this issue?... (*Interruptions*)... We should probe into the utilisation of the amount of loans taken. But, at present, the loan-seeking procedure is carried out in camera which gives rise to several doubts. It should not be so.

17.00 hrs.

The dealings with the World Bank or IMF should be open. And there is a need to reach a consensus on such an issue.

The Reserve Bank of India needs to be groomed as an independent monetary authority. The role of the Reserve Bank of India in the Bank Scam leaves much to be desired. Sometimes the RBI seems to be a part of the Ministry of Finance and sometimes a part of the Prime Minister's Secretariat. The Reserve Bank acts as an independent monetary authority in a number of countries. The Governor of the Reserve Bank of India is an efficient person. It is not going to make much difference. The system should be such that if need be the Reserve Bank of India may advise the Government also. The Reserve Bank of India should not bow to everything that the Government says.

The Minister of Finance has taken another step that there should be a limit of loan to be sought from the Reserve Bank of India. But he is not ready to draw a line for himself. Whoever succeeds Dr. Manmohan Singh will be bound by this limit. If the proposal to draw a line in the case of the amount of loan sought is

considered good, then why no immediate action is being taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (DR. MANMOHAN SINGH): It will be done this year only.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: If the Finance Minister has decided to implement it with immediate effect, then it is a welcome step. But somehow his Budget speech seems to echo that it will not be implemented. It will be implemented later on.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like the hon. Finance Minister to say something about increasing income-tax exemption limit also in his speech. (*Interruptions*) I have already mentioned that, you have come late.

This limit has been raised from Rs. 30 thousand to Rs. 35 thousand. It has not been increased by Rs. 5,000 in the real terms. In real terms it comes to Rs. 2,000 because it is also affected by inflation. The purchasing power of Rs. 30,000 last is equal to that of Rs. 32,750 this year, then, what relief has been provided by you? You have not removed the course of tears, you have only provided a handkerchief to wipe the tears. It will not stop the tears. The Finance Minister maintains that he is ready to raise the income-tax exemption limit but it will adversely affect the financial position of the States. Can we not find some other way out to compensate the States? It can be done and if the Finance Minister so desires, he can do it himself. You are aiming very high but are not ready to check the loss go to be caused to States.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to say one more thing. The income tax exemption limit for an individual has been raised from Rs. 30,000 to Rs. 35,000 but the said exemption limit for a Hindu

Undivided Family is still Rs. 18,000. After all, what should be the attitude of the Government towards a Hindu Divided Family in respect of income tax exemption limit?

17.03 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the chair*]

Does a joint family not work as a system of social security in our country? Whether the unit of the society is an individual or a family? It will never be possible for the Government to provide security to each and every person. A Joint family still offers security. Family members care for each other. Then, why should they be discriminated against in terms of taxes. If there are four brothers and they are living together in the same house, they will have to pay more tax than when they are living separately in four houses. If they reside in one house, then, they leave three houses for others to live in. They should, in fact, be rewarded for it but they are being punished instead. There is need to reconsider tax policy meant for joint families.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Finance Minister is creating problems for me. I have been informed that the Finance Minister has done a great injustice towards the working women. An amount of Rs. 1,000 has been reduced from the standard deduction. It is correct. It would be better if it turns out to be incorrect. He is saying that it is incorrect. A group of representatives had met me in this regard. I do not understand whether I should believe the group of representatives or come to my own conclusions by looking at the bent neck of the Finance Minister.

The Government has provided facilities for setting up industries in ten backward North-Eastern States but for a

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period of 5 years only. Those involved in industries opine that a period of 5 years is not sufficient because it takes at least 3-4 years to establish the industry properly. The said period of five years should be increased to ten years and the same facilities should be provided to the backward areas of other States also. At least it has not been announced in this Budget.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to conclude. The doubts expressed at the time of presenting the budget have been proved to be true. The optimism shown by the Finance Minister has failed to evoke new hopes in the people. This is another matter that when he visits conferences, seminars, etc. he sees only bright faces and it would not be surprising if he might have been misled by them.

Unake dekhe se chehare pe jo aa
jaati hai raunaq,

Ve samajhte hain ki bimaar ka
haal achcha hai.

For the benefit of those who do not understand urdu, I will translate it into Hindi.

Unake dekhe se mukh par jo aa
jaati hai aabha,

Ve samajhte hain rogi ki dashta
uttam hai.

Mr. Speaker, today the people are eagerly waiting for the Finance Minister's reply. I do not know to what extent the Finance Minister is willing to go. But the budget presented by him has failed to satisfy the people. The subsequent developments have proved the doubts of the people true. The mistakes committed can be rectified and an atmosphere can be created wherein new social tensions due

to financial reasons can be avoided. Thank you.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE
(Bolpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will be very brief because the Members from my Party have already spoken on this Budget quite exhaustively. I wish to emphasise one or two things, with your kind permission.

The first point is, whatever may have been the reasons for the bifurcation of the Budget debate, it has somewhat lessened the importance and thrust of it. I am sure it has not been done deliberately but I hope in future we will be able to regulate our schedule so that we can have the Budget debate at one period. But one advantage in a sense for us is there that we are nearly at the end of two months after the Budget has been presented. One would have expected some positive result of this Budget so far as the price situation, industrial situation and unemployment situation in this country are concerned. But in whatever area one looks at, even after two months, we do not find any impact of this Budget which goes to the relief of the common people. In spite of the hon. Finance Minister's expectations, there is a greater rate of inflation. It has reached double digit. There is no hope of new employment anywhere. More and more sickness is there. I have the fortune of being in this House for quite some time but never in my experience, we have received so many representations and memoranda after the Budget, particularly this year from the small industrial sector who are clamouring and expressing their agony and anguish at the serious situation they are facing in the country because of this Budget. What more can we do except to send them to the hon. Finance Minister

with a polite request for his sympathetic consideration? But how many times can we meet the Finance Minister? Almost the entire spectrum of this small-scale industry is affected. From umbrella to hawaii chappal, from cast-iron to spun pipes, all are affected and even Ayurvedic medicines and many items of small-scale industries are affected and these industries are today reeling under the pressure of excise duties. In one go, the exemption was taken away. I do not know what exercise was made in the Ministry of Finance. The hon. Finance Minister is not expected to calculate himself the impact of this. He has to go by his advisers. But he has to own the responsibility. What would be the effect of withdrawal of exemption from the small-scale industry? With greater and greater burden on them and with the price advantage they had previously because of the differential in the rate of excise duty, how can they be expected to compete with the large-scale industry? It is admitted. Very good. If I am wrong, please correct. Small-scale people are waiting for the reply of the Finance Minister. Even this morning I had a telephone call from umbrella manufacturers. I said let us hope that the Finance Minister will give his reply. The country is waiting for it. I want to make it very very clear that this is a sector in which if there is no relief granted to it, there will be tremendous impact. Lakhs of people will lose their jobs, employment, livelihood, apart from mills being closed down. This is one aspect on which I want to stress at the very beginning. The other aspect is very important. It is the question of the revival of the sick industry. What we have been saying is that it is very unfortunate that even after five decades of independence, we have not been able to develop our research and development sufficiently in this country so that we can compete at the most efficient level with the outside world.

We are making improvement in technology. We are proud of our technical people, our young graduates, our scientists. We are all proud of them. We have got an immense reservoir of skills in this country. But unfortunately we cannot deny that they do not have such an opportunity for such research facilities so that they can have development in technological research. Therefore, we have to import, in certain cases, high technological inputs. We have to bring in the technological input and sometimes we have to have even the latest machines etc. But does it mean that the theory, the principle and the concept of self-reliance has no meaning in this country? Today, the Commerce Minister has also said in the Parliament of India itself that the Indian industry must have level-playing field. He does not seem to agree with the Finance Minister. But even today, the Commerce Minister of India has to say that. Today, the principle of self-reliance has become a matter of scorn probably because it does not fit in with the Finance Minister's concept of globalisation. But what is happening to our Indian industry? Apart from this proclivity for allowing import, is there anything? Today, our young friend Shri Ramesh Chennithala was expressing his anguish about something—coconut. Even I find that after his Australian sojourn, Nariman Point has become more subdued; there must have been some pressure from his people there. He does not agree with many of the Budget proposals. I think you agree with me, not with him. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MURLI DEORA (Bombay South): I said about the small-scale industries. I told him about that. I agree with you in that respect. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa): I hope some relief will come!

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:

Sir, I am very much emboldened that with Nariman Point's help, we shall be able to get some relief for the common people. For a change, he thinks of the common people. Therefore, what I am respectfully submitting and drawing the attention of the House to is that the principle of self-reliance should be a matter of our national commitment. This is not a question of just a slogan. After so many years of our foreign domination, that is what Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru dreamt of. It is not a matter of just scorn, a matter of ridicule. Now, should we or should we not stand on our legs? This is the point. If that is so, is our indigenous industry becoming stronger? Are we in a position to really compete with the big foreign concerns? Comrade Idrajit Gupta has rightly said about it. Today, you are creating a different type of monopoly inside our country. You are creating foreign monopolies in this country who are devouring even the big giants, what we consider to be the big giants of this country. That is why Godrej is folding up; TOMCO has folded up; Parle, who fought so much against Pepsi, has already gone.

SHRI MURLI DEORA: Parle and Godrej have made so much money.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Obviously they felt that they would not be able to compete with them. Therefore, what we object to is this Government's indecent burial of the concept of self-reliance. Every Budget should have an objective—specially in the case of a country like ours, a developing country like ours, our budget should have an objective. We are immensely rich of our natural resources. We have immense richness so far as our human resources are concerned. This is a country of traditions, with great glorious traditions. Our country can also make sacrifice. But

they have the dreams, the young people of this country should have dreams. They have their dreams and they have their objectives, they have their ideas that this country will flourish. We may not want to be very rich people. But we want to live decently as a civilised nation, with pride, with self-confidence. This is what we want. Are we in a position to do that? Does this Budget reach that objective or pretend to reach this objective? I would like to ask the hon. Finance Minister to tell us about it. He has presented four Budgets. If this unworthy Government continues, you may have to present some more, I do not know.

SHRI MURLI DEORA: At least two more.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: That is the maximum you think.

SHRI MURLI DEORA: That is a good guarantee.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: With your interpretation of anti-defection laws, you have been able to go on increasing your strength. The Finance Minister at the beginning of his Budget speech records and pays his usual obeisance to his headmaster. I do not know what is his response. He is always a *Mauni Baba*. I would like him to tell the country that of the four Budgets that he has presented, in which area the country has progressed. Show us, except the area of foreign exchange with borrowed money, with portfolio investments, with the blessings of IMF and the World Bank, in which area this country has progressed. Let him tell us and let him tell the country. There is a question of removal of industrial sickness. For the last three years, more and more countries have become sick now. In the top of the list is

Maharashtra in the number of sick industries and not West Bengal, your favourite target. Maharashtra tops the list. There is no reduction in sickness. The situation has become more and more acute. More and more companies have today become sick. You say that all public sector undertakings are bad. But are all private sector undertakings good? How many of these private sector undertakings belong to the big business, big industries? How much money is outstanding as income-tax arrears from these concerns? How much money have they left outstanding to the banks of this country, to the financial institutions of this country? They do not suffer. Those people do not suffer. But the country suffers; young people of this country suffer particularly. Has there been more employment? Mr. Finance Minister has said about this. What was said in the election manifesto was for elections only. Election is over, manifesto is over. Therefore, promise of one crore employment every year is only in those thin booklets. They are also scarce, no longer available, sold to *raddiwalas*.

SHRI MURLI DEORA: We can reprint that.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Without that promise.

What about price rise? Is there a better position between the Centre-State relations? Today, concerns like the Indian Iron and Steel Company are gasping because the hon. Finance Minister does not want to provide funds for that. Today, the NJMC, a Central Government undertaking, with 24000 work force is on the verge of total collapse.

They have no working capital, there is no proper management and there is no arrangement for sale.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had the opportunity and I am still representing one of the unions. We have been saying that we are prepared to sit across the table. Many times, Sir, we have said: "Please tell us what is to be done; tell us what do you want us to do?" But you have to do your job. Today, I got a telegram saying that there is no raw material for production, please do something. What can we do, but go to the Minister, talk to him? If he is kind enough, he will say please talk to the Finance Minister. He has also his difficulties. Is this the way to run a major industrial undertaking like NJMC. NTC is also tottering. So, something must be done.

Sir, although we have been misunderstood, we have said that if there is any industrial undertaking which, even after sincere efforts and proper attempts to make it viable cannot be, at all, made viable, make some provision for the workers and then you wind it up and you invest in other units. But look after these human beings who are citizens of this country. What are their faults? You adopt a policy called Exit Policy. You say that you have constituted a fund called National Renewal Fund. You say that you will retrain and redeploy them. Where have you redeployed them? What will you train them for?

Sir, these are very important issues. Therefore, it is essential that the hon. the Finance Minister tells us as to what is to be done and what he has been able to achieve in this country. I do not wish to take more time.

I earnestly request the Finance Minister, as a matter of fact, I should say I demand from the hon. the Finance Minister that he should immediately withdraw that order for withdrawal of exemptions in respect of the small scale

[Shri Somnath Chatterjee]

industries. He should give an assurance to the people of this county; I have been requesting him and I can say on the floor of the House that he has said: " At my level, I shall monitor, Somnathji." But he is too busy with his foreign sojourns; I do not know where he goes.

SHRI MANMOHAN SIGH: I did not go to any foreign country.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Your Assam visits. Therefore, this is essential. I sincerely feel that there are some issues where we cannot afford to be partisan. There are some issues which are national issues like the situation of the sick industries in this country, the condition of the small scale industries in this country, the fate of the young people of this country who have nothing to live on.

Sir, after all, the public sector has grown up on the sweat and toil of the working classes of this country. They have contributed to it; for some time, temporarily, there may be some public sector units which have come into difficulty because of your mismanagement or may be due to some trouble somewhere else. I am not going into the details. But is there any serious attempt made? Please do not just fall into the trap of Nariman Point that all public sector undertakings are bad.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO (Trichur): What is this Nariman Point?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Uptill now you have not understood it.

SHRI MURLI DEORA: He has referred to my name and I must be given one minute to clarify the point. You spoke

just now about TELCO, Godrej and Parle. The three companies...

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: TOMCO also.

SHRI MURLI DEORA: I know what is TOMCO, Mr. Idrajit Gupta. Please forgive me. TOMCO—Tata Oil Manufacturing Company—has a factory both at Bombay and Calcutta. There was a report and I understand reliably from some Tata people that your Chief Minister, Shri Jyoti Basu, himself rang up the Finance Minister to allow this merger. On one side, you are allowing this merger and on another side you are opposing it here. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: My Chief Minister is not here and I do not represent him.

SHRI MURLI DEORA: Do you do not represent him, very good!

MR. SPEAKER: I think beyond a certain limit this kind of thing should not go on.

SHRI MURLI DEORA: He referred to my name and can I not say that?

MR. SPEAKER: He did not refer to your name.

SHRI MURLI DEORA: He referred to my name three times.

MR. SPEAKER: He has not referred to your name and you are unnecessarily pulling it or yourself.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Mr. Speaker Sir, I shall deal with it. Precisely I said when you dry them of funds the only option is closure of that undertaking and people losing their jobs.

Then what can be done? We are not an independent republic of West Bengal. We are very much there because we are a part of India.

MR. SPEAKER: Somnathji, please leave it at that.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I am very much obliged to you for giving me some time even at this fag end. I would earnestly suggest to the hon. Finance Minister to immediately address himself to some of these basic issues and solve them. Otherwise this is nothing but a Budget of surrender to the forces of exploitation and destabilisation. Nothing else.

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise 2 or 3 points. I have spoken at length on this issue but the Finance Minister was not present at that time. I, on behalf of my party, would like to say only this, that the poor, the farmers, the labourers and people belonging to weaker sections of India....

MR. SPEAKER: You have already mentioned these points in your speech.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: If you think in the interest of the poor, then I can briefly touch upon those points. If not, we may leave it.

MR. SPEAKER: You may raise these points some other time. We are short of time now.

[English]

The Finance Minister may reply now.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: Mr. Speaker Sir, I am grateful to all the hon. Members who have taken part in this debate. I begin by fully endorsing what Shri Somnath Chatterjee has said that when dealing with the basic issues of nation's development one has to rise above considerations of partisan politics. India is today faced with immense challenges. There are immense opportunities provided we have the wisdom to seize them. There are also immense risks if we do not act wisely. In doing so, we have to take note of the tremendous changes that have come about in the world. We live in a world where the only constant thing is change itself. It is very important that the perceptions of the leadership in this country—and that applies to those who sit on this side as well as those important leaders who sit on the other side—that our perceptions should keep pace with the harsh realities.

There is a great danger that if our perceptions do not keep pace with the objective realities, we may end up with immense damage to the nation's economy and fortunes. India is not today in the same situation as India was in the 1960s, 1970s or even in the 1980s.

Vajpayeeji referred to the Defence expenditure. There was a time when the geopolitics provided us a certain degree of security because of the cold war; whatever its bad effects, it did give us greater manoeuvrability. We could buy a lot of defence equipment at very cheap prices from the Soviet Union. Until 1990, this country could, against rupee of payments, import annually about five to six million tonnes of crude oil from the Soviet Union. The disappearance of the Soviet Union has meant that if we want to be fully prepared to meet the nation's security needs, we have to pay for it in foreign exchange; if we want to meet the

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minimum energy needs of our economy, we have to pay for them in foreign exchange to a much larger extent than we had to do before. This is the environmental change that has come about. Whether we like it or not, although self-reliance has been the creed of this nation, right since independence, the fact is that for all these 45 or 46 years of our independence, we have been dependent on external assistance of a conditional type from the international financial institutions as well as the bilateral donors. But whether we like it or not, today, the conditionality element has increased just as the amount of conditional aid available has shrunk. India has to manage to survive, to grow, to meet its national aspirations in this harsh world environment.

It is in this setting, I urge this august House to view our problems. If you look at India's history, Sir, until 1980, the average growth rate of this country was no more than 3.5 per cent. With that little growth, there was no perceptible change in the proportion of people living below the poverty line. Then, came the 1980s. We were able to raise the growth rate to 5-5.5 per cent per annum; and although there are differences about precise figures, almost everyone would agree that there was a perceptible reduction in the proportion of people living below the poverty line. But, that particular development was unsustainable; it was financed to an unsustainable degree by excessive borrowing at home and excessive borrowing abroad. Also, there was an exceptionally favourable development that sustained the rate of growth in that in the 1980s. We entered the 1980s with petroleum production of no more than 10 million tonnes. It rose steadily to 34 million tonnes by 1990s. That provided big relief to our balance of payments; that also

provided a big relief to the Budget in the 1980's. Although we were spending more and more, a considerable part of it was financed by surpluses of the Oil Coordination Committee which was then transferred to finance the Government expenditure.

In the 1990's these options are not open to us. Our oil production is falling for the fourth year. This year, probably, it will be no more than 27 MT. Also, we cannot have a pattern of development which relies excessively either on internal borrowings or external borrowings. The amount of debt that we had piled up in 1990—a large part of it was commercial debt—was such that our economy could become vulnerable to any exogenous shock. That shock came in the form of Gulf crisis and it threw our economy off the track. In the same way, the internal imbalances led to an unsustainable fiscal deficit which, if not controlled, would have led to rise in inflation degenerating into hyper-inflation. That is the reason why we have to adjust, why we have to relook at the economic strategy control and mechanisms.

This does not mean that we are, in any way, giving up the cherished national objectives of removing poverty, of building a modern economy and policy making full use of science and technology or even of self-reliance. Self-reliance, as Panditji always used to say, means the capacity to pay for all your imports through normal transactions exports and commercial inflows, that is, eliminating our country's dependence on concessional and politically-oriented type of aid.

But how can we do it? One view is that we can shut ourselves from the rest of the world. Imports will then

decline. I submit to you and through you to this august House, that is simply not a sustainable proposition. India, in the aggregate, is well endowed with regard to natural resources but not on a per capita basis, and that import needs almost invariably everywhere rise in the process of development. In 1991, when our Government came to office, we had a balance of payments deficit on current account of nearly \$ 10.5 billion. We had to finance it in the short term. That is why we had to have recourse to the IMF and the World Bank because adjustment in the absence of these inflows would have imposed massive burdens by way of inflation and unemployment. We did not want to do that. But we have never believed that we can finance all these deficits indefinitely. We must learn to create a situation where our exports can rise so that this gap between imports and exports can be progressively bridged at higher levels of income and employment. And that is the true meaning of self-reliance. But exports do not grow out of thin air. Exports grow out of domestic production. Exports grow out of greater and more efficient production. That is the logic of structural reforms which we have undertaken through changes in trade policy, through changes in industrial policy, through making our financial system more cost-effective and more competitive. The purpose of all these things is to strengthen India's ability to face the challenge of competition so that over a period of time, this yawning gap between imports and exports, which has persisted for the last 45 years and which we have been year after year financing by borrowing from either the World Bank or bilateral donors is reduced and ultimately eliminated so that our country gets over this dependence on aid and becomes truly self-reliant and also we do not want our country to be mired in ever-growing debt.

In the short term as I said, in the year in which we came into office, we did need a breathing time and so, debt did increase. But if you look at the mid-1980's, debt increased at an average annual rate of about 6 billion dollars per annum. In 1990-91, before this Government came into office, the external debt increased by 8 billion dollars. In the next two years, debt increased at an average annual rate of three billion dollars and in the year that has just ended, external debt of this country has hardly been increased. Now, you compare the situation that was there in 1990-91. External debt increased by 8 billion dollars and reserves went down by 1.1 billion dollars. In the year 1993-94, reserves increased by 8.6 billion dollars and external debt has hardly increased. That is the proof/evidence of our commitment to self-reliance. This is clear proof that what Somnath Chatterjee and Indrajit Guptaji, for whom I have great respect, have been saying has no relation to the objective reality.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: That has self-reliance to the stock market.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: No. I will answer that. I think a question has been raised as to where is the improvement in foreign exchange reserves coming out. I am glad that you have asked it and you have the right to know the correct answers. The biggest single improvement is as a result of a massive improvement in the current account of balance of payments. I mentioned to you that in 1990-91 the current account deficit which is the gap between total payments and total receipts was over 10 billion dollars. In the course of 1993-94, preliminary estimates suggest that either we will be near balance or have a deficit of half a billion dollars. Our exports have increased by 21 per cent in dollar terms and imports

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have increased by hardly 2 per cent. Today, for the first time, we have the situation that India's exports and imports are roughly in balance at about 23 billion dollars. I said 'roughly'..(Interruptions)...So, Sir, this is the basic reason. Now, it is true that the total improvement in the balance of payments is larger than this. Vajpayeeji quoted a figure regarding foreign institutional investors. But if you are suggesting that all this money has been brought in by foreign institutional investors, well, for your knowledge, I may say that that figure is no more than 1.4 billion dollars. So, this is regarding foreign institutional investors and the rest is the non-debt creating dollar inflows. Our companies have been able to raise, by way of equity capital, another 1.5 billion dollars, As far as direct foreign investment is concerned, Vajpayeeji mentioned the figure as dollar 345 million. As per the estimates that I have from all sources, it will be between 500-600 million dollars. Now, it is true that direct foreign investment is not very large. But this itself should disprove the Opposition's disinformation campaign that this country's economy is being destroyed by multinationals. Most of this direct investment is in the nature of money that has been raised by the existing Indian companies. You cannot say on the one hand that we have got only 300 millions of direct foreign investment and then go on campaigning that this country's economy is being ruined by these multinationals. I think there is inconsistency in this...(Interruptions).

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: This foreign investment is not coming with technology. It is coming as portfolio and not with technology.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, you follow your own line please.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: I was saying that these are basically national issues and this country has to evolve a broad national consensus to deal with these issues.

Take the issue of fiscal discipline or the fiscal deficit. I am glad that Shri Indrajit Gupta for a change quoted the International Monetary Fund, World Economic Outlook approvingly. I recall that when I talked of reducing fiscal deficit in the budget for 1991-92, and 1992-93, I was accused of selling this country to the IMF, of having leaked the Budget to the IMF. The fact that Shri Indrajit Gupta today quotes approvingly that we have to reduce the fiscal deficit and Shri Somnath Chatterjee endorses that, I think this itself is a measure of the sea change that has come about now. I feel happy that this nation is now on the right track, that whether on the right or the left we have all agreed that we cannot spend our way into prosperity, that we must, therefore, find genuine resources for our development not the created resources by borrowing from the Reserve Bank of India because that will lead to disastrous rise in inflation.

Having said that, I do admit that while we made decided progress in reducing the fiscal deficit in the first two years of our Government, in the third year there was a slippage. There have been factors beyond control. Vajpayeeji may wish away the role of Ayodhya but, it is a fact that confidence is a very fickle minded thing. And, when you had Ayodhya followed by an unfortunate bomb blast, industrial production, investment and business sentiment did suffer. It is easy to destroy confidence but it takes years to build confidence. And, Vajpayeeji talked of doing nothing to add to the social tension. There are built-in frustrations in

the body politic of a poor country trying to modernise itself.

Development nowhere has been a linear process of change. There are some gainers and there are some losers. A democratic policy must, therefore, devise ways and means of using politics as a purposeful instrument of managing these contradictions of growing up. I would, therefore, appeal to Vajpayeeji, for whom I have great respect and regard,—that the type of thinking that Ayodhya is not enough and from Ayodhya we must move on to Mathura or Varanasi—that if this atmosphere is allowed to grow, it can disrupt our economy. It can destroy the fragile equilibrium that we have today. I am saying this not in any partisan spirit but I do believe that we need political stability. We need a minimum degree of national cohesion and national consensus to deal with basic problems of development.

I have briefly mentioned the broad approach that we have. We need fiscal stability. We must reduce the fiscal deficit. I feel confident that this year we will be able to bring the fiscal deficit to no more than 6 per cent of G.D.P. Inflation certainly has become a problem but, there have been factors which convince me that this order of inflation cannot sustain itself. There have been some increases in administered prices but these were essential. Take the case of the oil sector. In the eighties we had a happy situation. Resources available in the oil sector were more than sufficient to finance its investment in that sector. A part of it was being spent elsewhere to support the Budget. Today, we have a reverse situation. The total money that the oil industry collects from the consum-

ers is not sufficient to pay to the producers.

You have a deficit. Now, if you have deficit, how can you spend more money on oil exploration, on oil development? I have seen the Report of the Standing Committee of Parliament rightly saying that we ought to be investing more in oil exploration, in oil development. But money does not grow on trees. If you want more resources, you have to create a situation that the Oil Coordination Committee deficit is eliminated and that is the reason why oil prices were raised. It has got nothing to do with the Budget. The Budget does not benefit out of that. Also I would say that there have been problems in the area of prices. But hereto part of the problem is that the producers of sugar cane had to be paid higher prices. The remunerative prices to the cane growers are essential just as remunerative prices to farmers are an essential condition of increasing agricultural production. We are not ashamed that we have given our farmers decent procurement prices. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing goes on record.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Finance Minister, you please continue.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: I was explaining that some of the adjustments were necessary adjustments. In the same way many State Governments have to adjust electricity prices because the state of the Electricity Boards is such that if we do not generate more internal resources in the electricity sector, we have to say goodbye to the ambitious power pro-

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grammes that we have. I think it was Mr. Indrajit Gupta and also Mr. Somnath Chatterjee who were bemoaning that our public sector enterprises like BHEL are without order. As I said a moment ago, money simply does not grow on trees. The electricity sector is losing every year. Rs. 6,000 crore. This Parliament must express itself unequivocally that in the next one year or two years we are going to change that situation that electricity will be a source of generating additional internal resources and if that happens you will see what the State of Order Book position of BHEL will be. So, these are the challenges that our country is facing.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA
(Bankura): Sir... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It is going on record. Interruptions will not go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: These are the challenges that our country is facing. We can meet these challenges only collectively, thinking cohesively and evolving a broad national consensus.

Issues have been raised with regard to the public sector. The Prime Minister had said, the other Ministers had said and I had said that ours is not a policy which is anti-public sector policy. We want public sector to flourish and grow. But public sector to discharge its mechanic role which Panditji envisaged for it has to be an instrument for accumulation. It can also become an instrument of re-distribution of income and wealth only if it generates large internal resources. That it can do only on the basis of improved productivity, greater

production. That is what we are trying to do. The public sector re-structuring programme is not a programme to destroy the public sector but to make it competitive, to make it healthier and to generate more sources for India's development. *(Interruptions)*

18.00 hrs.

MR. SPEAKER: You had discussed the Budget for 15 hours. At least you should hear the Finance Minister for 45 minutes.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: Some Members have criticized the Budget as being anti-farmers; some have said it is anti-people; some have said it is anti-employment. I respectfully submit to this august House that if you look at it objectively you will find that none of these criticisms can be sustained. I am not saying that in a short period of 2 ½ years we can do wonders *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Mohammed Ali Ashraf Fatmi, you should be careful about all these things. You are continuously doing it from the beginning.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: When I became the Finance Minister, I said in the very first statement that I made that our country was in such a great difficulty that it would take us a minimum period of three years to see even the first visible result of the changes that we had made. I am absolutely truthful that the progress which has been made far more than what I had then anticipated. The balance of payment position today is healthy. We are the only country in the world which has come out of this crisis without loss of

income in any single year of adjustment-structural reforms; and I do again assert that if you look at any objective figure you will find what I have been saying.

People talk about employment. We have no full proof data on employment. The most recent data is that relating to persons seeking jobs and registered with Employment Exchanges. *(Interruptions)* It is imperfect, but that data certainly does not support what Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee is saying, what Shri Somnath Chatterjee is saying; that contradicts; it is exactly the opposite. If this country was moving towards greater unemployment, it would have shown some impact on this Employment Exchange data. The evidence is quite to the contrary and, therefore, to argue that we are trying to do something against employment is not correct. The Prime Minister has announced special programme for rural areas. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: All these interruptions are not going on record.

*(Interruptions)**

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: For the rural area, this year's Budget provides 40 per cent increase in the allocation for anti-poverty programme. The allocations for JRY have been also increased. Additional sums of money have been provided by the Prime Minister's Rojgar Yojana for providing jobs to one million unemployed persons. In 1750 development blocks which contain the hard core of poverty, minimum 100 days of assured employment are going to be provided. The public distribution system is being strengthened in these area. *(Interruptions)* Expenditure on education and health has been increased. If you argue that this Budget is against the poor or against the farmers or against the workers, I submit to you this

is totally unrelated to the situation on the ground.

What we have launched in our country is a process of giving our farmers remunerative prices, also reducing the protection for industry gradually so that our farmers will have access to the goods that they consume and the inputs that they use at reasonable prices. If these things come about, if agricultural terms of trade improve, as I expect they will, I think that will be a major help to the agricultural sector; even one per cent improvement in the agricultural terms of trade will bring Rs. 8,500 crores to the agricultural sector.

But we do recognise that not all the people in the agricultural sector have surpluses, that there are landless workers and that is why this special emphasis on anti-poverty programmes; that is why this special emphasis on strengthening the public distribution system in 1760 blocks of the country where there is hard core of poverty.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think, I have dealt with some of the general issues which have been raised in the debate. Now I do come to one particular charge which has been repeated again and again here that this Budget has done something terribly wrong to small scale industries. I completely repudiate that charge. For your benefit and for the benefit of this House I have got the data from the Census of Small Scale Industries. I wish to explain to the House what we have done.

There is a special small scale industries exemption scheme. Under that upto a turnover of Rs. 30 lakhs no excise duty is paid. If you increase the production to Rs. 50 lakhs, between 30 and 50 lakhs you pay a duty which is 10 per cent lower than the normal duty. If the normal

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duty is 20 per cent, between 30 and 50 lakhs the small scale industrialist will pay only 10 per cent. If production still goes up from Rs. 50 lakhs, between Rs. 50 and 75 lakhs the producer will pay 5 per cent lower duty than the normal duty and the concessional duty on the first 75 lakhs of turnover will apply even if the total turnover is Rs. 2 crores. He is entitled to a concessional duty on the first 75 lakhs. We have not touched that. In fact, I have enlarged the scope. Previously people had to run around for registration. They talked of inspector raj, they had to go to the State Government, they had to come to the Central Government to register themselves. I have now provided that regardless of registration the benefit of the small scale industries' scheme will be available to anybody upto a limit of 75 lakhs of rupees.

If you look at this data from the census of small scale industries, published only two years ago, it shows that in terms of those who produce up to Rs 2 crores, concessional duty will apply to about 70 per cent of the total value of output in the small scale industry. They will cover about 99 per cent of employment, 94 per cent of fixed investment and if these facts are correct, I think, these simply do not support the campaign of disinformation that this Budget is anti-small scale industries.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, Just now I have been given another copy. I have already sent him. So many representations and memoranda Members of Parliament have received, I am sure, on Both sides. What he says is all fabricated. Who is disinforming the country? We are not disinforming the country. We are only saying that this is the

problem being faced by them as a result of your Budget.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: I do admit that there are difficulties when you do want to move to a new system. We have made a major system change. We have reduced the number of exemptions. We have simplified the tax system, we have reduced the number of ad valorem rate so that there will be less litigation. Whatever you may say the tax system that we have developed, the legal system that we have developed, the Indian socialism, whatever it may have done, it has certainly conferred immense benefits on the legal profession to which Shri Somnath Chatterjee belongs. By reducing the scope for litigation. I wish to reduce the large rents being earned in that profession.

[Translation]

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar): Is it not correct that several such exemptions withdrawn by issuing notifications?

[English]

Over 200 such notifications have been issued and you point blank deny all this.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: I am not denying anything. What I am saying is, this is not going to hurt what may be called the genuine small scale industries.

[Translation]

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: All the exemptions, concessions given earlier have been withdraws in one stroke.

[English]

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: If you define a small scale unit holder as someone who has a turnover of Rs. 75 lakh then he is not adversely affected by this.

Sir, I have some proposals to mention. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Where the rate is five per cent, how is the differential between the tiny and large sector improved through your Budget?

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: I will explain.

Sir, with your permission I will read out the proposals so that there is no confusion.

I had explained the main features and the rationale of the proposals on indirect taxes in my Budget Speech. My aim has been to move towards a tax system which is simple, easy to administer, has moderate rates with a wide base and, which at the same time promotes economic efficiency, growth and equity. Several sectors of trade and industry have welcomed these measures. They have confirmed my belief that only a simplified structure can eliminate disputes, avoid uncertainties, check collusion and stop harassment. In the process of simplifying the complex maze of our tax system, it was inevitable that a large number of changes had to be made. Some instances have been brought to my notice where the budgetary measures had some unintended implications. Many hon. Members had also made valuable suggestions in the course of the General Debate on the Budget. Suggestions have also been received from the general

public and from trade and industry. I have given these suggestions very careful consideration. I found that there was immediate need of corrective action in a few cases. in the light of these suggestions and the representations received I have already taken such action. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: This does not give any relief to the small scale sector.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Somnath Chatterjee, he is coming to the relief point now.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: From the response and reactions which I have received, I find that the main plank of criticism of my excise proposals is that the small scale sector would be adversely affected. Sir, I would like to assure the House that while the Government is committed to provide a simple and rational tax structure, the concern for the small scale industry is uppermost in our mind. Hon. Members would appreciate that it is only when we levy excise on large units and exempt small and tiny ones that the latter are accorded a real fiscal advantage by exempting a particular product completely, we treat small and large units alike and thus do not give a special fiscal advantage to small units.

I have, therefore, tried to promote the interests of the small scale sector in this year's Budget by removing the full duty exemptions in most cases, while simultaneously expanding the coverage of items included in the general SSI scheme for concessional duty. Thus the tiny and the small scale sector can now enjoy a competitive edge over the comparatively bigger units producing the same items.

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While presenting the Budget, I had expanded the coverage of the General SSI Scheme for concessional duty to the following nine products/product groups:

- * Unbranded Pan masala
- * Unbranded chweing tobacco
- * Monofilament of HDPE and PP
- * Coated fabric of cotton like book binding cloth
- * Conveyor beltings
- * Specified iron and steel products like flat rolled products, bars and rods, shapes, wires
- * All articles of iron and steel
- * Copper products like copper plates, sheets, foil, copper alloy bars and rods
- * Tyres and tubes

Subsequently the benefit of the scheme was extended to the following five groups of textile products:

- * Woollen yarns
- * Polypropylene spun yarn
- * Acrylic spun yarns
- * Gauze
- * Narrow woven fabrics

I am now proposing to further extend the scheme to include three more product groups in the textile sector, namely;

- * Rubberised Textile fabrics
- * Waste of synthetic filament yarns

- * Certain specified spun yarn including sewing thread and textured filament yarns.

There have been also apprehensions that in spite of exemptions from excise duty up to Rs. 30 lakh in a full year, the hitherto exempted units, would find it difficult to cope with the complex excise procedure. Many hon. Members have brought to my notice the procedural difficulties faced by the SSI sector. I do recognise that no reform can be introduced without simplifying the procedure and reducing the interface between the tax payer and tax collector to the minimum.

Sir, I wish to inform the House that the procedures for SSI sector have been substantially simplified with minimum formalities to be complied with. Steps have been taken that no harassment is caused to the SSI sector. May I highlight some of the important decisions which I have taken:

No extra records required to be maintained by small scale units.

Their own records with minor additional requirements, if necessary, will be treated adequate for excise purpose.

No separate gate passes or other documents will be required. Their own documents or challans or invoices will be accepted.

When the exemption limit of Rs. 30 lakh is crossed, the duty can be paid on the basis of bills or challans or invoices and no additional excise documentation will be required.

No monthly return will be required to be submitted. Only a simple quarterly statement is required to be filed with the excise department.

No excise official is to visit any small scale unit except with the written permission of Assistant Collector indicating the purpose of his visit.

Small scale units which are fully exempted are being given the facility of sending any goods outside without payment of duty for getting any job-work done. This has been the major demand of the people, who came to see me, that job work should be excluded and I have agreed to that proposal.

Job worker of the SSI unit will not be required to pay any excise duty on the job work.

As a further facility, the clearances of such goods sent outside for job work will not be taken into account for determining the eligibility of the small scale unit. This scheme will give substantial relief and flexibility to small scale units to upgrade their technology without losing the exemption available.

Sir, there have been some problems faced by the small forging and casting units consequent to change in the concept of brand name made in this year's budget so as to include code number, design number and drawing number also. It has been represented that generally the forgings or castings are made as per the specifications of the users and the part number or the design number is embossed mainly for the purpose of identification and subsequent use. It is not really in the nature of brand name. It has been now clarified that putting of code number, design number and drawing number would not be construed as brand name and this will provide important relief to small scale industry in the engineering sector.

I have also made changes in some other cases wherever relief was called for.

Full exemption from excise duty has already been extended in the following cases:

Hawai chappal and parts, and foot-wear of value upto Rs. 50 per pair.

Ayurvedic, unani, sidha and homeopathic medicines prepared as per authoritative books and sold under generic names.

Compounded rubber used . cap-tively.

Cotton yarn subjected to sizing.

Handkerchiefs, shawls and other clothing accessories.

Silicon in all forms.

Carbon di-oxide used captively in the manufacture of fertilizers.

Sir, I have been informed that jute industry has been affected consequent to switching over from specific to *ad valorem* rates. And, I, therefore, propose to reduce the excise duty on jute products from 10 per cent to a nominal rate of five per cent only.

Several hon. Members of Parliament have brought to my notice that the imposition of excise duty on cement clinkers has hurt a large number of small grinding units. I propose to moderate the excise duty on cement clinkers from Rs. 250 to Rs. 185 per MT.

I also propose to reduce the import duty on steel melting scrap from 10 per cent to five per cent in order to give relief to mini steel plants. Import duty on iron ore pellets is also being reduced to five per cent.

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Sir, in order to help handloom carpet industry, woollen yarn in hanks is being fully exempted from excise duty. On other woollen yarns also I propose to reduce excise duty from 15 per cent to 10 per cent.

Sir, I propose to reduce excise duty on items like scented supari from 50 per cent to 20 per cent, and on paper made from pulp containing at least 75 per cent unconventional raw materials from 10 per cent to five per cent.

I am also proposing to exempt the following products from excise duty:

Double/multifold yarn if made from duty paid yarn

Towels, blankets and other made-ups from handloom fabrics

Diversified jute products

Laminated jute products made from duty paid fabrics

Specified parts used captively for making power driven pumps

Parts of footwear used captively

PVC compounds used captively

Rubber balloons.

Copies of the exemption notifications giving effect to the above proposals will be laid on the Table of the House in due course of time.

I have some more proposals. I have received some representations concerning the withdrawal of excise duty concessions which the small units manufacturing

locks in Aligarh were enjoying prior to this budget. Even though the small scale industries exemption limits are applicable in the case of these lock manufacturing units, the restrictions imposed on the use of brand names is reported to be causing some problems. This was examined in details in the department and I deputed some of our officers to go and visit Aligarh to discuss this matter with the manufacturers. On the basis of this examination, I have found that there is some justification in the complaints made by the units. I will shortly be taking appropriate measure that would remove the difficulties faced by these units. The benefit of exemption to SSI units would not be denied on mere technicalities.

A number of units in Delhi, manufacturing small roughly shaped pieces of stainless steel sheets, popularly known as Patta Patti, have been representing to me that the procedures for payment of excise duties are difficult to be implemented by these units. The problems faced by these units have been examined in detail on the spot by senior officers of the Department. On examination, it was found that these units are scattered in a number of places and their different operations starting from the stage of receipt of stainless steel flats to the final stage manufacture of stainless steel utensils pass through different units under the ownership of different people. Although at every stage there is a value addition, on account of peculiar nature of this industry where the different operations are scattered over different places and sometimes even in the open, there is a practical problem in adhering to the established procedures of payment of excise duty. In order to relieve the problems of this industry which is peculiar, I propose to introduce a scheme of compounded levy to discharge excise duty liabilities. This was precisely the demand of the people who met me. The

rate of compounded levy is being worked out.

Manufacturers of texturised yarn have represented against the levy of excise duty on such yarns. These yarns were fully exempt from duty prior to 1.3.1994, if made from duty paid yarns. Many of these units are located in Gujarat and Maharashtra. The texturising units can get credit of duty paid on non-textured yarns and other inputs for payment of excise duty on the textured yarns. They are also eligible to get the duty credit in respect of machinery under the 'capital goods MODVAT scheme' introduced with effect from 1.3.1994. Some of the procedural problems faced by the units have already been sorted out.

In the budget proposals, I had announced the assessment of textured polyester filament yarns on tariff value basis. I have received representations for having tariff values for their textured yarns also. These are being looked into.

With these words, I have come to the end of what I have to say.... *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: What about umbrella manufacturers?... *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: I have received several representations and those are being looked into.

With these words, I commend the budget to this august House.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, nothing has been said about the revival of the big public sector undertak-

ings. I have mentioned specific units/under-takings. Thousands and thousands of people are involved. What will happen to them? Not one word is said. Even umbrella does not get any respite from him. How can we accept this?

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: Sir, on the specific issue of umbrella, I can assure the House that the small-scale exemption facility which has been extended...

...I found that of 134 units, 132 units will benefit because of the small scale exemptions. Now, therefore, you are saying that you are trying for small scale sector exemption. *(Interruptions)* It is not true. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack): Mr. Finance Minister, will you please explain one thing regarding small scale sector? On the one hand you are encouraging exemptions, You say that upto Rs. 30 lakh there will be no excise duty. But if the actual plant and machinery cost is Rs. 50 lakh or more than that the situation is different. *(Interruptions)* You are restricting the production capacity by this imposition of excise duty. You are asking small scale industry to convert itself into tiny sector. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MURLI DEORA: What he is saying is not correct. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Mr. Murlid Deora, it is not Nariman Point. It is the question of small scale sector.

Mr. Finance Minister, are you not bringing this small scale sector to tiny sector and discouraging the small scale sector to convert itself into tiny sector and ultimately opposing the total small scale sector? *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it was the issue of small scale industries.

MR. SPEAKER: We are thinking of holding a discussion on the demands for grants for the Ministry of Industry.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Several representations have been given on these points much has been said thereon but many items have been left out. The Agro-industry has also been left out. We had submitted adequate data about the weaker section also. As against Rs. 14 crore provided in the last year's budget for giving scholarships to under-matric students belonging to Scheduled Caste Rs. 4 crore less have been earmarked this year for the purpose. Similarly, a provision of Rs. 285 crore had been made in last year's budget for the students belonging to Scheduled Tribes.

MR. SPEAKER: Sharadji, this way, it will become quite lengthy.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: The allocations made in the Budget for Agriculture, Irrigation and other heads are on the lower side this year. We were informed that ten lakh people will be provided employment under the Prime Minister's 'Rojgar Yojana' but a provision of only Rs. 145 crore has been made in this respect, i.e., Rs. 1,450 per unemployed person. How can an amount of Rs. 1,450 be sufficient for providing employment to a person.

How then unemployment will be removed. In view of all these things and

the fact that this budget is against the interests of the poor, the farmers, the labourers and unemployed, we oppose it and stage a walk out from the House.

18.27 hrs.

At this stage Shri Sharad Yadav and some other hon. Members left the House.

[English]

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Sir, he has not said anything about public sector. (Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, we are very very concerned that the Finance Minister has, if I may say so, not said anything about one of the most important problems facing the country regarding the sick public sector undertakings and other sick undertakings. There is no point in our sitting here and listening to all this. Therefore, we are walking out.

18.27 ½ hrs.

At this stage Shri Somnath Chatterjee and some other hon. Members left the House.

(Interruptions)

18.28 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, April 26, 1994/Vaisakha 6, 1916 (Saka)