

Tenth Series, Vol. V, No. 45

Friday, September 13, 1991
Bhadra 22, 1913 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

First Session
(Tenth Lok Sabha)



(Vol. V contains Nos. 41 to 49)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Friday, September 13, 1991/Bhadra 22,
1913 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Through Scheduled Caste Scheduled Tribes forum we, 106 Members of Parliament went to meet the Hon. President. But it is a matter of regret that (*Interruptions*) Members of all political parties were there in the delegation, those who did not go there should not interfere; we were there, the delegation, consisted of members from all political parties. We waited at least for half-an-hour there to apprise him of the atrocities being committed on the people throughout the country. But (*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This will not go on record.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: What will go on record then?

MR. SPEAKER: Any reference to Rashtrapatiiji will not go on record.

(*Interruptions*) *

MR. SPEAKER: This is not going on record.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: This is unprecedented (*Interruptions*) *

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not shout like that.

(*Interruptions*) *

MR. SPEAKER: I am not allowing any reference to President here in this House. It is not going on record.

(*Interruptions*) *

MR. SPEAKER: Achariaji, you do not understand what you are saying. What Shri Acharia is saying, will not go on record.

(*Interruptions*) *

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, this is a very serious matter and it is unprecedented.

MR. SPEAKER: I will talk to you in the Chamber. No reference to the President will go on record. This cannot be discussed in this manner on the floor of this House. There is a procedure provided in the Constitution itself. As senior members, Please try to understand.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: This being a very serious matter, will you allow us after the Question Hour is over?

MR. SPEAKER: I will speak to you in the Chamber

(*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Our feelings should also be given due regard.

MR. SPEAKER: You should realise that the Constitution has been framed by the people and such discussion regarding the highest authority is not permissible.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: We are their voters.

MR. SPEAKER: You may be the voter but you are not a part of the Constitution, it is above you; it is above this House even. I would not allow you to go against the provisions made in the Constitution and you must go by these provisions. There must be an institution which you should—

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: After Question Hour, you please allow us. This is a very serious matter

MR. SPEAKER: I will speak to you in my Chamber

(Interruptions)

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

11.06 hrs.

[English]

National Highway No. 52

*815. **SHRI LAETA UMBREY:** Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the progress in the construction of the National Highway No. 52 in Arunachal Pradesh is very slow;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the target fixed for the completion of the Highway;

(d) the progress in the construction work

of the bridges over the rivers Siang, Dibang and Lohit; and

(e) the details of the fund allocated, year-wise since the beginning of the construction of this Highway?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) to (e). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

The Arunachal Pradesh sector of National Highway 52 (approx 336 Kms) from Jonai to Dirak was taken over by the Border Roads Organisation in phases and the process was completed in 1988.

2. At present, 90 Kms of this road, comprising the sector from Jonai to Ranaghat (42 Kms), 8.5 Km of Roing-Hunli road and Tezu to Brahmkund (40 Kms) has been completed to all weather specifications. Another 166 Kms, in various stretches, is trafficable only during fair weather. As regards the balance 80 kms, construction has been taken up in respect of 21 Kms from Passighat to Mebo. Construction of the remaining 59 Kms will be taken up on finalisation of the road alignment and sitting of bridges, which is under investigation by a Technical Board. A time schedule for completion of the works on the Highway will be finalised on receipt of the Board's report.

3. The following progress has been achieved in construction of Siang and Lohit bridges:-

Siang	-	28%
Lohit	-	13.5%

The construction of Dibang bridge will be taken up only after the alignment of the Mebo-Nizamghat sector of the road is finalised.

4. The funds allocated and expenditure incurred on these works since 1982-83 are given below:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>Allocation</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>
<i>(Rs. in lakhs)</i>		
1982-83	5	5
1983-84	43	43
1984-85	85	117
1985-86	98	127
1986-87	185	223
1987-88	280	311
1988-89	588	682
1989-90	695	976
1990-91	1104	968
	3083	3452
Performa Charges	87	
Total:-	3170 ***	3452

*** Excess expenditure of Rs. 282 lakhs is spread over a period of 10 years.

SHRI LAETA UMBREY: Sir, the Arunachal Pradesh sector of National Highway 52, which is approximately 336 Kms long, was taken over by the Border Roads Organisation in 1982-83. It has incurred an expenditure of Rs. 34.52 crores only in nearly 10 years. 90 Kms of this road has been completed to all weather specifications. Another 116 Kms, in various stretches, is trafficable only during fair weather. As stated by the Minister, this has not been constructed by the Border Roads Organisation but it has been taken over from the State P.W.D.

Unfortunately, even today the Border Roads Organisation could not complete the alignment of 59 Kms of this road. On completion, the National Highway 52 of this sector will connect three districts of Arunachal Pradesh, namely, East Siang, Dibang and Lohit. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, whether the new Government will take up this road on priority by allocating more funds.

SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR: Sir, we share the concern of the hon. Member about

the priority to be given to this National Highway and the importance this National Highway has in the development of Arunachal Pradesh. Sir, it is true that the construction of this Highway has not been as fast as we would have desired and this is because of some factors which are peculiar to the North-Eastern region.

There is no road at all existing for 80 Kms between Ranaghat Nizamghat and 8.5 Km on Roing-Hunli and these Portions of the road have to be constructed. Another 77 Kms road requires realignment. Yet another 95 Kms require proper siting of bridges, that is marginal realignment.

Sir, this road cuts across a very large number of major rivers. 46 water gaps require major permanent bridges. Some of the rivers change course during the year. Therefore, there is difficulty in finalising the alignment of the road and siting of bridges. Movement of men, material equipment, etc. is very time consuming. Three bridges are under construction; 18 bridges are under investigation. Considering the magnitude and importance of the problem a Technical Committee has been constituted by the Defence Ministry to coordinate planning, programming and speedy execution of the projects. Availability of funds is not the constraint. The problems which I mentioned are the constraints.

SHRI LAETA UMBREY: Sir, I do not know the hon. Minister has received this information. As I belong to this locality, I know very well about it. About 90 km. to 160 km. of all weather roads are not constructed by the Border Roads Organisation. But this has been taken over by the PWD. My second supplementary question is this. After completion of this National Highway 52, this will link some of the routes, leading to the Chinese border.

There is another District Headquarter of Dibang Valley which is called Anini and it was linked by road only last year, but it is not an all-weather road.

There is another circle administration by name Walong. It was captured by Chinese during 1962 aggression. This administrative headquarter had also been linked by road last year. In these two roads, traffic cannot go. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether, you will take up this issue on a priority basis.

SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR: We are aware that this National Highway is of a strategic importance and that is the reason why it is under the administrative and works control of the Border Roads Organisation. As I have mentioned in the answer to the first supplementary, several portions of this National Highway's alignment are yet to be finalised. The suggestion of the hon. Member for linking these two points which he has mentioned in his supplementary can be considered by the Government. We can examine his suggestion.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, almost all the border areas of the country have been covered by road and in the same line the construction of the road (highway) from Darbhanga to Forbesganj had been approved by the then Prime Minister, Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru in order to cover the border areas touching China, Bengal (Bangladesh) and Nepal. But the Ministry of Defence has not yet started the construction of this road. Hence, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the construction of that road is under his consideration which is very important from the security point of view.

[*English*]

SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR: Sir, the Border Roads Organisation has constructed and is in charge of more than 18000 km. of roads and we are achieving something like 700 km. of construction of roads, on an average, every year. It is a continuing process. To the question which the Hon. Member has asked, about a particular road near Bengal-Nepal Border. I do not have the

ready answer. I will have to verify it at what stage that particular proposal has reached.

Separation of Judiciary from Executive in hill districts of Assam

*816. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the judiciary is not separated from executive in Karbi Anglong and North Cachar hill districts of Assam;

(b) if so, the policy of the Union Government in this regard;

(c) whether the Government propose to separate the judiciary from executive in these two hill districts and bring it at par with the rest of the country;

(d) if so, when; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) As per information made available by the State Government, the judiciary is not separated from the executive in these districts of Assam.

(b) Provisions of the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution of India apply to the Administration of the tribal areas referred to in (a) above.

(c) to (e). No such proposal is under consideration at present.

DR. JAYANTA RONGPI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has confessed that judiciary is not separated from the executive in the hill districts of Karbi Anglong and North Cachar. To the part (b) of my question regarding the Government's policy in regard to non-separation of judiciary from the executive he has mentioned this.

He has mentioned that it is a provision of the Sixth Schedule which is applicable to the administration of these two districts of Assam. Here the concerned provision of this para four of the Sixth Schedule has clearly restricted the District Councils from judicial functioning; they can administer the judicial functioning only when the cases are among the tribals. If one of the parties of the dispute is non-tribal, the District Council cannot try their case. So, all other cases, where involvement of the non-tribals is there and where one of the parties is non-tribal, are tried by the normal courts.

Even the District Councils could not be established in 1951 because of the obstacles and hindrances placed by the State Government. So, not a single case of the tribals during the last 40 years has been tried by the District Council. So, for all practical purposes, the judicial functions have been performed by the normal courts since Independence. In view of this, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, whether he thinks that this practice of non-separation of judiciary from the executive is in violation of the basic principle of neutrality and natural justice; whether he thinks or not that these people of the hill districts of Assam are being deprived of their natural justice because the judiciary is not being separated from the executive.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM: With regard to separation of judiciary from the executive, under Article 50 of the Constitution itself - Directive Principles of State Policy - it is clearly laid down that the State would and shall take steps to separate the judiciary from the executive in the public services of the Union. But, in addition to this, the Constitution itself envisaged in the Sixth Schedule and has categorically set out a methodology by which the question of application of laws of Civil Procedure as well as Criminal Procedure would apply in case of certain tribal areas which are notified, specified. This has been done in the framework of the Constitution in the case of tribal areas which have got historical background where the customs and methods of functioning are

different from other areas. It is with this scheme of things that the Sixth Schedule itself is there. Under Clause 5 of the Sixth Schedule, it is categorically laid down that it is the Governor who will decide on the applicability of the Code of Civil Procedure and the code of Criminal Procedure with regard to these areas.

With regard to the Government of India's overall policy, we are totally in tune with it; and we have to be in tune with it. Under Article 50, we believe in the separation of the judiciary from the executive; and it is keeping this in mind and applying the recommendations of the various Law Commissions starting from the 37th itself that the Criminal Procedure Code of 1974, when it was enacted, categorically had divided what is called the Judicial Magistrates and the Executive Magistrates. But the applicability of this will depend on the decision that the State Government would take, the Governor would take; and that is provided in the Constitution. There is very little that the Union Government can do in this matter. Since this is a matter which is quite delicate, we would not like to voice our views what is right and what is wrong; and within the framework of the Constitution of India, it is not really proper for us to say that it is unfair or fair to those specified two districts in Assam.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: You can very well advise the Governor.

DR. JAYANTA RONGPI: I need your protection. He did not answer my supplementary question. I asked categorically whether he thinks this is a deprivation of the people of the two hill districts of Assam of their basic rights of natural justice. He did not reply this question.

MR. SPEAKER: You are asking for the opinion; it is not given on the Floor of the House.

DR. JAYANTA RONGPI: He has misquoted the procedure also. With your permission, I would like to read out just a few lines of para 4 in the Sixth Schedule. It is

clearly mentioned in Paragraph 4 of the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution and I quote:

" 4. Administration of justice in autonomous districts and autonomous regions.

(1) The Regional Council for an autonomous region in respect of areas within such region and the District Council for an autonomous district in respect of areas within the district other than those which are under the authority of the Regional Councils, if any, within the district may constitute village councils or courts for the trial of suits and cases between the parties all of whom belong to Scheduled Tribes within such areas"

So, my second question is, that - as he has misquoted the Constitution I am quoting it—

MR. SPEAKER: Are you asking your second supplementary?

DR. JAYANTA RONGPI: He has misquoted it, that is why I am quoting the Constitution where the provision is laid down.

MR. SPEAKER: This is not a court of law where we are interpreting the Constitution. You can put a question and get a reply. It is for the court to interpret the Constitution and the law. We do not have the time for that purpose here.

DR. JAYANTA RONGPI: For all practical purposes, the judicial district councils have now been governed by the traditional customs or customary laws. It has been so since independence. Not a single case has been tried under the criminal law in the court

in the districts of Karbi Anglong and North Cachar hill districts. It is done by the normal courts. This is the only part of the country where the Deputy Commissioner or the Deputy Collector is the Sessions Judge and the Judicial Magistrates and the Executive Magistrates are also the Judicial Magistrates.

MR. SPEAKER: Please put the question.

DR. JAYANTA RONGPI: I would like to know whether the Government would write to the Government of Assam that they should separate the judiciary from the executive in the interests of natural justice.

MR. SPEAKER: This is left to the State Government to do it. If you want, you reply to it.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM: If I may clarify, per chance, if I voice an opinion, immediately my honourable friends on the other side will say that I am interfering with what is called the State's jurisdiction and I am doing what is normally called, axe to break down the federal structure within the Constitution and they will quote the Sarkaria Commission, the Law Commission and everything. I have said categorically that the Government is committed to the Directive Principles of State Policy. We think, principally that there should be a division between the judiciary and the executive; and nothing more I should say at this moment. If I do say anything more, it would definitely mean stepping on the toes of the State Government.

SHRI MOHAMMAD YUNUS SALEEM: You can issue a directive.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: An ex-Governor is advising the Law Minister!

SHRI MOHAMMAD YUNUS SALEEM: Under the Directive Principles you can issue a directive.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: The Minister is very intelligently trying to evade

the question and enunciating the general principle.

MR. SPEAKER: Let us be fair to him.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: I am paying a compliment to him that he is intelligent.

Dr. Jayanta Rongpi, the hon. Member of the House has brought certain facts and the feelings of the people of that area, that they strongly feel that the judiciary is not separated from the executive, and therefore many people are not getting a fair justice.

Now this is an all-India question. It was decided in an all-India Judicial Conference that this provision of the Constitution about the separation of the judiciary from the executive should be implemented. Now the Minister has said that it is for the Governor to do it. Will the Government advise the Governor of Assam or the State Government of Assam, that keeping these facts in mind, they may consider this question, at least let them consider it and invite public opinion?

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM: I think it would not be proper for me to say that the Government of India would advise the Governor on this issue. Let me categorically say that we would definitely communicate the feelings of the honourable Member and the other Members that they are not satisfied with the non-separation of the judiciary and executive, to the Government of Assam.

SHRI MOHAMMAD YUNUS SALEEM: Are you satisfied?

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM: We have categorically stated that we are committed to Article 50 of the Constitution. It is enshrined as a Directive Principle of State Policy and we are committed to it. But, then, it is specifically provided in the Constitution itself that in so far as the tribal areas are concerned an exception will be made and it would be the Governor, with the aid and advice of the Council of Ministers of

that State also would decide as to whether it should apply or it should not apply. And if we, in the present scheme of things, in the present framework of the Constitution, start giving directives, we might be seriously stepping on the toes of separation of powers between the State and the Centre. I would not like to do that.

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM: Sir, We have just heard from the hon. Minister that the people of that area are feeling that they are being denied the natural justice and thereby they are being treated as second class citizen of the country. The hon. Minister has just said that it has been laid down in the Constitution. My question is, whether the Government is supporting for putting up an amendment to the Constitution so that this separation of judicial from the executive can be made in the near future.

MR. SPEAKER: He is asking, 'would you like to amend the Constitution to facilitate it?'.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM: Sir, I have understood his question. I would like to make it very clear that this is not only with regard to two districts which have been quoted here but also this deals with all the tribal areas which have been notified. It is not an easy question to answer straight off hand because there is justification in certain other places like in Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI S. VIJAYA RAMA RAJU: Sir, the same system is prevailing in the scheduled districts of Srikakulam, Vizayanagaram and Kamam in Andhra Pradesh and the Executive Magistrates are having this judicial powers there. So, will the hon. Minister write to the Government of Andhra Pradesh also asking them to separate the judicial powers from the executive.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM: I will convey the feelings of the hon. Member to the Government of Andhra Pradesh also.

SHRI IMCHALEMBA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the questioner has put this question in regard to two hill districts consisting of tribal areas of Assam. Though it has been provided in the Sixth Schedule, till to day the District Council has not been vested with the powers of judiciary and is being exercised by Executive Head of the district administration. There are many cases where even though the tribals they have peacefully settled cases through customary laws the police had gone again picked up such cases and as a result of which, lots of dissensions and inter tribal feelings have been created among the people. Sir, In the case of Nagaland - we - even the cases of killings, murders and certain other arsons are settled by customary laws and the police do not interfere in such cases. Similarly the two tribal areas of Assam have their own tribal and customary laws by which they want to settle cases then only should the police drag these people to the normal court of law? After they have settled the cases, then they should be made to go to court again (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: What is your question please?

SHRI IMCHALEMBA: My point is ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Not point, put your question.

SHRI IMCHALEMBA: My question is this. As it is already provided in the Sixth Schedule, why till today the judicial powers to exercise customary courts laws not been given to the District Councils?

MR. SPEAKER: He has already given a reply to this question. If the Minister likes to reply it again, he can do it.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM: I would like to clarify to the hon. Member and repeat once again that it is not for the Central Government, under the Sixth Schedule, either to apply or to ensure the implementation of the Sixth Schedule. Fortunately or unfortunately, under the present

scheme, it is the Governor who shall notify on the aid and advice of the Council of Ministers of the said State. And if the Scheduled Tribe Members of Parliament, who represent those areas, feel differently, I would request them to take up the matter with the respective State Government and ensure that State Governments take action.

[Translation]

Tea Estates

*819 SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of tea-estates in the country, State-wise;

(b) the number of sick tea estates among them;

(c) whether the Government propose to nationalise the sick tea-estates to make these viable;

(d) if so, when; and

(e) if not, the other steps proposed to be taken by the Government to make these tea-estates viable?

[English]

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (e). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) As per the last compiled figures of 1988, the state-wise number of tea estates registered with Tea Board are as follows:-

<i>State</i>	<i>No. of registered tea estates</i>
Assam	848
West Bengal	337
Tripura	58
Bihar	4
Uttar Pradesh	31
Himachal Pradesh	1385
Manipur	2
Sikkim	1
Arunachal Pradesh	5
Nagaland	1
Orissa	1
Tamil Nadu	6802

<i>State</i>	<i>No. of registered tea estates</i>
Kerala	4087
Karnataka	16
Total	13578

(b) According to the status paper prepared by the Tea Board during 1989-90, there were 145 weak and closed units in the country.

(c) There is no proposal to nationalise the sick tea estates.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Revival of the sick Tea Estates is primarily the responsibility of the respective owners. The Government is operating a number of developmental schemes through the Tea Board for improving productivity. Benefits under these can also be availed of by the owners of the Sick Tea Estates. Government have also asked Tea Board to motivate private owners of such Tea Estates to prepare rehabilitation packages and secure loans for revival of their gardens.

[*Translation*]

SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir I would like to know from the hon. Minister the policy of the Government with regard to 40,000 labourers rendered unemployed and are on the verge of starvation as a result of suspension of production in tea gardens due to ULFA movement in Assam; and the measures Govt. propose to take to restart the production in tea estates?

[*English*]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, this question concerns the sick tea-estates. I assume the hon. Member's supplementary relates to sick tea-estates. As far as sick tea-

estates are concerned, Assam has got 61 weak or closed tea-estates. In 1989, a Status Paper was prepared for identifying the reasons for sickness. Based on the reasons of sickness, the Tea Board has been directed to ask each one of these tea-estates to work out rehabilitation packages. The Tea Board is willing to help them, rehabilitate themselves. If the present owners are not in a position to rehabilitate their tea-estates taking advantage of any of these programmes, the best course would be to dispose of their estates because there are a large number of estate owners and tea companies who are willing to take on additional land for developing tea-estates. If any particular tea-estate wants to avail of these rehabilitation programmes that we have launched, I am willing to ask the Tea Board to look at it closely and help them rehabilitate themselves.

[*Translation*]

SHRI VILASRAO NAGRATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, out of these tea estates; there are some sick tea estates and the number of sick tea estates is increasing due to ULFA movement. What steps are being taken by the Govt. in this regard?

[*English*]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, it is not correct to say that they are in large numbers. Out of 13578 Tea-estates which are registered, 145 have been declared to be sick. These are private tea-estates. It is really for the private owners to take steps to avail of rehabilitation packages. We are willing to help them, rehabilitate themselves. But, they

must come forward and take advantage of the programmes.

SHRI NANI BHATTACHARYA: Sir, the Minister has given the number of tea gardens as 13578. Where from did he obtain this figure? Within this figure there are a quite a large number of tea plantations comprising an area varying from 1 hectare to 5-6 hectares. So, they cannot be called tea gardens. There has been a mushroom growth in the plantations recently because of the expanding international market and price that the industry fetches. Even then it cannot be called tea gardens. They have no factory, nothing of the sort. Part b of my question is whether the Government is prepared to rehabilitate these sick and weak gardens by taking over the management through organisations like Tea Trading Corporation and something like that, and encourage co-operative of the tea trading workers with full support to the workers' efforts in various respects.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I am grateful to the hon. Member for raising this question. As regards part (a) of the question, the figure of 13,578 which I gave is based upon the provision of the Tea Act which requires registration of every tea estate by the Tea Board. This number is of the tea estates registered with the Tea Board and I like to believe that it is a correct figure.

Many of these tea estates do not have factories because they require a large amount of investment. But the practice is for tea estates to share a common tea factory and many tea estates which have a factory, make available their capacity to neighbouring tea estates on lease basis. I do not think that they become sick only because they do not have the factories. The reasons that are identified, based on the study done in 1989, are:

1. Management deficiency;
2. Financial stringency
3. Lack of technical know-how

4. Disturbed labour-management relations
5. Floods and soil erosion
6. Ownership disputes
7. Continued lack of development activities.

After identifying these factors, we have worked out a rehabilitation programme. We have written to each one of these estates to come and take advantage of the programmes. We are willing to help each estate, by way of rehabilitation programmes, to meet the particular problems of each estate. Cooperatisation is one solution. But I may also tell the hon. Members that ten weak gardens have already been taken over by the cooperative societies in Tripura. If more tea gardens want to take advantage of the rehabilitation programme and form cooperatives, I am willing to help them form these cooperatives.

SHRI NANI BHATTACHARYA: Actually, Sir, the Minister should clarify certain things. This is a very important question. Tea industry is one amongst the few top most foreign exchange earning industries. Therefore, it is a very important industry. You know, Sir, that they have got the market, both internal and external. There has been a mushroom growth of small and petty tea gardens with five hectares, six hectares. They cannot be called tea gardens, even not according to the statement of the Tea Board. In most cases, I know the South India's position. I know the position of the recent mushroom growth of tea gardens which is taking place in Tarai area of Darjeeling district, including West Dinajpur. They cannot be called tea gardens. They are only single man's private ownership, not even joint stock companies. So, I wanted to know that to save the industry, what is the Government contemplating. This was the latter part of my question which the hon. Minister has not answered. But so far as the figure is concerned, he will have to ask the Tea Board to

revise the list which he has obtained from the Tea Board.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, since the hon. Member presses his point vehemently and I have great respect for the hon. Member, I will ask the Tea Board to verify the number once again.

SHRI P. C. CHACKO: Sir, there are more than four thousand tea estates in Kerala, second only to Tamil Nadu. Out of these four thousand and odd tea estates, more than one thousand tea estates are either closed or are on the verge of closure. That is not reflected in the status paper prepared by the Tea Board on the basis of which the hon. Minister has answered the question here. I may mention that especially after the price hike of the fertilisers, it has become uneconomical. Will the Government take up the matter with the nationalised banks and other financial institutions to give top priority treatment for the revival proposal of the tea estate? A very low priority is accorded to the revival proposal of tea estates. Also, will the Government consider to direct the Tea Board to introduce re-plantation scheme on the same basis as that of Rubber Board for the re-plantation of the old tea estates?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, the hon. Member is presenting a rather alarming picture in Kerala. According to our figures, there are only 11 tea estates which are registered as weak or sick. The total number of tea estates in Kerala is 4,087. They are very small estates. I attended the meeting of United Planters' Association of South India three days ago. I met a large number of growers from Kerala and their mood is upbeat. This year the south Indian tea production is expected to be 8 per cent higher than last year. I do not share the pessimism of the hon. Member. If there is any particular problem I am willing to discuss with him. If any particular estate is requiring rehabilitation, I am willing to look into that. But the mood in the south Indian tea industry is very upbeat and their production is very high.

SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTH: Sir,

the tea industry is the biggest foreign exchange earning industry in Assam. Unfortunately this industry is becoming weaker day by day for different reasons. This is evident in the whole of Assam and in particular in the Barak valley. The Assam Tea Corporation has taken over the management of several tea gardens. Unfortunately the A.T.C. managed tea gardens are going down, day by day. One tea garden - Pathini Tea Estate - which is situated just on the Bangladesh border was taken over by the Assam Tea Corporation a few years back. Now the condition of this tea garden is such that it is going to be closed down. There are other tea gardens in Barak valley and other parts of the State which are going to be closed down. May I know from the hon. Minister as to what measures the Government is contemplating to take to help those tea gardens which are weak. Even those gardens which are under the Assam Tea Corporation are also gradually deteriorating. What is the Government proposing to do in such a situation to help the industry?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, according to my figures, the Assam Tea Corporation owns 14 tea estates and is managing one tea estate. If some of these are sick, then it is for the Assam Tea Corporation and the Assam Government to look into the reasons for sickness and rehabilitate them. Speaking on behalf of the Government of India and the Tea Board, we are willing to help every tea estate which is sick and which needs a rehabilitation package. We have worked out a rehabilitation package and I am willing to help anyone including the Assam Tea Corporation. But this question must really be addressed to the Government of Assam to take advantage of the rehabilitation programme and spend some money to improve the management and also bring the Assam Tea Corporation to book if there is any problem.

Export of Iron ore to Japan

*820. **SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to scale down the export of iron ore to Japan;

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

(c) the reaction of Japan thereto; and

(d) the total requirement of iron ore by the sponge and pig iron plants in the country and the availability thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) to (c). Exports of iron ore to Japan by MIMTC and KIOCL are being effected as per the provisions of the Memorandum of Agreement signed with the Japanese Steel Mills in October, 1990 which provides for a range of the minimum and the Maximum quantities to be supplied for a period of five years commencing April 1991. Actual tonnage and price are to be decided every year. The quantity contracted for export to Japan for the year 1991-92 from different sectors is 12.3 million tonnes. In addition to this quantity, iron ore of Goan and Redi origin will continue to be exported as per the existing arrangements. The commitments in respect of these contracted quantities are expected to be fulfilled.

(d) The total requirement of iron ore for sponge and pig iron plants in the country for 1991-92 is estimated by the Department of Steel to range from 2.396 to 2.796 million tonnes and same is being met indigenously.

SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Sir, there are reports that the Government feels that the export commitments of iron ore to Japan needs to be scaled down by at least one million tonnes against the commitment of 4.5 million tonnes in view of the mushrooming growth of sponge and pig iron projects in and around Visakhapatnam and

Madhya Pradesh. May I know whether it is the Government's policy to give a thrust to develop the steel industry which is in a buoyant place so that the country can export finished steel items rather than iron ore and if so what steps have been taken in this regard and what is the decision of the C.C.P.A. in this regard?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I can hardly disclose any decision of the C.C.P.A. unless and until the Government taken a decision. I think the hon. Member is referring to the Bailadilla ore because he mentioned the figure of 4.5 million tonnes. This is based on annual contract. The contract for the year 1991-92 was entered into on the 7th February, 1991, during the tenure of the previous Government. When the time comes to make the next annual contract, I shall keep every suggestion in mind.

SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: I asked about the policy of the Government, whether the Government has got the intention to manufacture steel instead of exporting iron ore.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, we welcome the establishment of more sponge iron and pig iron plants. I believe the Ministry of Steel has already made the policy announcement in this behalf and if any one sets up a sponge iron or a pig iron plant, iron ore will be made available to those plants. We have enough deposits of iron ore and Indian steel makers will not be deprived of iron ore. *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SATYNARAYAN JATIYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the iron-ore being exported to other countries is five times more than what is required in our own country. It is of great concern that there is a vast difference in the prices of Pallatised iron and steel iron and we will continue to export this valuable item for five years as per agreement. Through you, Sir, I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that the price of the iron ore we get from export, is very low as compared to the

prices of pollatised iron and steel iron.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Jatla ji, put your question.

SHRI SATYNARAYAN JATIYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister the difference in the prices of iron-ore, palatised iron, steel iron and the steel we import.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, the question is on exports. I will give him the figures which I have. If he really wishes to know the details about iron ore, the question should be addressed to the Steel Ministry. But I will give you the figures which I have.

According to my figures, requirement of iron ore by pig iron plants and sponge iron for 1991-92 is as follows:-

Pig iron	..	0.296 million tonnes
Sponge iron	..	2.484 million tonnes
Total:		2.780 million tonnes

This is the requirement of the total iron ore. In the Bailadila sector the total requirement is 1.30 million tonnes.

SHRI SATYNARAYAN JATIYA: What about the cost? (*Interruptions*)

steel than currently required by them so as to be used in future and we are exporting extra quantity of steel? I would like to ask the Minister whether instead of exporting extra steel to Japan he will try to export agricultural products.

[Translation]

SHRI AYUB KHAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, is the hon. Minister aware that tungsten iron is exported to other countries? If so, whether the requirements of our own country are being met; and if it is not adequate to fulfil these requirements the Minister may kindly tell how much it falls short and whether our defence requirements of tungsten iron are being met.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, the question relates to the export of iron ore. We have a mix of iron ores in this country. Some are of lower quality and some are of higher quality. Now, the question arises really because of Bailadila. In Bailadila what is found is "plus 65 percent FE", whereas the ferrous content is 67 per cent. We have a large amount of other iron ore deposits which have a lower ferrous content of 62 per cent what has been agreed to between the Government and the Japanese is that we will export to them a mix of iron ores. A five year agreement was entered into in October 1990 and the annual contract was made on 7.2.1991 during the tenure of the previous Government. Fortunately, it gives us the flexibility to decide about the quantity and the price every year. As I said, all suggestions made and all relevant considerations will be kept in mind when the time comes to make the next agreement. I do not wish to find fault with anyone for making the agreement in the past. But I want to make it clear that the agreement was signed on 7.2.1991 for the

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I have no information about the tungsten iron. I have to collect the information.

SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL: Sir, my information is that Japan is having some future plan. They are dumping coal in the sea so that when the coal deposits are exhausted in the country of origin Japan will be able to utilise the coal so dumped in the sea. Is it a fact that Japan is trying to purchase more

year 1991-92. I will certainly keep every aspect in mind while we decide about the agreement for the next year.

[Translation]

SHRIDAU DAYAL JOSHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is true that iron-ore is exported at cheaper rates and steel is being imported from Japan at higher rates. He may also tell us the price we get from export of iron ore per tonne and the price, we pay for importing steel per tonne. When India itself is in a position to manufacture steel by what time it will become self-reliant in this regard?

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, the last point about self-sufficiency of steel should be addressed to the Ministry of Steel. I am sure they will clarify the hon. Member's point. As far as the export of iron ore is concerned, from Bailadila sector, we export at the rate of 25.90 dollars per tonne for lumps. This price, of course, includes the transport cost from Bailadila mines to the port and for the domestic manufacturer, it is sold approximately at Rs.200/- per tonne. These are aspects which must be taken into account while deciding the price. As I said earlier, this agreement for 1991-92 was made on 7.2.1991. I shall keep every aspect in mind including the price, the comparative advantage of export price and the domestic price and the benefit of value addition where we decide about the next year's contract.

DR. (SMT.) K.S. SOUNDARAM: Sir, there is shortage of pig iron supply to Tamil Nadu. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government will take any step for uninterrupted supply of pig iron to Tamil Nadu.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, the question of shortage of pig iron to some steel mill in Tamil Nadu should be addressed to the Ministry of Steel and Mines and they will deal with the question. I am dealing only with the export of iron ore.

SHRI K.P. REDDAIAH YADAV: Sir, the Government had entered into an agreement with Japanese firm in October, 1990 and they had entered into another agreement in February, 1991. What is the rate that was contracted in October, 1990 and what is the rate that was contracted in February, 1991? I would also like to know whether the Government of India is getting any increase every year when they export iron ore to the Japanese firm. Then, what is the difference between 1990 and 1991 agreements?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, in October, 1990 what was entered into was a five year Memorandum of Agreement, an umbrella agreement. That provides for export of iron ore from the ports of Vishakapatnam, Madras, Paradeep, Kudremukh and New Mangalore and they give a range of quantities to be exported to Japan in fines and lumps. The Annual Contract is the contract which fixes the price and the quantity. That annual contract was entered into on 7.2.1991 only for the year 1991-92. Under that annual contract, as I said earlier, we will be exporting to Japan in 1991-92, 5 million tonnes from Bailadila, 2.50 million tonnes from Bellary-Hospet, 1.70 million tonnes from Barajamda, 9 million tonnes from Goa, 3.15 million tonnes from KIOCL and 0.16 million tonnes from Redi. This is what we will export. But the price as fixed for Bailadila which is the best ore is \$ 25.99 per metric tonne for lumps and \$ 20.99 per metric tonne for the fines. As far as the next year is concerned, I do not wish to disclose my hand. I want to keep this for the negotiations. It will not be proper, at this stage, to ask me to disclose what price we will negotiate. But I will keep every suggestion in my mind and I will ensure that the best advantage is secured for India within the parameters of the five-year agreement. But let me say India has the absolute liberty to negotiate and fix the quantity and the price. We have not been bound for all the five years. We have entered into an annual contract, on quantity and price.

SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR: Sir, the iron-ore of Bastar has got a very high

content of iron. It is one of the rarest in the world, but the price fixed at this moment is extremely very low. Is the hon. Minister thinking of increasing the price as soon as possible? If it is not so, please don't sell it at so low a price so that our own steel plants which are coming up today can make use of it. For example there is the Bhilai Steel Plant. It has got only 4.5 million tonnes of iron-ore now. It is going to touch the 10 million tonnes mark. It has got high content of iron ore. Unless we get high price, will the Minister think of stopping the selling of iron-ore abroad? Rather, it can be consumed and produced in our own country.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I am keeping many things in mind. I would appeal to hon. Members not to force me to disclose these things. These are matters to be negotiated. You can rest assured we will secure for India the best advantage keeping in mind the quantity for export and the quantity for domestic consumption.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: Sir, fortunately India is one of the few countries in the world which has got one of the largest iron-ore deposits. But it does not mean that our iron-ore should be sold at a throw away price. What we are getting as \$ 25 per metric tonne, including the freight rate from the mines to the port, is a throw away price. Is the Minister aware of this fact that as back as 1974-75 a decision was taken that we would not export iron-ore but rather we would like to export iron-pellets, pig-iron and sponge-iron so that we could have much higher and better prices? Will the Minister take up this issue before exporting the iron-ore in such a big quantity? I am told the Japanese are dumping it in the sea, because they do not have iron-ore, they will use it for the coming years as they are purchasing it at such a low price.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I am aware of the matters which the hon. Member Shri Chandra Jeet Yadav has expressed. I am aware of a number of other factors also. I can only assure this honourable House that I will ensure that the best advantage is se-

cured for India. I do not wish to criticise what has happened. I am only pointing out that the agreement entered into on 7.2.91 is an annual agreement valid only for 1991-92. We are at liberty to decide to sell or not to sell, the quantity and the price I will keep every suggestion in mind every factor in mind when the time comes for the next negotiation.

[Translation]

Pension to Ex-servicemen

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*822. **PROF. PREM DHUMAL :**
SHRI ANAND RATNA
MAURYA :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of ex-servicemen in the country, State - wise and the total amount of pension being paid to them;

(b) whether there are ex-servicemen who are not getting any pensions; and

(c) if so, the number of such ex-servicemen, State-wise?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Verified figures of the number of ex-Servicemen in the country are not available. The total number of Armed Force pensioners in the country is 11,00,180, as per details in Annex 'A'. The total amount of pension paid to them during 1990-91 was approx Rs.1105 crores.

2. Statistics regarding the number of ex-Servicemen who are not in receipt of pen-

sions are not maintained. Ex-Servicemen who have not rendered the minimum pensionable service as per the Pension Regula-

tions or have received lump sum gratuity in lieu of monthly pension etc. are not entitled to receive pension.

ANNEX 'A'

Statement Showing State-Wise Number of Ex-Servicemen Pensioners

1.	U.P.	2,10,757
2.	Bihar	30,381
3.	Orissa	8,743
4.	West Bengal	39,464
5.	M.P.	24,266
6.	Meghalaya	1,968
7.	Assam	17,116
8.	Nagaland	8
9.	Manipur	2,070
10.	Punjab	1,40,629
11.	Haryana	1,10,065
12.	H.P.	47,355
13.	Rajasthan	82,143
14.	J & K	38,385
15.	Chandigarh	5,600
16.	Delhi	23,328
17.	Maharashtra	96,768
18.	Gujarat	5,863
19.	Goa	550
20.	Tamil Nadu	66,767
21.	Andhra Pradesh	38,158
22.	Karnataka	30,154

23.	Kerala	79,128
24.	Pondicherry	514
Total:-		11,00180

[Translation]

PROF. PREM DHUMAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the figures given by the hon. Minister in regard to the number of Ex-servicemen reveal that he does not possess verified figures. I wonder, in such circumstances as to how the Government would do welfare of Ex-servicemen. Part (a) of my question is whether the Government proposes to take measures in future to make the information in regard to Ex-servicemen available at the time of census so that the cases of those widows who do not get pension are settled. Part (b) of my question is whether the Govt. will consider to give employment in para military forces on priority basis to such Ex-servicemen who have not been able to complete the full term of their service due to unavailable circumstances.

[English]

SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR: Sir, the figure 11 lakh given is the number of pensioners. The number of ex-servicemen is about 43 lakhs as per the statistics collected from the State Governments. We have, from the Defence Ministry, requested information on ex-servicemen to be added, to the questionnaire used during the census. They have done that. We hope that the census figures will be available very shortly and then the exact figure of ex-servicemen will be known to us.

As regard the latter para of the supplementary, I can only say that the request can be considered on merits.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**[English]****Privatisation of NTC Mills**

*817. **SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY:** Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal regarding privatisation of some of the textile mills which are at present under the National Textile Corporation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Common Examination for Recruitment of Probationary Officers in Nationalised Banks.

* 818. **SHRI RAM NARESH SINGH:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of examinations conducted separately in 1990-91 for recruitment of Probationary Officers in the different nationalised banks;

(b) the expenditure incurred on conducting these examinations;

(c) whether there is any proposal to hold a common examination for recruitment of probationary officers by all the nationalised banks, and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) According to the information received from the ten Banking Service Recruitment Boards, who recruit officers for various

nationalised banks, seven of them had conducted eight examinations for recruitment of officers during the year 1990-91.

(b) Rs. 2.21 crores.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Retirement Benefits to GIC Employees.

* 821. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to introduce pension scheme for the employees of the General Insurance Corporation (GIC);

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the other retirement benefits being given to the GIC employees at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. As the employees of the General Insurance Corporation are entitled to contributory provident fund, it is not considered feasible to give them the benefit of pension scheme also.

(c) The other retirement benefits given to them are—gratuity, provident fund and leave encashment.

Export Target.

* 823. SHRI DHARAMPAL SINGH MALIK:
SHRI GANGADHARA SANIPALLI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the export target fixed for 1991-92 in terms of dollars;

(b) the steps proposed to be taken to achieve the same;

(c) the export target for agricultural commodities during the above period; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to increase the share of agriculture based industries in the total exports?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) and (c) The Ministry is preparing an export target for 1991-92 taking into consideration major changes in world economy, trade reforms announced in the months of July and August 1991, other economic reforms and severe constraints on trade which still persist mainly in terms of import availability and credit restrictions. The target exercise conducted by the Ministry involves intensive dialogue at commodity group/sector-level with various Export Promotion Councils and authorities. The target will be announced as soon as the exercise is over.

(b) and (d) The Government introduced a package of trade policy reforms in July and August, 1991 aimed at strengthening export incentives, eliminating a substantial volume of import licensing and optimal import compression. REP licences have been replaced by a new instrument named EXIM Scrips. The basic rate of 30% f.o.b. value at which EXIM Scrips are issued will be an added incentive to the exporters of primary agricultural commodities, as the import intensity of these commodities is quite low. To encourage export of value-added agricultural exports, the trade policy provided for grant of additional EXIM Scrips entitlement of 10 percentage points, taking EXIM Scrips rate to 40% f.o.b. value for certain value-added agricultural products. Central Budget 1991-92 has granted duty concessions on import of slaughter house equipment to encourage export of value-added meat and meat prod-

ucts. For export promotion, Commodity Boards/Authorities participate in trade fairs organised by the Trade Fair Authority of India. Delegations are also sent abroad with a view to boost our exports. Since export is linked with the production, measures to increase production through planned schemes as approved by the Planning Commission are undertaken by the Commodity Boards and Authorities.

Public Sector Banks

* 824 **SHRI V. SOBHANADREES-
WARA RAO VADDE:
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY:**

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some public sector banks are functioning without full boards for a long time;

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

and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to fill up the vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c) The Boards of Directors of public sector banks are continuous entities and vacancies that arise are filled up from time to time. The position relating to vacancies of whole time directors, non-official directors and employee directors on the Central Board of State Bank of India and 20 nationalised banks is given bank wise in the statement at Annexure. In the case of 7 associate banks of State Bank of India, only the employee directors are appointed by the Central Government and the vacancy position in respect of this category is also given in the attached statement.

2. Government have already initiated necessary steps to fill up the vacancies.

STATEMENT

Annexure

A. Central Board of SBI and 20 Nationalised Banks

		Vacancy Position		
S.No.	Name of the Bank	Whole-time Directors	Non-Official Directors	Employee Directors
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Central Board of SBI	-	10	1
2.	Allahabad Bank	-	2	1
3.	Andhra Bank	-	4	1
4.	Bank of Baroda	-	3	1
5.	Bank of India	1	3	-
6.	Bank of Maharashtra	1	4	1
7.	Canara Bank	1	4	1
8.	Central Bank of India	1	4	1

Vacancy Position

S.No.	Name of the Bank	Whole-time Directors	Non-Official Directors	Employee Directors
1	2	3	4	5
9.	Corporation Bank	1	3	-
10.	Dena Bank	-	5	1
11.	Indian Bank	-	5	1
12.	Indian Overseas Bank	1	4	1
13.	New Bank of India	1	4	1
14.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	-	3	1
15.	Punjab National Bank	1	4	1
16.	Punjab and Sind Bank	-	6	1
17.	Syndicate Bank	-	5	1
18.	United Bank of India	-	7	1
19.	Union Bank of India	1	3	1

Vacancy Position					
S.No.	Name of the Bank	Whole-time Directors	Non-Official Directors	Employee Directors	
1	2	3	4	5	
20.	UCO Bank		3	1	
21.	Vijaya Bank	1	5	1	

B. Associate Banks of SBI

S.No	Name of the Bank	Employee directors
1	2	3
1.	State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur	1
2.	State Bank of Hyderabad	1
3.	State Bank of Indore	2
4.	State Bank of Mysore	1
5.	State Bank of Patiala	1
6.	State Bank of Saurashtra	1
7.	State Bank of Travancore	1

Rates of Interest on Deposits with Post Offices.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

* 825. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHONSLE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to revise the rates of interest on deposits made with post offices as in the case of banks;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c): It has been decided to increase the rates of interest on Post Office Time Deposits and Post Office Recurring Deposits with effect from 1.10.91. Details are indicated below:-

Post Office Time Deposits

<i>Period of deposit</i>	<i>Rate of interest per annum-compounded half-yearly.</i>
1 Year	10%
2 Years	11%
3 Years	13%
4 Years	13 1/2%

Post Office Recurring Deposits

13.5% compound, at quarterly rest.

Necessary notifications in this regard have been issued.

[Translation]

encourage the export of leather shoes instead of shoe uppers; and

Export of Leather Goods.

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

*826. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and value of leather shoes, shoe uppers and other leather goods exported during 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91, separately;

(b) the amount of foreign exchange earned thereby;

(c) whether there is any proposal to

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) (a) and (b) The value of exports and hence foreign exchange earned of leather footwear (Which includes leather shoes besides all other types of leather footwear for Ladies, Gents and Children), footwear components (which includes mainly shoe uppers and a small quantity of other leather cut components) and other leather goods during the period 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91 were as follows:

(in Rs. crores)

	1988-89	1989-90	1990-91 (Prov)
Leather Footwear	130.20	171.40	210.44
Footwear Components	425.60	518.20	609.96
Other Leather goods	357.70	625.70	987.80

Quantitative figures of exports are not maintained.

(c) and (d) Government are conscious of the need to encourage exports of leather shoes and have taken steps towards this direction.

[English]

Illegal Cultivation of Opium and cannabis

*827. SHRI RAMESH CHAND
TOMAR:
SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether illegal cultivation of opium and cannabis is being done in the various States;

(b) if so, the total acres of land under illegal opium and cannabis cultivation identified and destroyed by the Narcotics Control Bureau during 1990 and 1991 upto July 31, State-wise; and

(c) the number of persons imprisoned and fined for such illegal cultivation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c) Cases of illegal cultivation have been detected in remote areas from time to time. The Narcotics Control Bureau with the assistance of other enforcement agencies have identified and destroyed illegal cultivation of opium poppy and cannabis plants during the years 1990 and 1991 (Upto July) as given in the table below:

STATEMENT

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Opium poppy (In Acres) 1990	1991 (Upto July)	1990	Cannabis (In Acres) 1991 (Upto July)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	16	42	-	-
2.	Uttar Pradesh	43	-	528	-
3.	Manipur	-	-	-	15
4.	West Bengal	-	2	-	-
5.	Kerala	-	-	622	142
6.	Tamil Nadu	-	-	536	262
	Total	59	44	1686	419

23 Persons were arrested and sent for trial before the appropriate courts.

Revision of Pay Scales of Officers of Bombay Port Trust

*828. **SHRI MOHAN RAWLE:** Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state;

(a) whether the pay scales of officers of the Bombay Port Trust have not been revised;

(b) whether these officers have also not been given the benefit of pay scales of the Fourth Pay Commission;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) when the pay scales of the officers of the Bombay Port Trust are likely to be revised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) (a) The pay scales of the Officers of Bombay Port Trust and all other Major Ports were last revised for a period of five years w.e.f. 01.08.1982.

(b) and (c) Bombay Port Trust is an autonomous body. Its pay structure is different from that of the Central Government. It is therefore, not covered by the recommendations of the Fourth Pay Commission.

(d) The recommendation of the Committee set up for the Pay Revision of Class I and II Officers of Major Port Trusts Dock Labour Boards are under examination.

Expansion Plan for NIFT

*829. **SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN:** Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any increase in the export of textiles after the establishment of the National Institute of Fashion

Technology;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government have any plan for expansion of this institute; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b): National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) was established in the year 1986 as a centre for human resource development for garment industry. The exports of textile items (including garments) increased from Rs.2579 crores in 1986-87 to Rs.8362 crores in 1990-91. Garment exports increased from Rs.1504 crores to Rs.4640 crores during the same period.

(c) and (d): At present, the Institute is engaged in conducting Diploma Programmes in Fashion Design, Apparel Merchandising and Marketing and Garment Manufacturing Technology. The institute also conducts continuing education programmes like seminars/workshops etc. in different centres. The Institute would like to improve the infrastructural facilities and stabilise the activities already undertaken before embarking upon any major expansion programme, NIFT, plans to, besides increasing the intake into the courses already launched, expand into areas like Accessory designs, Knitwear design and Leather Garment design.

Production and consumption of Rubber

* 830. **SHRI SUDHIR GIRI:**
SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the production and consumption of rubber in the country during 1988, 1989 and 1990;

(b) the quantity of rubber imported during the above period, country-wise; and

(c) the steps taken to increase rubber

production particularly in the non-traditional States?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) The year-wise production and consumption of natural rubber are given below:-

(In Tonnes)

Year	Production	Consumption
1988-89	259,172	313,830
1989-90	297,300	434,840
1990-91	329,615	364,310

(b) The quantity of rubber imported by STC from various countries, is given below:-

(In Tonnes)

Country	1988-89	1989-90	1990-91
Malaysia	47,468	22,050	20,746
Thailand	3,770	4,499	10,953
Shri Lanka	125	—	—
	51,363	26,549	31,699

(Figures are being maintained on financial year basis)

(c) In order to increase rubber production in the non-traditional States, the following steps have been taken:-

(1) Granting financial and technical assistance under Rubber Plantation Development Scheme, as below:-

(i) Capital Subsidy at the rate of Rs.5,000/- per hectare.

(ii) Additional assistance for use of high quality polybagged plants at the rate of Rs.6/- per

plant subject to a maximum of Rs.2,700/- per hectare

(iii) Long term loan assistance to the extent of planting and maintenance upto maturity, from banks operating under NABARD's Agricultural Refinancing Scheme.

(iv) Three percent interest subsidy on such loans paid by the Rubber Board.

- (v) Free technical assistance at all stages of planting, maintenance and production.
- (2) Producing and distributing high yielding planting material/cultivators.
- (3) Rendering advisory, extension and training services.
- (4) Encouraging community processing and marketing among small holders.
- (5) Undertaking research on cultivation, production and processing of rubber.
- (6) Transfer proven technology to rubber growers extensive scale through Rubber Board's extension service machinery.
- (7) Expansion of area under rubber in non-traditional regions through special plantation development projects.

Projects Under DRDO

* 831. SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated to the Defence Research and Development Organisation for various projects during the last three financial years and the actual expenditure incurred thereon;

(b) the time over-run and cost over-run of the projects undertaken by DRDO during the above period indicating the earmarked outlay and time originally anticipated for completion of the projects;

(c) whether a major portion of the total outlay is spent on administrative overhead of the organisation; and

(d) if so, the measures proposed to be taken to reduce such expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE : (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR): (a) The financial allocation and actual expenditure during the last three financial years, is as under:-

(in Rs. Crore)

Year	Allocation (RE)	Actuals (Gross)
1988-89	622	587
1989-90	635	617
1990-91	701	700

(b) DRDO has undertaken about 320 projects during last three financial years. Out of these, 13 projects costing over rupees one crore and 34 other small projects have

estimated time over-run to the extent of 6 months to 24 months. The details are as under:-

<i>Financial year</i>	<i>Cost -category</i>			
	Less than 1 Cr.	1-10 Cr.	10-20 Cr.	20-100 Cr.
1988-89	22	9	—	—
1989-90	7	1	—	1
1990-91	5	2	—	—

There have been only 4 cases of cost over-run. The earmarked outlay of these projects was Rs.5.06 crores as against the revised estimated outlay of Rs.7.40 crores.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Import of Gold

* 832. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India continues to be the largest consumer market for gold in the world;

(b) if so, the quantity of gold imported during each of the last three years;

(c) the countries from which gold is being imported;

(d) whether the government propose to stop the import of gold; and

(e) if so, the time by which it is likely to be stopped?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) No reliable data are available in this regard.

(b) Total quantity of gold imported by the institutions (SBI, MMTC, HHEC) during the last 3 years to service the exporters of jewellery is as under:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Quantity (Kg.)</i>
1988-89	6446
1989-90	9050
1990-91	7061

(c) Switzerland and through the bullion Market in London, U.K.

(d) Import of gold is regulated under Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973 which bans imports of gold except by special permission. Imports of gold are permitted by specified institutions or units under the Schemes formulated by the Ministry of Commerce for export of gold jewellery. No proposal for further restricting the import of gold is under consideration of the Government.

(e) Does not arise.

Grants-in-Aid to Institutions.

* 833. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to

curtail grants-in-aid to a number of institutions under administrative control of his Ministry such as Export-Promotion Councils, Indian Foreign Trade Institutions, Trade Fair Authority of India due to severe resource crunch;

(b) the total grants-in-aid given to such institutions annually; and

(c) the impact of the cut in grants-in-aid on the functioning of these institutions?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) An exercise is already underway to review the working of Export Promotion Councils and other promotional agencies under the Commerce Ministry. This exercise would also include efforts towards making these agencies self-supporting.

(b) The total grants-in-aid given to such institutions was Rs.37.63 crores in 1990-91.

(c) It is rather premature to give any

assessment.

Diamond Industry

* 834. **SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL:
PROF. RASA SINGH
RAWAT:**

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

(a) the foreign exchange earned from the export of diamonds during the last three years, country-wise;

(b) whether the diamond industry is considered as a small scale industry; and

(c) if so, the facilities and incentives being given to this industry?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) The exports of cut and polished diamonds country-wise during the last three years have been as follows:-

STATEMENT

Country	1988-89			1889-90			1990-91		
	Rs. In Crores	In Mil US \$	Rs. In Crores	In Mil US \$	Rs. In Crores	In Mil US \$	Rs. In Crores	In Mil US \$	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7			
USA	1511.69	1037.88	1625.62	976.40	1497.00	834.3			
JAPAN	779.44	535.14	962.32	578.00	951.66	530.7			
BELGIUM	743.65	510.57	943.06	566.43	939.76	523.7			
HONGKONG	628.65	413.61	689.30	414.01	657.59	366.4			
THAILAND	124.07	85.18	183.04	109.94	175.77	97.9			
SWITZERLAND	104.49	72.66	130.58	78.43	118.60	66.1			
ISRAEL	107.49	73.80	117.51	70.58	90.99	50.7			
WEST GERMANY	58.09	39.88	76.44	45.91	62.65	24.9			
U.K.	44.65	30.66	51.12	30.70	44.26	24.6			

Country	1988-89		1989-90		1990-91	
	Rs. In Crores	In Mill US \$	Rs. In Crores	In Mill US \$	Rs. In Crores	In Mill US \$
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
SINGAPORE	34.42	23.63	48.18	28.94	57.10	31.8
OTHERS	93.17	81.96	108.62	65.36	93.51	52.1
TOTAL	4230.28	2904.37	4935.99	2964.70	4688.91	2613.7

** (Source: Gem & Jewellery Export promotion Council)

(b) The Diamond Industry is not reserved for the Small Scale Industry.

(c) Does not arise.

** NOTE: ABOVE FIGURES DO NOT INCLUDE EXPORTS FROM SEEPZ AS COUNTRY-WISE DATA FROM SEEPZ IS NOT AVAILABLE

Credit: Deposit Ratio in Kerala

* 835. SHRI A. CHARLES:
 SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has issued any guidelines to the Nationalised Banks and the Scheduled Banks in respect of the credit-deposit ratio in the States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the credit-deposit ratio in Kerala vis-a-vis Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh during each of the last three years;

(d) whether there is any short-fall and if

Credit Deposit Ratio (% age)

<i>Name of State</i>	<i>March, 89</i>	<i>March, 90</i>	<i>March, 91</i>
Kerala	65.2	64.0	59.1
Tamil Nadu101.2	99.4	100.5	
Karnataka97.1	91.0	85.8	
Andhra Pradesh	86.0	87.1	82.6

(d) and (e). The Credit Deposit Ratio is not the sole indicator of role being played by banks in the economic development of a particular State/Region. The actual level of credit in relation to locally mobilised deposits in a particular State or Region depends upon the credit absorption capacity and level of economic activities depending upon the availability of infrastructural facilities like Transport and power, the proximity to source of raw material, access to marketing, local entrepreneurship, etc. Banks have been advised by RBI to ensure that wide regional disparities among various states in credit

so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) All the public sector banks have been advised in June, 1980 by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to achieve a Credit Deposit Ratio of 60% in respect of their rural and semi-urban branches separately at all India level. RBI has not issued any guidelines to the banks regarding achieving of the above C:D Ratio for different States.

(c) Credit Deposit Ratio of Commercial Banks as at the last Friday of March, 1989, 1990, 1991 in respect of Kerala, Tamil Nadu Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh is furnished below:-

deployment are avoided and effective steps are taken to increase the flow of credit to all productive and identified viable proposals in different areas. The matter is also monitored by State Level Bankers Committee (SLBC), State Government and RBI on regular basis.

Widening of National Highways

* 836. DR. VISWANATHAM KANITHI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to

widen all the important National Highways into double lanes for one way Traffic to minimise the road accidents;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the length of the National Highways already having double lanes with one way traffic;

(d) whether the government propose to widen the National Highway No. 5 into double lanes for one way traffic; and

(e) if so, the time by which it is likely to be widened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Only selected sections of important National Highway having high traffic density are being considered currently for widening to 4 lane divided highway subject to the availability of funds.

(c) Presently, 352 km of National Highways are having four lane divided carriage-way.

(d) and (e) Widening of the full length of National Highway No.5 to four lanes would be considered in phases subject to the density of traffic in different sections, inter-se priority vis-a-vis other National Highway works and over all availability of resources in future Plan periods. four-laning of 46 km of NH5 in Andhra Pradesh is in progress. It is too early to indicate the time by which the whole of the National Highway No.5 will be widened to four lanes.

Simplification of Pre-Shipment Export Documentation System

6985. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to simplify Pre-shipment Export Documentation System;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the new system is proposed to be launched?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Out of 25 pre-shipment Export Documents required by the exporters 17 documents have been aligned on the basis of 'United Nations Layout Key'. The use of aligned documentation system based on 'UN Layout Key' involves the use of standardised aligned export documents which can be run off by a Master Document with economy, accuracy, speed and convenience. The aligned documentation system will help to reduce export documentation burden appreciably by enabling our exporters to prepare as many as 17 of the 25 pre-shipment export documents (commercial and regulatory) with the help of only two master documents by use of the photo copier and appropriate masks. Software has also been developed by the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, New Delhi and National Informatics Centre, New Delhi to prepare these documents on computer.

(c) The new system is proposed to be launched w.e.f. 1.10.1991.

Loans to Pensioners for Housing Purposes

6986. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VERMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Life Insurance Corporation of India, Housing and Urban Development Corporation, Canfin Homes Limited

and other housing finance companies/organisations do not give loans to homeless pensioners for construction of houses;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor, and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c) Among the institutions advancing loans for construction of houses, the institutions extending the facility to individuals are guided by the principle of repaying capacity and stable income throughout life. The facility is available to pensioners upto the age of sixty-five.

Subsidy to Shipyards

6987. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to increase the subsidy being given to the shipyards;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) A proposal to enhance the ship building subsidy payable to public sector shipyards from the existing 30% of International Parity Price (IPP) to 40% of IPP is under consideration.

(c) Does not arise.

Rehabilitation of Ex-Servicemen in Kerala

6988. SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ex-servicemen in Kerala and the steps taken by the Government for their rehabilitation and welfare;

(b) whether any complaints from ex-servicemen regarding pension etc. have been received by the Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE: (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR)(a) to (c) As per the information received from the Government of Kerala, the approximate number of ex-Servicemen in Kerala is 3.5 lakhs.

There is a comprehensive package of resettlement and welfare measures for the ex-Servicemen. The Central Government has provided reservation for ex-Servicemen in Group 'C' and Group 'D' posts in the Central Government Departments as well as Public Sector Undertakings, including the Nationalised Banks. Defence Services personnel who have been disabled in war or in peace-time, and whose disability is attributable to military service, are accorded Priority-I, while upto two dependants of Defence Services personnel killed in service or severely disabled (with over 5% disability and who have become unfit for employment but disability is attributable to military service), whether during war or peace-time, are given priority immediately below the disabled ex-Servicemen, i.e. Priority-II(a). Besides, a number of schemes are in existence to provide self-employment opportunities to ex-Servicemen. These include the SEMFEX-I Scheme which provides financial assistance to ex-Servicemen for setting small industrial projects, the SEMFEX-II scheme to encourage ex-Servicemen to take up gainful farm and non-farm activities in rural areas; allotment

of Petroleum product agencies; allotment of Unit Trust of India agencies, etc. Ex-Servicemen are authorised free medical facilities in military hospitals and canteen facilities at the nearest CSD canteens. Children of Defence personnel killed or disabled in action are entitled to free educational facilities such as payment of fees, hostel charges, cost of uniform, etc. 75% concession in rail fare for travel in second class is given to war widows. Recipients of gallantry awards are given 50% concession for air and rail travel in second class. Financial assistance for construction of houses and marriage of daughter is given to war-widows, war disabled and attributable peace-time casualties by the State Government and the Kendriya Sainik Board. In addition, ex-Servicemen and their widows who are in penury are given financial assistance out of the welfare funds at the disposal of the Ministry of Defence and the Rajya Sainik Boars. Grants are also given for special medical treatment. The ex-Servicemen of Kerala are entitled to avail the benefit of all these schemes.

There is a special pension Grievances Cell in the Ministry of Defence to deal with the complaints of ex-Servicemen regarding pension and other related matters. Prompt action is taken by this Cell on the complaints received and a suitable reply is sent to the complainants. Out of the 29 complaints received in 1991 (upto August, 1991) from the ex-Servicemen/dependants of Kerala, 11 are regarding Family Pension, 16 in respect of Service Pension and 2 relate to Disability Pension. 9 complaints have been finally settled and 20 are in the process of resolution.

Setting up of Spinning Mill in Basti District of Uttar Pradesh

6989. SHRI SHYAM LAL KAMAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a spinning mill in Basti district of Uttar Pradesh: and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise in view of (a) above.

Tax Collection in Goa

6990. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of income tax, wealth tax, gift tax, separately, collected in Goa during 1989-90 & 1990-91; and

(b) the names of the top five payees of each of the above taxes in Goa alongwith the amount paid by each during the above years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESH-WARTHAKUR): (a) the amounts of income tax, wealth tax and gift tax collected in respect of Goa during 1989-90 & 1990-91 are given below:-

(in lakhs of Rs.)

	1990-91	1989-90
In come tax (incl. Corporation tax)	3949	3123

(in lakhs of Rs.)

	1990-91	1989-90
Wealth tax	188	104
Gift tax	3	5

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

income tax, wealth tax and gift tax in Goa and the amount paid by them during 1989-90 and 1990-91 are given below:-

The names of the top 5 taxpayers of

Income Tax	1989-90 <i>(Rs. in lakhs)</i>	1990-91
1. V.S. Dempo & Co. Ltd. Panaji	305	296
2. Sesa Goa Ltd., Panaji	20	211
3. Goa Shipyard Ltd. Vasco	62	165
4. Wallace Pharmaceuticals, Panaji	77	60
5. Arlem Breweries, Vasco	21	46
Wealth Tax		
1. Ashok V Chowgule, Marmago		4 4
2. Chowgule & Co Pvt. Ltd. Vasco		5 3
3. V.D. Chowgule, Vasco		2 3
4. Vijay V Chowgule, Marmagoa		1 3
5. Padma V Chowgule, Marmagoa		2 2
Gift Tax	(Rs. in thousand)	
1. Smt. Shashikala Kakodkar, Panaji		8 43
2. Datatreya B.T. Desai, Panaji		8 9

<i>Income Tax</i>	<i>1989-90</i> <i>(Rs. in lakhs)</i>	<i>1990-91</i>
3. Smt. Prema Bai B.T. Desai, Panaji	8	9
4. Deepak M Rajani, Panaji	-	8
5. Meena D Rajani, Panaji	-	8
6. M.D. Menzez, Panaji	9	-
7. Rosa Maria Menzez, Panaji	9	-

Consumer Price Index

the consumer price index; and

6991. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(c) the steps taken to contain the rise in prices?

(a) the consumer price index as on June 30, 1991, and how does it compare with the consumer price indices as on December 31, 1990, June 30, 1990, December 31, 1989 and June 30, 1989;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The Consumer Price Index (CPI) for Industrial Workers (base: 1982=100) for the specific months are indicated below:

(b) the reasons for the sharp increase in

<i>Month</i>	<i>CPI</i>	<i>Percentage increase in the index until June, 1991 since the month referred.</i>
June, 1989	170	22.9
December 1989	175	19.4
June, 1990	185	13.0
December, 1990	199	5.0
June, 1991	209	—

(b) The sharp increase in the CPI is due to (i) fiscal imbalances resulting in higher increase in money supply, liquidity overhang and thus effective demand, (ii) supply and demand in balances in essential commodities

such as edible oils, pulses, fruits and vegetables, condiments and spices, meat, eggs and fish, milk etc, mainly due to shortfalls in domestic production and inability of the Government to import certain items

because of persistent pressure on balance of payments, (iii) wage-price spiral in many industries leading to cost-push inflation, in addition to demand-pull inflation, and (iv) the consequent inflationary expectations in the economy. A part from the underlying inflationary pressure arising from macro-economic imbalances, the substantial increase in prices is also attributed to sharp increases in procurement prices of agricultural commodities, upward revision of administered prices of petroleum products and levy sugar, increase in transportation and handling costs and existence of imperfect market structures for most of the commodities.

(c) The Government have adopted a multi-pronged strategy to contain the rise in prices. This includes a strict fiscal discipline, check on expansion of money supply, more effective management of supply and demand of essential commodities, streamlining of the public distribution system and a strict action against hoarders and profiteers. Besides the above measures, the Government have also introduced a number of structural policy reforms in the spheres of trade, industrial, monetary and fiscal policies. These measures are expected to control inflation and bring about a reasonable price stability in future.

Compensation Paid by PNB to Employees in Dacoity Cases

6992. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of employees of Punjab National Bank died while resisting bank dacoities in their banks in Punjab, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh during 1991, till date;

(b) whether any compensation is paid to the families of such employees by the bank;

(c) if so, the rank-wise details of the

employees who have been paid such compensation by the bank since January, 1991;

(d) whether there are any cases where compensation has been paid to the families though the person (s) who did not die while resisting dacoity;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Punjab National Bank has informed that none of its employees has been killed while resisting bank robberies in its branches in Punjab, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh since 1st January, 1991 till 7th September, 1991.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) to (f) Two officials of the bank were killed on 3.8.91 by militants at their residences at Ludhiana. Bank has paid compensation of Rs. 1 lakh to the families of each of the officials.

Change in List of Items Allowed to Import Under OGL

6993. SHRI V. SREENIVASAPRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made some changes in the list of items allowed to be imported under Open General Licence; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

The Government have made some changes in the list of items allowed to be imported under Open General Licence vide Public Notice No. 196/ITC (PN)/90-93 dated 14.8.1991, copies of which are available in the Parliament Library.

[*Translation*]

Candidates in Tenth Lok Sabha Elections

6994. SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of candidates in the

last Lok Sabha elections party-wise and independents;

(b) the number of candidates elected and the number of those who lost their deposits, party-wise; and

(c) the party-wise percentage of votes polled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

GENERAL ELECTIONS TO THE HOUSE OF PEOPLE -1991

2-PARTY WISE CONTESTANTS, ELECTED, FOR-FEITURS AND VALID VOTES POLLED IN ALL CONSTITUENCIES

Name of Party	Candidates			Valid Votes		
	Contested	Elected	% Forfeited	Deposit	Total	%
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A. National Parties	1799	457	88.57	816	217870926	80.10
1. BJP	460	119	23.06	178	54596738	20.07
2. CPI	42	14	2.71	16	6851623	2.52
3. CPM	60	35	6.78	7	16954797	6.23
4. ICS (SCS)	27	1	0.19	24	981462	0.36
5. INC	482	227	43.99	61	98204177	36.10
6. JD.....	300	56	10.85	144	30914556	11.37
7. JD(S)....	14	0	0.00	13	417891	0.15

Name of Party	Candidates		Valid Votes			
	Contested	Elected	% Forfeited	Deposit	Total	%
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8. JP.....	337	5	0.97	298	8777814	3.23
9. LKD	77	0	0.00	77	171888	0.06
B. STATE PARTIES	483	49	9.50	331	35217377	12.95
10. ADK....	11	11	2.13	0	4470542	1.64
11. AGP.....	14	1	0.19	5	1489898	0.55
12. BSP	226	1	0.19	204	4192480	1.54
13. DMK.....	30	0	0.00	0	5741910	2.11
14. FBL	19	3	0.58	16	1145015	0.42
15. JMM....	14	6	1.16	6	1481900	0.543
16. JPP....	2	0	0.00	2	587	0.00

Name of Party	Candidates				Valid Votes		
	Contested	Elected	% Forfeited	Deposit	Total	%	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
17. KCM....	1	1	0.19	0	384255	0.14	
18. KEC....	1	0	0.00	0	319933	0.12	
19. MAG....	2	0	0.00	0	64752	0.02	
20. MNF...	1	0	0.00	0	82019	0.03	
21. MRP...	1	1	0.19	0	169692	0.06	
22. MUL...	20	2	0.39	18	845418	0.31	
23. NAGP...	11	0	0.00	8	494628	0.18	
24. NPC....	1	1	0.19	0	328015	0.12	
25. NPP...	2	0	0.00	2	1572	0.00	
26. PMK....	32	0	0.06	29	1283065	0.47	

SEPTEMBER 13, 1991

Name of Party	Candidates			Valid Votes		
	Contested	Elected	% Forfeited	Deposit	Total	%
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
27. PMM	1	0	0.00	1	2259	0.00
28. PTCA....	2	0	0.00	2	87387	0.03
29. PWP....	6	0	0.00	5	295402	0.11
30. RPI....	14	0	0.00	14	36541	0.01
31. RSP	9	4	0.78	4	36541	0.01
32. SAD(M)...	3	0	0.00	3	88084	0.03
33. SHS...	22	4	0.78	6	2093343	0.77
34. SSP...	1	1	0.19	0	103970	0.04
35. TDP...	34	13	2.252	2	8058243	2.96
36. UMF...	3	0	0.00	2	206737	0.08

Name of Party	Candidates			Valid Votes		
	Contested	Elected	% Forfeited	Deposit	Total	%
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

C. REGISTERED PARTIES

37. ADO...	828	4	0.78	804	5990869	2.20
38. AHF...	1	1	0.19	0	139785	0.05
39. AJD...	5	0	0.00	5	8549	0.00
40. AJP...	2	0	0.00	2	8549	0.00
41. ALD...	1	0	0.00	1	8047	0.00
42. AMB...	5	0	0.00	5	1544	0.00
43. AML...	3	0	0.00	3	35186	0.07
44. AUM...	3	0	0.00	3	8252	0.00
45. AZP...	2	0	0.00	2	2655	0.00
					372	0.00

BHADRA 22, 1913 (SAKA)

Written Answers

Name of Party	Candidates			Valid Votes		
	Contested	Elected	% Forfeited	Deposit	Total	%
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
46. BBP...	1	0	0.00	1	329	0.00
47. BDLP...	1	0	0.00	1	142	0.00
48. BDP...	1	0	0.00	1	1311	0.00
49. BJS...	11	0	0.00	11	19243	0.01
50. BKUS...	37	0	0.00	37	43150	0.02
51. BLMD...	9	0	0.00	9	10837	0.00
52. BRP...	9	0	0.00	7	330728	0.2
53. BSNP...	1	0	0.00	1	120	0.00
54. CKN...	1	0	0.00	1	383	0.00
55. CPI (ML)...	4	0	0.00	4	27730	0.01

Name of Party	Candidates		Valid Votes			
	Contested	Elected	% Forfeited	Deposit	Total	%
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
56. CBM...	2	0	0.00	2	1305	0.00
57. DBP...	5	0	0.00	5	1521	0.00
58. DDP...	314	0	0.00	312	458293	0.17
59. DKP...	1	0	0.00	1	4508	0.00
60. DMM...	8	0	0.00	8	5888	0.00
61. DND...	6	0	0.00	6	5436	0.00
62. DPL...	1	0	0.00	1	359	0.00
63. DPP...	10	0	0.00	10	11967	0.00
64. GLP...	2	0	0.00	2	1983	0.00
65. GMK...	1	0	0.00	1	1030	0.00

Name of Party	Candidates		Valid Votes			
	Contested	Elected	% Forfeited	Deposit	Total	%
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
66. GNP...	2	0	0.00	2	3605	0.00
67. HJP...	5	0	0.00	5	16171	0.01
68. HKSP...	2	0	0.00	2	12820	0.00
69. HMS...	35	0	0.00	35	69168	0.03
70. HSD...	1	0	0.00	1	193	0.03
71. HSH...	1	0	0.00	1	325	0.00
72. HSS	5	0	0.00	5	5325	0.00
73. HVP	4	1	0.19	3	331784	0.12
74. IDP	1	0	0.00	1	2078	0.00
75. IML...	1	0	0.00	1	31367	0.01

<i>Name of Party</i>	<i>Candidates</i>			<i>Valid Votes</i>			
	<i>Contested</i>	<i>Elected</i>	<i>% Forfeited</i>	<i>Deposit</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>%</i>	
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	
76. IPF...	21	0	0.00	19	617987	0.23	
77. JC...	1	0	0.00	1	194	0.23	
78. JD (G)..	10	1	0.19	1	1399702	0.51	
79. JEM..	11	0	0.00	1	34	0.00	
80. JJP ...	1	0	0.00	1	1245	0.00	
81. JKMP...	6	0	0.00	6	23929	0.01	
82. JKP...	15	0	0.00	13	350899	0.13	
83. JMS...	1	0	0.00	1	136	0.00	
84. JNP...	23	0	0.00	23	35979	0.01	
85. KDP...	1	0	0.00	1	164	0.00	

<i>Name of Party</i>	<i>Candidates</i>			<i>Valid Votes</i>		
	<i>Contested</i>	<i>Elected</i>	<i>% Forfeited</i>	<i>Deposit</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>%</i>
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
86. KMS...	2	0	0.00	2	2311	0.00
87. KNP...	2	0	0.00	2	576	0.00
88. KRS...	10	0	0.00	8	453042	0.17
89. LAB (B) ...	1	0	0.00	1	434	0.00
90. LAJH...	1	0	0.00	1	257	0.00
91. LHM...	2	0	0.00	2	532	0.00
92. LKP...	2	0	0.00	2	2673	0.00
93. LPI (P)...	1	0	0.00	1	684	0.00
94. LTP...	1	0	0.00	1	408	0.00
95. M-COR..	1	0	0.00	0	171767	0.06

<i>Name of Party</i>	<i>Candidates</i>			<i>Valid Votes</i>		
	<i>Contested</i>	<i>Elected</i>	<i>% Forfeited</i>	<i>Deposit</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>%</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>
96. MCPI...	5	0	0.00	5	43085	0.02
97. MDL...	1	0	0.00	1	573	0.00
98. MGMK...	1	0	0.00	1	228	0.00
99. MHA...	2	0	0.00	2	1692	0.00
100. MIM...	2	0	0.19	1	456900	0.17
101. MPP...	2	0	0.00	2	225	0.00
102. MSD...	19	0	0.00	19	28528	0.01
103. MUB...	4	0	0.00	4	1191	0.00
104. NBP...	2	0	0.00	2	787	0.00
105. NP...	2	0	0.00	2	1038	0.00

Name of Party	Candidates			Valid Votes		
	Contested	Elected	% Forfeited	Deposit	Total	%
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
106. OVP...	7	0	0.00	7	15893	0.01
107. PBI...	17	0	0.00	17	18039	0.01
108. PDL...	1	0	0.00	1	2213	0.00
109. PRC...	5	0	0.00	5	605	0.00
110. PVP...	3	0	0.00	3	6897	0.00
111. RKD...	1	0	0.00	1	1125	0.00
112. RPI (A)...	1	0	0.00	1	521	0.00
113. RPI (KM)...	1	0	0.00	1	1300	0.00
114. RPK...	9	0	0.00	9	91557	0.03
115. RPPI ...	3	0	0.00	3	4967	0.00

<i>Name of Party</i>	<i>Candidates</i>			<i>Valid Votes</i>		
	<i>Contested</i>	<i>Elected</i>	<i>% Forfeited</i>	<i>Deposit</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>%</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>
116. RRP (S)...	4	0	0.00	4	2519	0.00
117. RSD...	3	0	0.00	2	8825	0.00
118. RUD...	2	0	0.00	2	316	0.00
119. SCP...	1	0	0.00	1	250	0.00
120. SHS (R)...	1	0	0.00	1	8810	0.00
121. SJP...	1	0	0.00	1	70368	0.03
122. SKD...	7	0	0.00	7	29647	0.01
123. SLI...	2	0	0.00	2	2852	0.00
124. SLL...	1	0	0.00	1	246	0.00
125. SLP...	2	0	0.00	2	125738	0.05

	<i>Name of Party</i>	<i>Candidates</i>		<i>Elected</i>	<i>% Forfeited</i>	<i>Deposit</i>	<i>Valid Votes</i>	
		<i>Contested</i>	<i>2</i>				<i>Total</i>	<i>%</i>
<i>1</i>				<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>
126.	SMP...	3		0	0.00	3	2921	0.00
127.	SCP (L)....	10		9	0.00	10	12651	0.00
128.	SOP (RP)...	3		0	0.00	3	7104	0.00
129.	SP...	2		0	0.00	2	4642	0.00
130.	SPP...	1		0	0.00	1	571	0.00
131.	SRS...	2		0	0.00	2	1040	0.00
132.	SSD...	13		0	0.00	13	2220	0.01
133.	SUP...	3		0	0.00	3	4705	
134.	TMK...	2		0	0.00	2	1330	0.00
135.	TMM...	29		0	0.00	29	55164	0.02

<i>Name of Party</i>	<i>Candidates</i>		<i>Valid Votes</i>			
	<i>Contested</i>	<i>Elected</i>	<i>% Forfeited</i>	<i>Deposit</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>%</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>
136. UKD...	4	0	0.00	4	47369	0.02
137. UPRP	10	0	0.00	10	28379	0.01
138. URC...	9	0	0.00	9	170376	0.06
139. VBP...	1	0	0.00	1	56	0.00
140. VPP...	4	0	0.00	4	5597	0.00
141. WPI...	1	0	0.00	1	1781	0.00
142. YVP...	11	0	0.00	11	28159	0.01
D.INDEP ENDENTS	5333	1	0.195297	10603076	3.90	249
143.	5355	1	0.195297	10603076	3.90	2.49

**Concession to Export Oriented Units
and Free Trade Zone Units**

6995. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the various concessions being given to the 100 per cent export oriented units and free trade zone units at present;

(b) whether Exim scrips are also proposed to be given to these units;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Import duty on goods from FTZ units to the domestic market has been reduced; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED): (a) The main concessions being given to units in the Export Processing Zones and 100% Export Oriented Units include, inter-alia, duty free import of capital goods raw materials and consumables, corporate tax holiday for a block of five years in the first eight years of operation, exemption from excise duty on supplies obtained from domestic tariff area and sale upto 25% of the production in the domestic tariff area and sale upto 25% of the production in the domestic tariff area.

(b) and (c) FTZ and 100% Export Oriented Units have been extended Exim-scrip benefits @ 30% of the net foreign exchange earned, as an incentive.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. Duty on DTA sales has been reduced, subject to certain conditions, as the earlier duty structure was considered too high.

[Translation]

**Allocation of Funds to States for
Construction of Court Building /
Residential Accommodation for Judicial
officers**

6996. SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government provide financial assistance to the States for constructing court buildings and residential accommodation for the judicial officers as per the recommendations of the Finance Commission; and

(b) if so, the terms and conditions for allocation of funds for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE) (a) and (b) The Seventh, Eighth and Ninth (First Report for 1989-90) Finance Commissions had made specific recommendations for upgradation grants to the State Governments for construction of court buildings and residential accommodation for judicial officers. State Governments were required to get their action plans in respect of these schemes approved by the Government of India. Releases were made in the form of "on account" payments and subsequently on the basis of physical and financial progress of the schemes as reported by the State Governments. The final adjustment is made on production of completion certificates for the schemes and taking into account the "on account" payments made earlier.

**Writing off of Farmers Loans in Uttar
Pradesh**

6997. SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the loans of the farmers having less than five acres of land have also been written-off under the Debt Relief Scheme;

(b) if so, the number of such farmers in Uttar Pradesh; and

(c) if not, the steps being taken by the Government to write-off their loans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). The Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief (ARDR) Scheme provides debt relief to all eligible borrowers who are farmers, artisans, landless cultivators and weavers in rural areas only. As per the provisions of ARDR Scheme the eligibility of a borrower is determined without any reference to the size of his land holding. The category wise break-up of relief provided is not available since the reporting system does not generate such information. However, as on 26th August, 1991, the total number of beneficiaries who have been given relief by public sector banks, regional rural banks and cooperative banks in the State of Uttar Pradesh was 51,59,896 involving an amount of Rs.1046 crores.

(c) In view of the above, question does not arise.

[English]

Export of Processed Food Items

6998. SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the processed food items being exported and the annual value thereof; and

(b) the potential items of export and the steps proposed to be taken by the Govern-

ment for augmentation of such exports?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) and (b) The export of the processed food items like frozen dried fruits/vegetables, mushrooms(canned and fresh), tropical fruit concentrates, tomato paste, meat and meat products, ready to eat foods, pickles and papads etc. during 1990-91 were of the order of Rs.200 crores. To boost exports, Government has recently liberalised the Trade Policy. Further, through APEDA, schemes have been drawn up for market development, product promotion, quality up-gradation, improved packaging, price competitiveness etc.

[Translation]

Atka Nallah Bridge on National Highway No.27

6999. SHRI LALIT ORAON: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work on Atka Nallah bridge under construction at point 326 KM on G.T. Road (N.H.27) since 1987 has not been completed so far;

(b) whether the diversion around the said bridge was completely washed away thrice during the last four years;

(c) the original estimated cost of this bridge and the cost overrun on account of delay in completion of the construction work; and

(d) the reasons for delay and the time by which the said bridge is likely to be completed?

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

However, this bridge lies on NH 2 and not on N.H. 27.

(b) As reported by the State Public Works Department, the diversion for this bridge under construction was washed away twice, once in 1990 and again in 1991.

(c) The original estimated cost of this bridge as sanctioned is Rs. 16.33 lakhs. The post over-run due to delay in completion will be known when the revised estimate for this bridge is received from Government of Bihar.

(d) The main reason for delay in completion of the bridge is slow progress by the construction agency. The State Public Works Department has indicated that work is being expedited for early completion after the monsoons.

[English]

Export Oriented Units

7000. SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have announced some policy changes on canalised items and 100 percent export oriented units;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of 100 percent export Oriented Units presently operating in the country and their break-up, sector-wise;

(d) the total amount of foreign exchange earned by these units; and

(e) the special incentives the Government propose to give to these units for encouraging exports?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (e) The Government has reviewed the list of canalised items and certain items of Imports and Exports have been decanalised vide Public Notice No.195-ITC (PN)/90-93 dated 14.8.91 in respect of imports and No.23-ETC (PN)/91 dated 14.8.91 in the case of exports.

Salient features of the new policy for 100% EOUs are:-

- (i) 100% EOUs are eligible for Exim Scrips at the rate of 30% of net foreign exchange earnings.
- (ii) Net foreign exchange earned by EOUs can be clubbed with the earnings of their parent/ associated companies in the domestic area for the purpose of according Export House, Trading House of Star Trading House status for the latter.
- (iii) The duty applicable on DTA sale by EOUs has been reduced.
- (iv) The procedures for domestic sales by EOUs are being streamlined.
- (v) The IPRS Scheme for supply of steel to exporters is being extended to EOUs.
- (vi) A system of fast track approval on a time-bound basis is being introduced for new proposals for setting up EOUs.
- (vii) Powers are being delegated to Development Commissioners of Export Processing Zones to enable them to function as the nodal agencies for 100% EOUs also. These powers

include permissions for capacity enhancement, broad-banding, imports of additional capital goods, change of location and according permission for

domestic sales.

(c) There are at present 185 EOUs in operation in the country. Sector-wise break-up is as under:-

Sector	No. of units in operation
1. Engineering goods	33
2. Electronics	20
3. Chemical Plastics and Allied products	29
4. Food Agriculture and Forest products	20
5. Textiles	27
6. Granite	29
7. Others	27
Total	185

(d) The total amount of foreign exchange earned upto 31.3.91 is Rs.1043 crores approx.

Import Receipts

7001. SHRI HARADHAN ROY: Will the Minister of FIINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the banks through which import receipts are brought to India; and

(b) the shortfall in receipts against imports during the last three years, year -Wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) As far as one can see, imports do not involve any receipts.

(b) Does not arise.

Implementation of Fourth Pay Commission's Recommendations for Calcutta Port Employees

7002. SHRIMATI. MALINI BHAT-TACHARYA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recommendations of Fourth Pay Commission for Central Government Undertakings and other autonomous bodies are being implemented for the Calcutta port employees;

(b) if not, the reasons for delay in this regard;

(c) whether the amount of pension and gratuity being give to these employees is calculated on provisional basis; and

(d) if so, when the Government propose to resolve this situation which is causing distress to retired employees?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Though the recommendations of the IV Central Pay Commission are not applicable to the employees of the Port Trusts, Government had decided to liberalise the retirement benefits on lines similar to the IVth Pay Commission's recommendations. Necessary orders have been issued on 13.8.1990. The question of reckoning emoluments for pension in respect of Class III and class IV employees retiring on the revised scales of pay effective from 01.01.1988, had been under consideration and in such cases, pension orders have been issued on a provisional basis. Final orders on this issue have been issued on 06.08.1991 and on that basis, all provisional orders can now be finalised.

Appointment of Economic Administrator

7003. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to appoint an economic administrator to act as a co-ordinator between economic ministries to ensure proper implementation of the new industrial and fiscal policy measures and also to co-ordinate with IMF, World Bank officials; and

(b) if so, the precise functions of this administrator?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b): The Government have already set up a Foreign Investment Promotion Board to invite and facilitate investment in India. The Government have also appointed a High Level Committee under the Chairmanship of Principal Secretary to Prime Minister to oversee the implementation of policy reforms. There is no proposal to appoint a super economic administrator.

Widening of Pune-Belgaum Section of National Highway No.4

7004. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the vehicular traffic on the Pune-Belgaum section of the National Highway No.4 has considerably increased;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to convert this section of Highway into a four-lane Expressway; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c): While there has been steady increase in traffic on this section of the National Highway, there is no case at present to building a four-lane expressway facility in this corridor.

[Translation]

Loans to Unemployed Youth for Setting up Cottage Industries

7005. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the cottage industries for which loan is advanced by the nationalised banks in the rural areas;

(b) the rate at which loan is advanced to the rural unemployed youth for setting up the cottage industries and the terms and conditions thereof; and

(c) the details of the economic programmes prepared by the Government to remove rural unemployment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that their present data collecting system from banks does not generate data in respect of credit provided to cottage industries separately. However, advances

to artisans, village and cottage industries upto Rs.25,000/- per beneficiary form part of weaker section advances within the priority sector. The term "cottage industries" has not been defined for this purpose.

(b) With the introduction of the revised interest rate structure by RBI effective from 22nd September, 1990, the sector-wise category-wise/ purpose-wise rates of interest have been dispensed with. The rates of interest on advances are linked with the size of the loan in terms of revised interest rate structure. Accordingly, the rates of interest on advances for setting up cottage industries are as under:

<i>Size of loan/limit</i>	<i>Rate for working capital</i>	<i>Interest for terms loan to SSI units.</i>
1. Up to inclusive of Rs.7,500/-		10.0 10.0
2. Over Rs. 7,500/- Upto Rs.15,000/-		11.5 11.5
3. Over Rs. 15,000/- Upto 25,000/-		12.0 12.5
4. Over Rs.25,000/- Upto Rs.50,000/-		14.0 13.0
5. Over Rs. 50,000/- Upto Rs.2 lakhs		15.0 14.0
6. Over Rs.2 lakhs		16.0 * 14.0

(Minimum)

* Since revised and raised to 18.5% (minimum) with effect from 4th July, 1991.

(c) Government of India have introduced a number of schemes such as Integrated Rural Development Programme and the Scheme for providing Self Employment to Educated Unemployed Youth, which are aimed at reducing rural unemployment. a number of Special Employment Programmes formulated by State Governments are also being implemented by them.

[English]

Bhutan Compensatory Allowance to Defence Accounts Employees

7006. SHRI BHUBANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have taken any decision about payment of Bhutan Compensatory Allowance to the Defence Accounts Employees serving in Bhutan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay and the time by which the decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE : (SHRIS. KRISHAN KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Due to financial and other implications, decisions in such matters require close prior consultation with various concerned Ministries/Departments, which takes time.

[Translation]

Land Acquired for Military Cantonment in Ranchi

7007. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUHDARY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the land of the farmers of Lalganj Khatanga and Mani City police station in Ranchi District (Bihar) had been acquired in 1970-71 for Military Cantonment;

(b) whether these farmers have been paid any compensation for the aforesaid land;

(c) if not, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for making immediate payment of compensation to the farmers;

(d) whether the Government have provided a passage to the residents of Sugnu,

Gari and Khatanga through this cantonment area;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the time by which the passage is likely to be provided to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE : (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) to (c) Land in villages of Lalganj and Khatanga in Ranchi district, Bihar, was acquired for Defence purposes in 1972 and compensation was paid to the affected farmers. No land has been acquired in Mani City police station limits.

(d) to (f) The residents of Sugnu, Gari and Khatanga have been provided a passage through the Cantonment area by the local military authorities.

Amount Spent on Persons Going Abroad for Training

7008. SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons who went abroad for training on Government expenses during April 1, 1991 to July 31, 1991;

(b) the number of persons from public sector undertakings among them and the total amount spent on them;

(c) whether the Government have decided to restrict the number of persons going abroad for training in view of the present foreign exchange crisis; and

(d) if so, the extent of decrease in the number of such persons during the above

period as compared to the corresponding period of 1990-91?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) to (d) Most of the foreign training programmes are funded under the various plans/Projects, etc. No expenditure is involved for training under such training programmes. There are very few training programmes of highly specialised nature where no funding is available. It is only in such cases that the officers are deputed for training at Government cost.

The information in respect of parts (a), (b) and (d) is not centrally maintained. The same will be collected from the various Ministries/Departments and laid on the Table of the House, as early as possible.

[English]

Conversion of State Highways into National Highways in Andhra Pradesh

7009. SHRI K.V.R. CHOWDARY: Will

the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government of Andhra Pradesh has sent any proposal to the Union Government for conversion of State Roads into National Highways; and

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

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

(b) A statement indicating the roads proposed by the State Government is enclosed. The decision to declare new National Highways in the country including in Andhra Pradesh could be taken only after finalisation of the 8th Five Year Plan.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Name of the Road	Length (in km)
1.	2	3
(1)	Vijsyawada to Machilipatnam.	70
(2)	Kakinada to Jagadaiapur via Rajahmundry Bhadrachalam and Venkatapuram.	360
(3)	Hyderabad to Venkatapur via Warangal.	260
(4)	Ongole to Raichur via Giddalur-Nandyal Kurnool and Uppal.	340
(5)	Chittoor to Badrachalam via Cuddapah-Markapur-Macheria-Nagarjunasagar and Khammam.	680
(6)	Hyderabad to Chandrapur via Karimnagar and Mancherial connecting NH-6 and 7.	332
(7)	Badrachalam-Chintur-Sileru-Chintapally-Paderu-Araku-Vizianagaram-Palakonda-Srikakulam on NH.5	400
(8)	Naidupeta-Tirupati-Chittoor connecting NH.5 and 4	130

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Road</i>	<i>Length (in km)</i>
1.	2	3
(9)	Red Hills on NH.5 in Tamil Nadu to Gooty on NH.7 via Puttur-Renigunta-Cuddapah-Verraguntla	330
(10)	Nellore to Hubli via Gooty.	370
(11)	Palamaneru to Anantapur connecting NH.4 and NH.7.	228
(12)	Kurnool to Chittoor	368
(13)	Penugonda-Hindupur-Madhugiri-Sira upto Karnataka border connecting NH.7 and NH.4	74
(14)	From State border near Bhainsa to Lakshetipet via Nirmal.	170
(15)	Ongole to Annanthapur connecting NH.4 & 13.	231
(16)	Bellary (in Karnataka) to Deogarh (in Orissa) Via Akuru-Adoni-Raichur Mahaboobnagar-Nalgonda-Khammam-Bhadrachalam-Chintur-Narsipatnam-Saluru-Gunupur-Bhadraviri.	1220

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Road</i>	<i>Length (in km)</i>
1.	2	3
(17)	Palamaneru-Venkatagirikota-Kuppam- Repanapalle-Krishnagiri(in Tamilnadu)	100
(18)	Hyderabad-Sangareddy-Nanded-Akola Road	241
Total:		5905

Textile Goods Export Centre at Erode

7010. DR. (SHRIMATI) K.S. SOUNDARAM: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up an export centre for textile goods at Erode;

(b) if so, the time by which it will be set up; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) to (c): No such proposal is under Government's consideration.

Target for Production of Janata Cloth

7011. DR. G.L. KANAUIA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the target for production of janata cloth by the States is fixed on the basis of the number of handlooms in the States and past performance in production;

(b) if so, the performance of Uttar Pradesh in this regard during each of the last three years;

(c) the target fixed for Uttar Pradesh for production of janata cloth during each of the last three years and the achievements made during the same period; and

(d) the target fixed for 1991-92?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) The target for production of janata cloth in a State is fixed on the basis of a number of factors such as (i) production capacity; (ii) past performance in the production, (iii) entitlement for consumption of janata cloth assessed on the basis of population on pro-rata basis, and (iv) overall target of production of janata cloth fixed for the country which depends on the amount of subsidy earmarked in a year for release under this scheme.

(b) to (d) The details of target fixed and the achievement made in the production of janata cloth in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years is as under:-

(in million square metres)

<i>Year</i>	<i>Target fixed</i>	<i>Production achieved</i>
1988-89	120.00	92.51
1989-90	132.00	120.62
1990-91	132.00	119.14
1991-92	100.00	—

Review on Indo-Pak Border Clashes

7012. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the military officials of India

and Pakistan have established contact to review the recent border skirmishes; and

(b) if so, the measures taken to avoid such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE: (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR): (a) Consequent to the telephonic discussions between the Indian and Pak Directors General, Military Operations on 02 Sep '91, the Sub Sector Commanders of the two countries held two Flag Meetings on the 3rd and 8th Sept. 1991 to deescalate tensions generated by the recent incidents in the Kirni village area of the Poonch Sector.

(b) Periodic contacts are maintained at the level of the Directors General Military Operations of both the countries for defusing tensions on the Line of Control, as and when they arise.

[*Translation*]

Export of Tea Leaves

7013. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of foreign exchange earned from export of tea during each of the last three years; and

(b) the quantity of tea leaves proposed to be exported during 1991-92 and the foreign exchange likely to be earned therefrom?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED): (a) The export earning from tea for the financial years from 1988-89 to 1990-91 is as under:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Export Earnings (Rs./Crs.)</i>
1988-89	641.87
1989-90	914.82
1990-91	1045.41

(b) 210 M.Kgs. of tea valued at Rs. 1200 crores is proposed to be exported during 1991-92.

[*English*]

Single Window Loan Scheme

7014. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether before the raising of investment limit under single window loan scheme, indirect scheme of assistance to financial institutions was hundred percent automatic re-finance;

(b) whether the Government have recently enlarged the scope of single window loan scheme to cover projects upto Rs.20 lakhs or more for financing of fixed assets and working capital and operated through banks as earlier operated through financial institutions only;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether under single window loan scheme, SSI promoters shall be eligible to avail assistance under national equity fund scheme irrespective of the population criteria/ceiling;

(e) if so, whether the Government have issued any notification in this regard; and

(f) if not, when it is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has reported that loans upto Rs.10 lakhs under the Single Window Scheme are eligible for refinance under the Automatic Refinance Scheme (ARS). While State Financial Corporations (SFCs) and twin function Industrial Development Corporations (IDCs) are eligible for 100% refi-

nance under ARS, the banks are eligible for refinance upto 75% of their loans.

(b) and (c). The ceiling on the projects eligible for assistance under the Single Window Scheme of SIDBI has been raised from Rs.10 lakhs to Rs.20 lakhs and that on working capital component of loan from Rs.5 lakhs to Rs.10 lakhs. The Scheme is at present operated through State Financial Corporations (SFCs) and twin function Industrial Development Corporations (IDCs). However, the extension of the Scheme for operation through banks is under examination of SIDBI.

(d) Equity type assistance under the National Equity Fund Scheme is available to new units with a ceiling of Rs.10 lacs of project cost in the small scale sector located in areas having a population of upto 5 lakhs and for the rehabilitation of sick units in the small scale sector located in areas having a population upto 15 lakhs. The National Equity Fund Scheme is now operated through all SFCs as well as Banks. Although the Single Window Scheme is currently operated through State level Corporations only, SSI promoters seeking term loan assistance from banks are also eligible to avail of assistance under the National Equity Fund in respect of projects involving capital outlays upto Rs.10 lakhs.

(e) Government has incorporated the enhancement in the size of projects eligible for assistance under the Single Window Scheme and the National Equity Fund Scheme in the new-policy measures for small, tiny and village enterprises announced on August 6, 1991.

(f) Does not arise.

Demand for Five Judicial Districts in Delhi

7015. SHRI MORESHWAR SAVE: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any demand from the Delhi High Court Bar Association for dividing Delhi into five judicial districts; and

(b) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government is of the view that the interest of litigant public of Delhi should be the main criterion in effecting changes. Accordingly, the Government is actively considering bringing measures for implementation of the proposal of bifurcation of Delhi into five judicial districts and also another proposal for raising of pecuniary jurisdiction of Delhi Courts.

F.I.R. Filed by CBI on ST. Kitts Bank Account Case

7016: SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY:
SHRI MOHAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a F.I.R. was filed by the Central Bureau of Investigation against certain person for practising misrepresentation, fraud etc. in St. Kitts Banks Accounts;

(b) if so, what is the fate of that F.I.R.; and

(c) whether enquiry is going on that F.I.R.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE. (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The C.B.I. has registered a case.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Emergency Landing of Transport Aircraft

7017. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Russian aircraft IL-76 with the Indian Air Force;

(b) how many of these transport aircraft had emergency landings during the last one year;

(c) the reasons for the emergency landing of these aircraft; and

(d) steps taken to rectify the snags noticed in these aircraft?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE: (SHRIS. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) 14.

(b) 3.

(c) and (d) A defect was noticed in the engine of the IL-76 aircraft. Corrective action has been taken to rectify it. Further details cannot be divulged in the public interest.

India's Performance in International Market

7018. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the position of India in the competitive market of the world as regards textiles electronics, engineering goods and consumer items during the last three years;

(b) the measures being considered to improve the performance in the international market and also the action plan chalked out in this regard; and

(c) the impact of the steps taken in July, 1991 thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED) : (a) The latest figures on India's share in world exports by Commodity Divisions/Groups are available only upto the calendar year 1987, as given in the Economic Survey 1990-91. According to these figures, India's share in world exports in respect of selected major items is as under:

<i>Commodity Division/Group</i>		<i>% Share</i>
i)	Textiles yarn, fabrics made-up articles, etc.	2.1
ii)	Articles of apparel and clothing accessories	2.6
iii)	Engineering goods (including electronics)	0.1

	<i>Commodity Division/Group</i>	<i>% Share</i>
iv)	CONSUMER ITEMS	
	Meat and Meat Products	0.2
	Marine Products	2.2
	Vegetables and Fruits	0.4
	Coffee & substitutes	1.2
	Tea & Mate	14.4
	Spices	10.0

(b) The Government announced a package of Trade Policy reforms in July and August, 1991, aimed at strengthening export incentives, eliminating substantial volume of import licensing and optimal import compression. Essential imports of sensitive items such as POL and fertilizers were fully protected but other imports of raw materials and components have been linked to export performance. REF licences have been replaced by a new instrument called Exim Scrips. Exim Scrips will be the means of obtaining access to certain categories of imports of raw materials, components and spares. The category of unlisted OGL has been abolished and these items are now importable only against Exim Scrips. The system of Advance Licences as an instrument of export promotion has been strengthened.

(c) The beneficial aspects of the trade Policy reforms will be felt only from the third quarter of the financial year 1991-92.

Promotion of Free Trade

7019. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank in its report of 1990-91 has suggested that deregulation is the need of the hour for India;

(b) if so, whether the Government have examined the Report and to what extent the Government have agreed for deregulation and free trade; and

(c) by what time a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The World Bank publication World Development Report (1991) makes a mention of Indian industry not achieving its full growth potential because of highly protective trade policies and excessive regulation.

(b) and (c) Government has seen the report which is an annual publication on various development related issues in the World. It is not a prescription nor a precondition for the World Bank lending programme

However, separately, keeping our priorities in view, Government have already announced measures aiming at greater

deregulation in the trade and industrial sectors. In particular, these measures relate to licensing, foreign investment, foreign technology agreements, public sector policy, MRTP Act etc.

[Translation]

Repair and Improvement of Rishikesh-Joshimath-Badrinath Road in Uttar Pradesh

7020. SHRICHINMAYANAND SWAMI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to repair and improve the Rishikesh-Joshimath-Badrinath Road in view of the increasing number of accidents every year;

(b) if so, the time by which the work on this road is likely to start; and

(c) the amount sanctioned for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE : (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) to (c) It has been proposed to improve the geometrics and widen the pavement of the road. The first phase of improvement works commenced in 1990-91 and the work is Scheduled to be completed by 94-95. The Planning Commission has agreed to provide Rs.15 crores for this work.

Complaints Against Cotton Companies in Bombay

7021. SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV:
SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints received by the Registrar of Companies and by the Government regarding working of companies dealing in cotton business in Bombay;

(b) the nature of these complaints; and

(c) the action taken thereon by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (c) As the names of the companies dealing in cotton business, exclusively or otherwise, have not been mentioned in the question, and records of complaints are not maintained industry-wise, it has not been found possible to collect the information sought.

[English]

Rehabilitation of Panyam Cement and Mineral Industries Limited

7022. SHRI C.P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction has sanctioned any rehabilitation scheme for revival of the sick Panyam Cement and Mineral Industries Limited of Karnataka; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. The Board for Industrial and Financial reconstruction (BIFR) has reported that in exercise of powers conferred under Section 18(4) of the Act read with Section 19(3) of the Act the Board has sanctioned a scheme for the revival of M/s.

Panyam Cements & Mineral Industries Ltd. (PANYAM) in its hearing held on 11th April, 1991.

(b) The scheme envisages capital expenditure, clearance of pressing creditors and statutory liabilities and lists a set of reliefs and concessions from financial institutions (IDBI, IFCI, ICICI, LIC, UTI and IRBI), Bank, (Banks of Baroda, Syndicate Bank, Canara Bank, Andhra Bank, Vijaya Bank, Karur Vyasa Bank), the State Government of Andhra Pradesh, State Government of Karnataka, Government of India and promoters/company. The Scheme projects that the net worth of the company would become positive in the year 1995-96 and the cumulative losses would get wiped off in the year 1997-98.

Extension of Period of Repayment Loan to Gujarat

7023. **SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA:**
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Gujarat for extension of the period of repayment of loan granted to it under the Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief Scheme; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A request was received from the State Government of Gujarat in November, 1990 seeking extension of the repayment period of the loan under the Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief (ARDR) Scheme, 1990 upto the end of VIII

Plan period. The aforesaid loan was given by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD) at the stipulated terms and conditions to state Cooperative Government Banks and State Land Development Banks against State Government guarantees. After due consideration of the proposal by RBI, the State Government was informed that it was not possible to give any extension of the period of repayment of the loan beyond the stipulated period of 3 years.

Alleged Irregularities in New Bank of India

7024. **SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA:**
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the legal requirements of cash reserve ratio and statutory liquidity ratio were not maintained in the New Bank of India resulting in over-lending, cash losses etc. during 1990 and 1991.

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) how the Government propose to deal with the matter,

(d) whether the conditions prevailing in other banks have also been studied, and

(e) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken against the persons found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) No, Sir. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that New Bank of India complied with statutory requirements regarding maintenance of Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) and Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) during the period from April, 1989 to March, 1991.

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

(d) and (e) RBI keeps continual watch on the maintenance of CRR and SLR requirements by banks. In case of default, penal interest is charged from the defaulting banks depending on the duration of default.

[Translation]

Chit Fund Companies

7025. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the functioning of the Chit Fund Companies has been reviewed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total amount deposited by the public in these companies at present;

(d) whether any cases of embezzlement and irregularities have been brought to the notice of the Government during the last three years;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to check such irregularities and ensure the safety of public money deposited in these companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that total deposits of the reporting Chit Fund Companies aggregated to Rs. 876 crores as on 31-3-90, out of which only Rs. 1 crore were public deposits.

(d) RBI have further reported that cases of irregularities in regard to the public depos-

its held with such companies are rare and no such case has come to their notice during the last three years.

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

[English]

Export Incentives to Big Business Houses

7026. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to a study made by the Institute for Studies in Industrial development (ISID) the export incentives extended to big business houses have turned them into traders instead of making them more competitive;

(b) whether the Government have studied the said report; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. ISID has so stated in their report. However, it may be stated that under the existing Import & Export Policy, there is no stipulation to the effect that one can export goods of one's own manufacture only. However, in terms of new trade policy announced recently, imports have been linked with the exports in the case of large scale and PMP Units. Large Scale Units will no longer be eligible for the grant of special licences for the import of their requirements of raw materials, components and consumables etc. Similarly, PMP Units will not be eligible for import of their requirements of OGL items of

raw materials, components and consumables etc. These categories of importers will now have to follow Exim Scrip route for meeting their import requirements of above items.

[Translation]

**Opening of Bridge on Gomati River
Near Chandvak in Uttar Pradesh**

7027. SHRI RAM BADAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to open to traffic the newly constructed bridge on Gomati river near Chandvak on Varanasi-Gorakhpur National Highway in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, when;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government have received some complaints about the use of sub-standard material in the construction of the said bridge; and

(e) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken against the persons found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT(SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Constitutionally this Ministry is responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways only. All other roads are essentially the responsibility of the State Governments/Union Territories concerned. The bridge in question does not fall on any National Highway but on a State road. Therefore the Government of Uttar Pradesh is

primarily responsible for its construction and opening to traffic.

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

Income Tax Collection from Government Employees

7028. SHRI RAM NARAIN BERWA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Government employees who have paid income tax during the last three years and the amount of income tax collected from them year wise; and

(b) the total amount of Income tax collected by the Government during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR)

(a) The amount of income-tax collected by way of deduction of income tax at source from the salary of Government employees during 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91 was Rs. 228 crores, Rs. 241 crores & Rs. 216 crores respectively. The Central Board of Direct Taxes does not compile separate data regarding the number of Government employees who have paid Income-tax. The information will have to be collected from assessing officers and ITOs (TDS Circles spread all over the country. This will involve considerable time and effort, which will not be commensurate with the results sought to be achieved.

(b) The Income-tax collection (including corporation tax collection) during the last three years was as follows:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Total amount of Income-tax collected (Rupees in Crores)</i>
1988-89	8,648
1989-90	9,722
1990-91	10,691

[English]

Coast Guards

7029. SHRIRAJNATH SONKARSHASTRI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Raised eyebrows at Coast Guard's methods of seizure" appearing in the Economic Times dated August 7, 1991;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted into the whole affair;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e). On the night of 24th-25th July 1991, an unlit vessel was sighted by CG ship "Veera", while on an anti-smuggling patrol, south of Bombay. The representatives of Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) were on board this ship. This unlit vessel was pursued by CGS Veera and ordered to stop,

but the former resorted to firing. In response, CGS Veera had to engage the craft with 40/60 mm gun, which resulted in its sinking. On rummaging by DRI, contraband silver valued at Rs. 6.87 crores and 3 dead bodies were recovered from the sunken vessel. The vessel was a Pakistani vessel named 'Lucky' and was manned by Pakistani crew and fitted with sophisticated navigation/communication equipment.

During the engagement, some stray shots fired by CGS Veera appear to have ricocheted off the water and landed in the adjoining coastal areas, resulting in minor injuries to 4 persons.

Subsidies for Public Utility Services in Delhi

7030. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the per capita income in Delhi is the highest in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the various public utility services in Delhi are highly subsidised;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether it is proposed to cut down the various subsidies ; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A Statement is enclosed.

(c) and (d). The major public utility services in Delhi being given assistance are the Delhi Transport Corporation, the Delhi Milk Scheme and the Badarpur Thermal Power Station. Assistance is provided to the Delhi

Transport Corporation to cover its cash losses, to the Delhi Milk Scheme to cover the difference between the cost of production and the receipts by way of sale of milk and to the Badarpur Thermal Power Station to cover the difference between the expenditure on

operation and maintenance and the receipts of the power station.

(e) and (f). The above subsidies are under constant review and corrective action taken is necessary.

STATEMENT

Per capita income of various States/Union Territories at current prices (arranged in descending order) during 1987-88.

<i>Sl. No</i>	<i>State/U.T</i>	<i>Per capita income (Figures in Rs.)</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
1.	Delhi	7788
2.	Goa	6209
3.	Pondicherry.	5622
4.	Punjab	5572
5.	Maharashtra	4558
6.	Haryana	4312
7.	Mizoram	4077
8.	Sikkim	3886
9.	Arunachal Pradesh	3679
10.	Gujarat	3509
11.	Tamil Nadu	3362
12.	Nagaland	3361
13.	Karnataka	3254
14.	Himachal Pradesh	3122
15.	West Bengal	3046
16.	Manipur	3008

<i>Sl. No</i>	<i>State/U.T</i>	<i>Per capita income (Figures in Rs.)</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
17.	Meghalaya	2893
18.	Andhra Pradesh	2839
19.	Kerala	2828
20.	Jammu & Kashmir	2701
21.	Assam	2589
22.	Tripura	2494
23.	Madhya Pradesh	2433
24.	Uttar Pradesh	2382
25.	Rajasthan	2363
26.	Orissa	2194
27.	Bihar	1846

Based on old (1970-71) series of State Domestic Product.

Source: Directorate of Economics & Statistics of respective State Government/UT Administration.

Note 1. The estimates of per capita income are not prepared by the UTs of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu and Lakshadweep.

Note 2. As the source of per capita income are different i.e. the concerned State/UT, the above figures of the various States/UTs are not strictly comparable.

Loans of Fishermen

7031. SHRI CHNNDRESH PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether loans are given to fishermen for various purposes by banks and other financial institutions;

(b) whether other facilities and subsidies are also given to the fishermen and other persons employed in the fishing trade; and

(c) if so, the details of such loans, facilities, subsidies, etc. given to the fishermen and others in Gujarat during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that advances provided by commercial banks for fisheries are covered under Priority Sector as activity allied to agriculture and hence eligible for various concessions such as concessional rate of interest, liberalised margin and security norms. Short term and term loans are granted by banks for development of fisheries in all its aspects from fish catching to the stage of export, financing of equipment necessary for deep sea fishing, etc. Besides, under Integrated Rural Development Programme, Government subsidy ranging from 25% to 50% is given for the above activities to eligible borrowers. The amount of loans and

advances disbursed for fisheries by all scheduled commercial banks in the State of Gujarat for during the last three years is as follows:

<i>(Rs. in crores)</i>	
<i>Years</i>	<i>Amount</i>
June 1987	6.90
June 1988	7.43
June 1989	2.67
<i>(latest available)</i>	

investment by Bank and financial institutions in Maharashtra.

7032. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount invested by the Life Insurance Corporation of India, General Insurance Corporation and various banks in Maharashtra separately during the last three years;

(b) whether these banks and financial institutions have any proposal to invest more capital in Maharashtra; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a)

<i>Years</i>	<i>Amount (Rs. in Crores)</i>	
	<i>L.I.C</i>	<i>G.I.C</i>
1988-89	206.86	80.31
1989-90	402.23	143.37
1990-91	315.16	143.27

Information in respect of Banks is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c). Investments of LIC and GIC funds are governed by the provisions of Section 27A and 27B respectively of the Insurance Act, 1938 as also the Government guidelines issued in this behalf. While institutions have taken a number of steps to promote higher level of entrepreneurial activity in industrially less developed regions, the flow of institutional assistance to any region depends on the number of worthwhile proposals coming from them.

Legal aid and Advice Boards

7033. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Legal Aid and Advice Boards have been set up in all States and Union Territories;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government to set up these Boards in States/Union Territories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b). Legal Aid and Advice Boards have been set up in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal and the Union Territories of Chandigarh, Daman & Diu, Delhi and Pondicherry. Legal Aid and Advice Board has also been set up in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands but it has yet to become functional pending creation of some posts.

(c) Legal Aid Boards have not yet been set up in the States of Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram because of their traditional tribal customs and laws. However, Legal Aid Programmes in these states are being monitored by the Judicial Department of their respective Governments.

Steps are also being taken to set up Legal Aid and Advice Boards in the Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Lakshadweep.

Housing Finance by Banks

7034. SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the guidelines issued by the Reserve Bank of India from time to time and contents of their letter dated November 2, 1988 to the Scheduled Commercial banks for providing credit to housing sector;

(b) whether the guidelines and contents of the aforesaid RBI letter are in operation as on date;

(c) if so, whether the scheduled commercial banks have extended adequate credit to the individuals/members of the group housing societies during the last two years and till date, for boosting the housing activities in the Union Territory of Delhi; and

(d) if so, the factual position thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). The main features of the guidelines regarding housing finance issued by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to all Scheduled Commercial Banks in November, 1983 and modifications made in it from time to time are indicated in the attached statement. These guidelines are still generally in operation.

(c) and (d). RBI has reported that the banks have been achieving the all-India

target set for housing finance. However, the direct lending to individuals/groups of individuals including co-operative housing societies is lower than the quantum earmarked for the purpose. The banks have, therefore, been advised to step up direct lending for housing during the current year.

RBI has reported that it is not maintaining separate data for the Union Territory of Delhi. However, the factual position regarding the targets and achievements for the year 1989-90 for the country as a whole including Delhi, are as under:

<i>(Rs. in crores)</i>		
	<i>Target</i>	<i>Achievements</i>
Overall Target (All India)	322	390.41 (Provisional)
Direct lending	96.60	41.61

The targets for the years 1990-91 and 1991-92 are as under:

	<i>1990-91</i>	<i>1991-92</i>
Overall Target (All India)	387	364
Direct lending	116.10	109.20

STATEMENT

Main features of guidelines issued in November, 1988

I. Direct Lending:

i) The maximum period of repayment of housing loan from commercial banks which was 10 years has been extended upto 15 years.

ii) The maximum margin has been reduced from 50% to 35%.

iii) The rate of interest for housing loan has been altered with effect from October, 10, 1988 as under:

	<i>Amount of loan</i>	<i>Rate of Interest (percent per annum)</i>
1.	Upto Rs. 20,000	12.5
2.	Above Rs. 20,000 and upto Rs. 50,000	13.5
3.	Above Rs. 50,000 and upto Rs. 1 lakh	14.0
4.	Above Rs. 1 lakh	14.5 - 16.0

The rate of interest for housing loans for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes upto and inclusive of Rs. 5,000/- remains unchanged at 4% per annum.

iv) Where mortgagee of property or bank guarantee is not feasible, banks have been permitted to accept other forms of securities such as Life Insurance Policies, Government Promissory Notes, etc.

v) Than banks will also have the discretion to fix the repayment instalments in such a way that housing loans become more affordable by the lower income groups and repayment instalments may not exceed normally 30% of the income of the borrower.

vi) In the case of individuals who might have raised funds from other sources, banks have been permitted to provide supplementary finance.

vii) Banks have been permitted to extend credit for additions, repairs and alterations of houses.

viii) The total loan per individual for housing from the bank is the not to exceed Rs. 3 lakhs.

ix) Bank finance given for slum improvement schemes implemented by the public agencies is to be treated as part of housing finance.

II. Indirect Lending:

i) Banks to grant term loans to housing finance institutions and housing boards taking into consideration their debt-equity ratio, track record and other relevant factors. The rate of interest will be 12.5% per annum provided not less than 75% of the units financed are meant for the economically weaker sections and lower income groups and the rates of interest charged to ultimate beneficiaries and other terms are as stipulated in case of direct finance.

ii) Banks may extend finance to public agencies for acquisition and devel-

opment of land as part of complete project including development of infrastructure provided that the project is completed within 3 years.

iii) Banks may extend credit on commercial terms to private builders of repute by way of demand loans linked to each specific project for a maximum period of 18 months. (Since June, 1991 RBI has permitted banks to grant term loans for a period of 3 to 5 years linked to specific projects where payment from the prospective buyers of the dwelling unit is not to be received during development, and construction stage and refinance from National Housing Bank (NHB) is available.)

Modifications made in the guidelines from time to time

The banking system were allocated a target in May, 1979 of Rs. 75 crores which was approximately 0.5% of the total advances of all scheduled commercial banks at the end of December, 1978. Subsequently, in January 1989, the overall housing finance was linked to the growth in bank deposits and the banks were advised to compute their respective shares of housing finance at 1.5% of their incremental deposits of the current year over that of the previous year.

In May, 1989 with a view to ensure adequate direct lending for housing to individuals or groups of individuals including cooperative societies, Reserve Bank of India have advised the commercial banks that atleast 30% of the total allocation for housing should be reserved for direct lending. Further 30% of the allocation is required to be by way of term loans to housing finance companies, housing boards and other public housing agencies. The balance 40% of the allocation will be available for subscription to the guaranteed bonds and debentures of National Housing Bank and Housing & Urban Development Corporation.

Further, banks have been permitted to

extend loans over Rs. 3 lakhs, but such loans would not be counted for housing finance targets.

The current interest rate structure effective from September, 1990 which is also applicable to housing finance is as under:

<i>Size of limit</i>	<i>Rate of Interest (percent per annum)</i>
a) Upto and inclusive of Rs. 7,5000/-	10.0
b) Over Rs. 7,500/- and upto Rs. 15,000/-	11.5
c) Over Rs. 15,000/- and upto Rs. 25,000/-	12.0
d) Over Rs. 25,000/- and upto Rs. 50,000/-	14.0
e) Over Rs. 50,000/- and upto Rs. 2 lakh	15.0
f) Over Rs. 2 lakh	18.5*

(*Effective from 4th. July, 1991)

Outstanding Loans of Financial Institutions Against Private Sector

7035. SHRI ANIL BASU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Liquidity crisis forces Financial Institutions to slash aid to private sector" appearing in the Economic Times dated August 13, 1991;

(b) if so, the total amount of outstanding loans granted by the financial institutions to private sector and the remedial measures taken by the Government to realise the outstanding loans; and

(c) the names of private sector companies whose outstanding amount is more than rupees five crores?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The total amount of outstanding loans granted to the private sector by the

Financial Institutions, namely Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI), Industrial Finance Corporation of India (IFCI) Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India (ICICI), Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank) and Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India (IRBI) as on 31.3.1991 is Rs. 16,790.36 crores. Recovery of dues, both current as well as overdues, is a continuous process. It is effected in accordance with the repayment schedules drawn at the time of signing of the loan agreements. In addition to this, the Institutions adopt a variety of measures for recovery of overdues. These include mounting of pressure on the concerned units as well as their guarantors to fulfil their guarantee obligations and rescheduling of loans in deserving cases. In respect of certain non-viable units, the institutions also go in for a one-time settlement. In exceptional cases where all other measures fail, the Institutions recall their loans and file recovery suits.

(c) The names of private sector companies whose outstanding amounts are more than Rs.5.00 crores each are not disclosable as it is not the practice of the Financial Institutions to release information about

their individual constituents in accordance with the secrecy and fidelity that is maintained about their clients and as is provided by law.

Trade with USSR

7036. SHRI RABI RAY:
SHRI SHANKERSINH
VAGHELA:
SHRI MORESHWAR SAVE:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have assessed the impact of the recent changes in the USSR on the trade with that country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the present exchange rate of rupee and rouble;

(d) whether it is at par with the exchange rates of rupee-dollar and dollar-rouble; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Union Government to develop trade with USSR in a realistic Rupee-Rouble equation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) and (b). Government is closely monitoring the swiftly changing development in the USSR and its impact on the Indo-USSR trade.

(c) According to the latest information available from the Reserve Bank of India, the Rupee-Rouble exchange rate as on 5.9.91 is Rs. 30.8390 = Rouble 1.

(d) and (e). It is difficult to compare to rupee-rouble exchange rate with the exchange rates of rupee-dollar and dollar-rouble because the rouble is not a quoted convertible currency in world exchange markets. Indo-Soviet trade is in non-convertible In-

dian Rupees. As on 5.9.1991 the Dollar-Rupee Exchange rate was 1US\$ - Rs.26.08. The official exchange rate of the rouble as on 2.9.91 was US \$ 1 = Rouble 0.5936.

[Translation]

U.S.A. Visit of Chief of Army Staff

7037. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA
NAYAK:
SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chief of the Army Staff visited U.S.A. in the third week of August, 1991;

(b) if so, what was the purpose of the visit; and

(c) the outcome of the discussions held there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHANKUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The visit of the COAS to the USA was a goodwill visit undertaken in response to an invitation from the Chief of Staff of the US Army. Similar reciprocal visits are undertaken with a number of other countries also.

(c) The visit provided an opportunity to exchange views on various issues of mutual interest, including prospects of closer Defence Cooperation between the two countries.

[English]

Electoral Rolls

7038. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH:
Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is always a difference between the population and electoral rolls whenever these are revised;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any State Government has made efforts to compare to electoral rolls with the last census figures;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any complaints have been received by the Government regarding non-inclusion of names of voters in the voters in the voters lists; and

(f) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to arrange for a thorough check of the electoral rolls?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Electoral rolls contains only that part of the total population which is eligible to vote.

(c) and (d) The Government is not aware of such efforts being made by any State Government.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The superintendence, direction and control of preparation of electoral rolls is vested in the Election Commission and not in the Government under article 324 or the Constitution of India. The Registration of Electoral Rules, 1960 make detailed provisions for preparation and revision of rolls is done at the beginning of every year and wide publicity is given about the programme of revision of rolls through mass media and other means and every possible effort is made by the the Election Commission to ensure that all eligible voters are enrolled.

Confiscated Opium

7039 SHRI MAHESH ANODIA:
SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the stock of confiscated opium with the Union Government as on August 31, 1991;

(b) the time by which it will be disposed of; and

(c) the purposes for which it will be utilised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c). Confiscated opium is transferred by drug law enforcement agencies to the Government Opium & Alkaloid Works Undertakings located at Neemuch (MP) or Ghazipur (UP) for being captively utilised for manufacture of alkaloids as and when required or for destruction, if not found suitable for this purpose. Approximately 7500 kgs. of much opium was in stock in the two Government Opium & Alkaloid Works Undertakings at Ghazipur (UP) and Neemuch (MP) as on 31.8.1991. According to the programme of these two undertakings, the above quantity of confiscated opium will be disposed of by 31st March, 1992.

[Translation]

Loans to Sick Textile Units

7040. SHRI SIMON MARANDI: Will the minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to grant loans at 11.5% per cent rate of interest to the sick textile units;

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

(c) the names of such sick units to whom

loans will be granted and the total expenditure likely to be incurred thereon, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) There is no such proposal under consideration.

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

[English]

Losses in Banks

7041. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the loss of colossal amount of money by the public sector banks through lending to non-credit-worthy individuals and corporate groups;

(b) if so, what is the extent of such losses;

(c) whether responsibility has been fixed for such losses;

(d) whether the Government propose to set up a commission of inquiry to investigate into all acts of malfeasance by delinquent bank officials; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Banks being institutions, the possibility of certain advances turning sticky and thereby resulting in losses to the concerned banks is inherent in the system.

(b) The formats of balance sheet and profit & Loss account of banks, as set out in the Third Schedule of Banking Regulation Act, 1949, do not provide for such information.

(c) All irregularities are investigated and appropriate remedial action is taken wherever necessary.

(d) and (e). The existing systems and procedures obtaining in public sector banks with regard to scrutiny of affairs by internal inspectors, external statutory auditors as also RBI's periodic inspections are considered adequate. The Central Bureau of Investigation has also jurisdiction over the banks and investigate cases on the request of Government, Reserve Bank of India, banks and even suo-motto.

[Translation]

Expressway from Ahmedabad to Vadodara

7042. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the implementation of the Expressway project from Ahmedabad to Vadodara has been considerably delayed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the amount sanctioned for this project and the time by which it is scheduled to be completed;

(d) the cost overrun due to delay in the construction of this Expressway; and

(e) the measures taken so far to ensure early completion of this project?

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

(b) The delay in execution of the project has been due to poor performance of the contractors.

(c) The original sanctioned cost was Rs. 137.20 crores and the work is presently scheduled for completion by December, 1994.

(d) The Revised Cost is yet to be assessed by the State Government.

(e) Major contractual problem have been resolved by the Government to enable contractors to expedite the progress.

[English]

Setting Up of Jute Goods Industry at Noida near Delhi

7043. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a modern factory for the manufacture of jute goods at Noida near Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Construction of a new Bridge on River Chhonda

7044. SHRI BARELAL JATAV: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the old bridge on river Chhonda on National Highway in Morena district is in dilapidated condition;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to construct a new bridge on this Highway and raise the level of this road till a new bridge is constructed there; and

(c) if so, when it is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). Presumably

the Hon'ble member is referring to the old bridge across Assan River at Km 85/10 on NH 3 near Chonda village in Morena District. The existing bridge is old and weak. Construction of a new bridge including approaches is included in Annual plan 1991-92 for sanction subject to finalisation of the technical details.

Closure of Nationalised Cotton Mills in U.P

7045. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the some of the cotton mills in Uttar Pradesh which were nationalised during the last few years are lying closed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore and the names and locations of such mills; and

(c) the details of losses suffered by these mills during 1988-89 and 1989-90?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) No, Sir. None of the mill nationalised by the Central Government and run by National Textile Corporation is lying closed in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

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

[English]

Asian Development Bank Assistance for reconstruction of National Highways

7046. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Asian Development Band has provided financial assistance for the reconstruction of National Highways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to allocate funds for reconstruction and widening of national Highways connecting Sikkim;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). yes, Sir. The Asian Development Bank has agreed to provide financial assistance for the following National Highway Projects:-

1. Widening to 4-lanes and strengthening Anakapally to Vishakhapatnam Section of NH.5 (46 kms) in Andhra Pradesh.
2. 4-laning and strengthening from Ballabgarh to Mathura Section of NH.2 (111 kms) in Haryana & Uttar Pradesh.
3. 4-laning and strengthening Bangalore-Karnataka/ Tamil Nadu Border Section of NH.7.
4. 4-laning and strengthening Alwaye-Vyttila and Aroor-Sherthla Section (37 kms) and strengthening Vyttila-Aroor Section (10 kms) of NH.47 in Kerala.
5. 4-laning and strengthening Achrol-kotputli Section of NH.8 in Rajasthan.

(c) to (e). While National Highway No. 31A leading to Sikkim has not been included for external assistance under the Asian Development Bank Programme, it is being improved continuously subject to the availability of funds.

Seizure of Diamonds

7047. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether diamonds worth Rupees one crore were seized by the enforcement agencies during August, 1991;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have some plan for the utilisation of these diamonds; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). Acting on specific information, S/Shri Abdul Rahman, Mohammed Sharib Usman and Nazir Mohammed were intercepted at I.G.I. Airport, New Delhi, on 24.8.91 when they were leaving for Hong Kong by Flight No. BA-035 and cut and polished diamonds valued at Rs. 87,77,000/- alongwith US \$ 73,600/- were recovered and seized from their possession.

(c) and (d). Confiscated cut and polished diamonds are sold by the Customs Department for the purposes of export.

Casual Workers In C.A.D. Camp Phulgaon Wardha

7048. SHRI RAMCHANDRA MAROTRAO GHANGARE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether more than one hundred class IV casual workers are working in the C.A.D camp Phulgaon district, Wardha for more than five years;

(b) whether the camp authorities still employ more casual workers every year at occasional intervals; and

(c) if so, the reasons why the previous class IV so-called 'casual' workers are not either regularised or made permanent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE

IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNANKUMAR): (a) No, Sir

(b) No, Sir, However, in the period between November 1990 to January 1991, and March 1991 to July, 1991, a few casual workers were employed for the specific and purely seasonal work of clearing the wild growth of grass, to avoid the risk of fire.

(c) Does not arise.

Conversion of Bangalore - Mysore Highway Into Express Highway

7049. SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to convert Bangalore - Mysore State Highway into Express Highway; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Appointment of Judges for Motor Vehicle Accident Tribunals

7050. SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the judges have been appointed only in three out of the six Motor Vehicle Accident Tribunals in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the time by which the judges will be appointed in the remaining three Tribunals to ensure the expeditious disposal of all cases of motor accident claims?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT

(SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Judges of 3 out of 6 Motor Vehicles Accident Tribunals in Delhi were promoted to the Delhi Higher Judicial Service by the High Court of Delhi and they were relieved of their duties in the first week of June, 1991. The Delhi Administration have taken up the matter with the High Court of Delhi for filling up the three vacancies of judges in the MACTs expeditiously.

Income Tax allowance payable to employees of Public Sector Undertakings.

7051. SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether several Central Public Sector undertakings pay tax free allowances to their employees four times of their pay;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to take into account all these allowances for the income tax purposes; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) No specific instance of such payment by a Central Public Sector Undertaking has come to the notice of the Government.

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

[English]

Transactions with Foreign Banks by Public Sector Undertakings

7052. SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the public sector undertaking are having banking transactions with foreign banks;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and its

effect on the business of the nationalised banks;

(c) whether there is any proposal to allow the public sector undertakings to bank with the scheduled commercial banks only; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). As per extant instructions public sector undertakings are not allowed to deal with foreign banks in India in respect of their domestic banking requirements. However, certain public sector undertakings/corporations, whose project cost contains an element of foreign currency component have to depend at times on foreign banks for meeting their foreign exchange requirements. However, such dealings do not affect the Indian business of public sector banks.

(c) and (d). The existing policy is under review.

Asian Development Bank Assistance to Private Sector Units

7053. SHRIGOPINATH GAJAPATHI:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the some private sector units have secured the Asian Development Bank assistance to expand their units;

(b) if so, the names of such private sector units; and

(c) the details of the financial assistance received by them from the Asian Development Bank during last three years, years-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The details of the private sector units who have received financial assistance from Asian Development Bank so far is as follows:

STATEMENT

(Figures in US\$ million)

<i>Name of the Company</i>	<i>Equity Participation By ADB</i>	<i>ADB Loan</i>	<i>Date of ADB Approval</i>
1	2	3	4
DCL Polyesters Ltd.	3.00	16.00	16.7.87
I.C.I.C.I	5.00	-	29.10.87
Andhra Petro Chemicals Ltd.	3.00	4.00	30.01.88
Indian Acrylics Ltd.	2.24	5.90	31.01.89
Credit Capital Venture Fund	0.80	-	02.11.89
Calcutta Electric Supply Corpn. (CESC)	-	17.80	04.10.90
Twentieth Century Venture Capital Corp. Ltd.	1.830	-	20.12.90

Central Excise Duty and Custom Duty Collections in Goa.

7054. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amounts of Central excise duty and customs duty separately, collected in Goa during 1989-90 and 1990-91; and

(b) the names of all the firms/companies in Goa paying yearly more than Rs. one lakh as Central excise duty and the amount paid by each of them during the above period year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR)

(Rs. in crores)

(a)	1989-90	1990-91
Central excise duty	104.72	122.45
Customs duty	46.95	59.42

(b) A statement is enclosed.

STATEMENT

Names of firms/companies in Central Excise Collectorate, Goa paying yearly more than Rs. one lakh as Central Excise duty and the amount paid by them during 1989-90 and 1990-91.

S.No.	Name	Amount of Central excise duty paid	
		<i>(Rs. in lakhs)</i>	
		1989-90	1990-91
1.	Sanjveeni SSI Karhane	49.50	60.68
2.	Hindustan Foods	12.57	21.30
3.	K. Merck (I) Ltd.	35.60	63.16
4.	Kay Pee Steel	43.61	30.23
5.	M.R.F. Ltd.	5970.91	7337.76
6.	Goa Resistors	4.39	4.65
7.	Universal Beverages	—	6.20
8.	Hindustan Ciba Geigy of India Ltd	79.61	74.41
9.	Goa Paints & Allied Products	21.08	24.73

S.No.	Name	Amount of Central excise duty paid	
		(Rs. in lakhs)	
		1989-90	1990-91
10.	United Accumulators Pvt. Ltd.	26.29	37.74
11.	Dynamic Engineers	1.19	—
12.	Ariem Electronics	7.50	7.76
13.	Goa Electricals & Fans Ltd.	1.44	—
14.	Beieresdorf India Ltd.	—	100.21
15.	Curti Enterprises	—	2.27
16.	I.F.B. Ltd	—	77.27
17.	Indian Hume Pipes	22.05	10.05
18.	Rodal Circaprint Ltd.	33.23	32.36
19.	Polinova Industries Ltd.	60.26	9.12
20.	Bhandare Ind. Metals	2.21	0.93
21.	Diamont Boart I. Pvt. Ltd.	—	12.55
22.	Spenco Filtration India Pvt. Ltd	1.37	6.58
23.	kayji Polymers	2.31	2.57
24.	Ceejay Rubber Works	3.67	2.01
25.	Vilaman Pack (P) Ltd.	2.83	5.37
26.	H.L. Wires Pvt. Ltd.	—	1.74
27.	Photophone (I) Ind. Ltd.	57.90	74.34
28.	Photophone Ltd.	17.00	9.73
29.	Indo Swiss Jewels	13.51	8.20
30.	Adel Lab Ltd.	18.96	28.52
31.	Tata Unileys	46.69	45.07

<i>S.No.</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Amount of Central excise duty paid</i>	
		<i>(Rs. in lakhs)</i>	
		1989-90	1990-91
32.	Goa Antibiotics & Pharmaceuticals Ltd.	134.20	74.76
33.	Centaur Pharmaceuticals Ltd.	87.66	148.55
34.	Sushama Industries	4.02	—
35.	Geno Pharmaceuticals	67.96	77.66
36.	Minco (I) Ltd.	1.28	1.97
37.	Master Electronic	2.38	1.31
38.	Dynaquip Hydraulics	1.43	—
39.	Contemporary Perfumes	2.25	4.96
40.	P.J.M. Pharmaceuticals	1.84	2.71
41.	Goa Telecommunication System	53.45	31.97
42.	Goa Time Movers	21.14	13.53
43.	Goa Instruments	3.12	5.93
44.	Zenith Magnetics	8.23	4.58
45.	Modern Cosmetics Ind.	1.90	2.13
46.	Goa Electronic Ltd.	15.60	9.79
47.	Zenith Computers	49.70	18.01
48.	Aerosol Services	1.35	3.37
49.	Merit Pharmaceuticals	—	1.27
50.	Bal Bandhoo	—	1.41
51.	I.O.C., I	1035.77	1356.93
52.	I.O.C. (D) 104.26	87.47	
53.	H.P.C.	908.66	4984.49

<i>S.No.</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Amount of Central excise duty paid</i>	
		<i>(Rs. in lakhs)</i>	
		1989-90	1990-91
54.	Cristine	19.78	14.30
55.	Premila	3.18	—
56.	Salgaocar	3.80	1.36
57.	Prayang	3.20	1.81
58.	M.R. Ele- 1.12	—	
59.	Goa Carbon	3.36	3.20
60.	Jutex	4.75	12.70
61.	Oceanic P	1.30	2.03
62.	Dci Pharmaceuticals Pvt. Ltd	18.52	23.34
63.	M.S. Pharmaceuticals Pvt. Ltd.	12.75	12.97
64.	Costa & Co. Pvt. Ltd.	2.15	0.23
65.	Borkar Industries (p) Ltd.	7.31	16.98
66.	Jose Francisca Santos	1.20	0.08
67.	Electricity Deptt. Margao	2.52	2.53
68.	Goa Carbon Ltd.	152.83	214.92
69.	Matbual Auto Accessories	6.42	16.24
70.	Classic Extremerious Pvt. Ltd.	13.22	13.86
71.	Goa Aluminium Pvt. Ltd.	4.28	6.52
72.	Subhadhar Engg. P. Ltd.	3.82	3.91
73.	Goa Bottling Co. P. Ltd.	121.18	149.65
74.	Goa Sintered Products	6.01	3.22
75.	Soft Foods	—	1.21

<i>S.No.</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Amount of Central excise duty paid</i>	
		<i>(Rs. in lakhs)</i>	
		1989-90	1990-91
76.	N.D. Naik & Sons	6.51	0.09
77.	Govind Poi Oxygen Ltd.	13.84	11.59
78.	Devika Beverages	8.08	9.98
79.	Narpol Chemicals	22.95	11.12
80.	Atlantic Spinning & W. Mills Ltd.	15.11	11.70
81.	Amitech P. Ltd.	2.50	2.89
82.	Hydroflex Equipments	4.81	1.93
83.	Mistry Ind. Combines	—	1.13
84.	Acgl. Honda	360.01	458.22
85.	Acgl. Bhimpal	—	2.41
86.	Goa Auto Accessories Ltd.	70.91	99.42
87.	Chowgule & Co.	—	1.75
88.	Sesa Goa Ltd.	1.25	2.06
89.	Shetye Tyres & Rubber Ind.	6.72	3.14
90.	Bevit	5.46	5.08
91.	Fabril Gasosa	30.74	26.36
92.	Leukoplast (I) Ltd.	76.72	—
93.	Rapidur (I) Ltd.	10.98	—
94.	Wallace Pharmaceuticals	82.43	80.38
95.	Handyplast	12.46	—
96.	Cil Pharmaceuticals	73.25	52.72
97.	Menezes Chemicals (GOA)	9.74	22.95

S.No.	Name	Amount of Central excise duty paid	
		(Rs. in lakhs)	
		1989-90	1990-91
98.	Neographic (I) Ltd.	5.60	6.73
99.	Menezes Pharmaceuticals	4.66	30.57
100.	Colfax laboratories	235.02	366.28
101.	Toyo Pharmaceuticals	1.62	1.38
102.	Shivrai Chemicals	0.79	—
103.	United Lead Oxides Pvt. Ltd.	0.11	0.63
104.	Goa Cables	0.28	0.19
105.	Western Goa Confectionery	0.03	0.19
106.	National Control	—	0.70
107.	Unique Alliance	0.40	0.93
08	Goa Telematics Ltd.	—	0.72
09.	Chemtrol Valves	—	0.92
10.	Goa Capacitors	—	0.23
11.	Unique Flexible	0.27	—
12.	Karnatak Cement pipe Factory	0.15	0.40
13.	Cement Bricks In.	0.77	0.62
14.	Multy Flec. Mech. Works	—	0.50
15.	Asha Santoshi Enterprises	0.74	0.98
16.	Sai Shant Die Casting Ind.	—	0.05
17.	K.P. Winders	—	0.41

S.No.	Name	Amount of Central excise duty paid	
		(Rs. in lakhs)	
		1989-90	1990-91
118.	Casimosons	—	0.14
119.	Vikram Enterprises	0.07	0.44
120.	Tushar Enterprises	—	0.48

Profit/loss to Mormugao Port Trust

7055. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of tax recovered by Mormugao Port Trust from the exporters of Iron ore and other minerals during 1989-90 and 1990-91;

(b) the tax collected by the Mormugao Port Trust on other items exported during these years;

(c) the total salary including all allowances paid to employees by the Mormugao Port Trust during the same period; and

(d) the profit/loss to Mormugao Port Trust during the above years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Mormugao Port Trust does not recover any tax from the exporters of iron ore and other minerals. However the Port Trust levies charges for the services rendered by the Port. The charges collected by the Mormugao Port Trust during 1989-90 and 1990-91 are as under:

	(Rs. in lakhs)	
	1989-90	1990-91
Iron ore	2920.92	3115.37
Other minerals	69	8.56
Other items	159.98	179.44

(c) The total salary including allowances paid to employees by Mormugao port Trust during 1989-90 and 1990-91 are as under:

1989-90 Rs 1395.42 lakhs

1990-91 Rs. 1538.73 lakhs

(d) The loss/profit of the Major Ports are measured in terms of operating surplus/deficit and net surplus/deficit. The operating surplus/deficit is arrived at by deducting operating expenditure from operating income while net surplus/deficit is arrived at after taking into account the Finance and Miscel-

laneous income, Finance and Miscellaneous expenditure and transfer from/to various Reserves. The operating surplus and net

surplus earned by Mormugao port Trust during 1989-90 and 1990-91 are as follows:

(Rs. in lakhs)			
Operating surplus		Net surplus	
1989-90	1990-91	1989-90	1990-91
(Provisional)		(Provisional)	
1619.73	1437.23	5.38	4.85

Tex Evasions by Professionals

7056. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the professionals who were checked by the Income Tax authorities in Delhi in connection with evasion/concealment of taxes during 1990 and 1991;

(b) the details of the amount involved;

(c) whether there is any proposal to intensify the drive to detect more professionals evading/concealing the payment of taxes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The total number of cases of doctors, lawyers, chartered accountants and architects, which were checked by the Income-tax Authorities in Delhi in proceedings under section 132, 133A or 143(3) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 during the financial years ending 31st March, 1990 and 31st March, 1991, were 300 and 437 respectively.

(b) In respect of the cases referred to in

reply to part (a) above, additional income of Rs. 27.01 lakhs and Rs. 77.90 lakhs was determined in the cases in which assessments were completed during the financial years ending 31st March, 1990 and 31st March, 1991 respectively.

(c) and (d) Combating tax evasion by all persons, including professionals, is a continuous exercise and the Government takes necessary legislative and administrative steps from the time to time for this purpose.

Closed Cotton Textile Mills

7057. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cotton textile mills lying closed in the country as on July 31, 1991 and the details thereof State-wise; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to revive these mills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) As on 31st July, 1991 107 cotton/man-made fibre textile mills were lying closed in the country. The State-wise details are as under:

States	No. of closed mills
Andhra Pradesh	6
Bihar	1
Gujarat	33
Haryana	2
Karnataka	9
Kerala	1
Madhya Pradesh	2
Maharashtra	11
Rajasthan	4
Tamil Nadu	21
Uttar Pradesh	8
West Bengal	8
Delhi	1
Total =	107

(b) Steps taken up by the Government to revive these mills include: creation of a Nodal Agency to determine viability, setting up of textile modernisation fund for modernisation assistance, setting up the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) to draw revival packages.

Earning of Foreign Exchange by NTC Mills

7058. SHRIGOPINATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any of the profit making units under National Textile Corporation have received any export orders during the last three years;

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

(c) the amount of foreign exchange earned by the National Textile Corporation during the above period, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Yes, Sir. Four mills which showed profits during 1990-91 have received direct export orders besides exporting through merchant exporters.

(b) and (c). The details regarding mill-wise, year-wise direct export and the foreign exchange earnings by these mills are given below:

(Rs. in lakhs)

<i>Name of the Mill</i>	<i>1989-90</i>	<i>1990-91</i>	<i>1991-92 (upto August, 1991)</i>
Podar Mills, Bombay	4.51	—	28.50
Somasundaram Mills, Coimbatore.	0.19	—	—
New City of Bombay Mfg. Mills, Bombay	—	—	6.11
Mahalaxmi Mills, Beawar	—	—	4.44

Rehabilitation of Retrenched Workers of Textile Units

7059. DR. VISHWANATHAM KANITHI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the retrenched workers of the running and sick textile units are considered for rehabilitation in other new and expanding units;

(b) if so, the number of workers proposed to be rehabilitated during 1991-92;

(c) whether the retrenchment of workers on account of the modernisation of the units which usually results in reduction of the workers is also taken into account while considering them for re-employment; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) No, Sir. The Government of India has no such proposal or scheme.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Construction of Thakazy Bridge in Kerala

7060. SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has sent a proposal to the Union Government for the construction of Thakazy bridge in Alleppey district under the Central Road Fund scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A proposal for construction of a bridge at Thakazhi in Ambalapuzha-Thiruvalla road (S.H.) in Alleppey district, costing Rs. 200.00 lakhs has been received from the Govt. of Kerala under their Central Road Fund programme for 8th Plan period.

(c) The proposal can be processed for approval only after actual augmentation of the Central Road Fund takes place.

Permission to Government of Kerala to Float Bonds

7061. SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has requested for permission to float bonds for Rs. 120 crores during the current year:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) to (c). The market borrowing allocations approved by the Planning Commission for the various State Govts. and their enterprises are communicated to the Reserve Bank of India by the Ministry of Finance. Thereafter the actual phasing and timing of the borrowings are decided by the Reserve Bank of India taking into account the market conditions.

The market borrowing allocation for the Govt. of Kerala for the current financial year has been fixed at Rs. 192.92 crores by the Planning Commission. In the first instalment of loans of State Govts. floated in July, 1991, Reserve Bank of India permitted Kerala State to raise Rs. 72.28 crores. The Govt. of Kerala has requested for the floatation of the second tranche. The timing of this floatation will be decided by the Reserve bank of India.

[*Translation*]

Election Petitions

7062. SHRI LALIT ORAON: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of election petitions filed in various Election Tribunals, High Courts and Supreme Court during the Tenth Lok Sabha election; and

(b) the steps being taken for the expeditious disposal of these election petitions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) Election petitions are required to be filed before a High Court. The requisite information is, therefore, being collected

from the various High Courts and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) Election petitions are tried by High Courts which are superior courts of record. Section 86 (7) of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, already provides that every election petition should be tried as expeditiously as possible and endeavour shall be made to conclude the trial within six months from the date on which the election petition is presented to the High Court.

[*English*]

Setting up of Satellite Port at Gangavaram

7063. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a satellite port at Gangavaram in Visakhapatnam Port area for cargo movement of the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant, as well as for importing coke, cooking coal etc. to save the Visakhapatnam city from pollution; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). There is no proposal of the Central Government to set up a Satellite Port of Gangavaram.

Functions of CCI&E.

7064. PROF. K.V. THOMAS:
SHRI ANNA JOSHI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the functions of the Chief Controller of Import and Export in the context of recent liberalisation of Export-Import and Industrial policy; and

(b) the new set up of the office of the CCI&E?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) and (b). On 4th July, 1991 and 13th August, 1991 major changes in the Trade Policy were announced. As a consequence, the Office of the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports is being redesignated as the Office of the Director General of International Trade. The principal function of the Directorate will henceforth be promotion of exports and facilitation of imports to promote export trade. Import and Export (Control) Act, 1947 and the orders thereunder are being reviewed accordingly. Besides, the Manual of Office Procedure and the functions performed by various Port Offices are being comprehensively reviewed and a new charter of duties and functions is being drawn up to reflect the new role of the Directorate.

Exhibition for Kuwait's Reconstruction Programme

7065. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHONSLE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an exhibition for Kuwait's reconstruction programme is proposed to be organised in New Delhi during November, 1991;

(b) if so, the highlights of this exhibition;

(c) the criteria laid down for participation in the exhibition; and

(d) how it will help in rebuilding Kuwait?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Funds for Construction of Road in Arunachal Pradesh

7066. SHRI LAETA UMBREY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reduced the fund allocation for the construction of roads to Anini, the district headquarter of Dibang Valley and Walong, the administrative circle in Lohit district in Arunachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to make these two roads all weather roads?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHANKUMAR): (a) No, Sir. The Dibang Valley is connected through the Roing - Hunli - Anini road. The sector Roing to Hunli is being developed to class IX surfaced all weather specifications. The sector Hunli to Anini is being developed to class V unsurfaced, fair weather specifications as this meets the operational requirements. As regards road connecting Walong from Tezu and National Highway 52 this is being developed as per class IX surfaced all weather specifications.

(b) Lower specifications for Hunli - Anini sector have been found to be adequate for operational requirements.

(c) Except Hunli to Anini sector, the other two roads are being developed as all weather roads. At present there are no plans to make Hunli - Anini an all weather (surfaced) road.

Textile Mill in North-East Region.

7067. SHRI LAETA UMBREY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any textile mill in the North-East region of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons thereof;

(d) whether there is any proposal to set up a textile mill in that region; and

(e) if so, the time by which it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir, in Assam there are five spinning mills and one weaving mill, in Meghalaya there is one processing unit and in Manipur there is one spinning mill.

(d) There is no proposal under consideration with Government of India.

(e) Question does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Loans for Farmers

7068. SHRI VILASRAO NAG-NATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the amount of loan advanced to farmers by the nationalised/co-operative banks as per the directions of the NABARD for digging wells or other agricultural/irrigation purposes like laying of pipe lines etc. is very limited;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government propose to increase the amount of such a loan;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The national Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) have reported that their guidelines do not impose any restrictions on the amounts of loans given to farmers by nationalised/co-operative banks for digging wells and other agricultural works. Term loans granted to farmers for development of irrigation potential like construction of well are considered as direct finance to agriculture and therefore form a part of priority sector advances.

(b) to (c). The unit cost for each purpose

in agriculture and allied activities, is flexible to suit the genuine requirements. As regards the total quantum of loan that may be availed of by an individual farmer, NABARD has not fixed any ceiling. The need for escalation/revision in unit costs are examined at half-yearly intervals by the Standing Committee constituted for the purpose and it is a continuing process. The revised unit costs are advised to all the financing banks.

Family Courts in Maharashtra

7069. SHRI VILASRAO NAG-NATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of family courts functioning in Maharashtra and the number of cases disposed of by these courts during 1990 and 1991 so far;

(b) whether the Government have received a memorandum from the lawyers for winding up these courts; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) to (c). According to the information received in January, 1990, family courts have been established at Pune and Bombay in the State of Maharashtra. The court at Pune consists of 4 Judges and that at Bombay consists of 5 Judges. The detailed information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Loans for Development Projects in Maharashtra

7070. SHRI VILASRAO NAG-NATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of loans given by the

Union Government to the Government of Maharashtra for development projects in the State during the current year;

(b) whether the Union Government have received any complaints about misuse of these loans; and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) A statement is enclosed.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

The amount of loans given by the Union Government to the Government of Maharashtra for development projects in the State during year are as follows:—

Sl.No.	Item	(Rs. Crores)	
		Allocated	Released upto 11.9.1991
1	2	3	4
1.	Normal Central assistance	232.76	115.80
2.	Assistance for externally aided projects	168.00	55.37
3.	Special assistance for development of Western Ghat	1.35	Nil
4.	Additional normal Central assistance for ideal villages, equity base for cooperatives	3.50	Nil
5.	Small savings loans	878.07	611.89

[English]

Opening of new Branches of Insurance Companies in Kerala

7071. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to open new branches of the Insurance Companies in Kerala during the current financial year; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). The four subsidiaries of the General Insurance Corporation of India have already opened five new branches - one each in Muvattupuzha (District Idukki), Cannanore, Cochin (District Ernakulam), Palluruthy (District Ernakulam) and Kanjirappally (District Kottayam) in Kerala during the current financial year. A few more branches are expected to be opened by them in Kerala during the current financial year. In addition, the Life Insurance Corporation of India will be opening five new branches - one each in Trichur, Ernakulam, Ramanatukara (District Kozhikode), Tiruvananthapuram (District Trivandrum) and Kottayam in Kerala during the current financial year.

[Translation]

Funds for Construction of Roads in Himachal Pradesh

7072. PROF. PREM DHUMAL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the funds allocated to Himachal Pradesh from the Central Road Fund for the construction of roads during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government propose to provide some additional funds for construction of roads in the hilly areas of the State in

view of peculiar geographical conditions; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Funds allotted to Himachal Pradesh for construction of roads during last three years are as under:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>Amount (Rs. in lakhs)</i>
1988-89	6.00
1989-90	6.00
1990-91	9.81
Total	21.81

(b) and (c). The Govt. of Himachal Pradesh have sent a CRF Programme for 8th Plan period consisting of 44 schemes costing Rs. 35.68 crores including 13 schemes costing Rs 15.47 crores in hilly areas of the State. However, these schemes could not be processed for approval so far as the actual augmentation of CRF has not yet taken place.

[English]

National Highway in Haryana

7073. SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the total length of National Highways in Haryana; and

(b) the length of roads converted into National Highway in Haryana during the Seventh Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) 698 Kms.

(b) No road in Haryana was converted

into a National Highway during the 7th Five year Plan.

Saving Schemes Through post Offices

7074. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHONSLE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some saving schemes have been launched during July and August, 1991 through post offices;

(b) if so, the details thereof with dates of launching;

(c) whether any age limit has been fixed for joining these schemes;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the formalities required to be complied with by the investors to join these schemes;

(f) whether the Government propose to launch any new attractive savings schemes;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALIBIR SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

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

(f) to (h) At present there is no proposal to launch new Small Savings Schemes.

[Translation]

Income Tax Collection from Persons Having Taxable Income Tax upto Thirty Thousand Rupees

7075. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons who paid

income tax on taxable income upto thirty thousand rupees during 1988-89 and 1989-90 State-wise;

(b) the total amount of income tax thus realised; and

(c) the proportionate amount spent by the Government on assessment and collection of tax from these income tax payees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWARTHAKUR): (a) to (c). The Central Board of Direct taxes does not compile separate data in regard to the number of taxpayers who paid income tax on taxable income upto thirty thousand rupees, the amount of income tax realised from them and the proportionate amount spent on assessment and collection of tax from them. Considerable time and effort will be involved in collecting the desired information from assessing officers spread all over India which will not be commensurate with the results sought to be achieved.

Trade Fairs

7076. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to organise trade fairs in various countries to encourage exports; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID): (a) and (b). yes, Sir. During 1991-92, TFAI is organising participation in 38 trade fairs abroad. These include 21 general international trade fairs, 15 specialised commodity fairs and 2 exclusive India Exhibitions. Out of these 38 events, 10 are in West Europe, 6 in East Europe, 2 in Latin America, 3 in North America, 5 in West Asia, 6 in Asia and 6 in Africa.

[English]

Appointment of Insurance Ombudsman

7077. SHRI RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to appoint an Insurance Ombudsman to adjudicate on personal Insurance disputes in the General Insurance Corporation and the Life Insurance Corporation of India; and

(b) if so, the time by which the Ombudsman is likely to be appointed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR
SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

C.B.I. Raids on Premises of Bank Employees

7078. SHRI RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the branches of the Banks where CBI raids were conducted during July-August, 1991;

(b) the number of officers and employees of banks whose premises were raided and the amount seized from them; and

(c) the action taken against the persons involved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR
SINGH): (a) and (b). CBI has informed that during the months of July and August 1991, searches were conducted in the residential/offices premises of 26 officers and employees working in the following branches of the banks:

1. State Bank of India,
Paharganj, New Delhi.

2. State Bank of India,
Deesa Branch, Banas-
kantha, Gujarat.
3. State Bank of India,
Kadamkuan branch
Patna.
4. State Bank of Bikaner &
Jaipur, Sudulpur, Churu,
Rajasthan.
5. Central Bank of India,
M.G. Road branch Er-
nakulam.
6. Central Bank of India,
Malleswaram branch,
Bangalore,
7. Bank of Maharashtra,
Deonar branch, Bombay.
8. Bank of India, Rambagh,
Indore.
9. Dena Bank, Azad Market
Road, Bhopal.
10. Punjab National bank,
Regional Office, Jabalpur.
11. Punjab National Bank,
Dhanas, Chandigarh.
12. Punjab & Sind bank,
Gurbux Colony, Patiala.
13. Kshetriya Gramin Bank,
Mananpur, Munger.
14. Mithila Kshetriya Gramin
Bank, Darbhanga.

During course of the searches, Rs, 24,000/- was seized in only one case; but a number of incriminating documents were seized in other cases.

(c) Regular cases have been registered against the above-mentioned 26 officials on the allegations of cheating, possession of

assets disproportionate to their known sources of income, criminal misconduct, etc.

Closure of Kohinoor Mills at Bombay

7079. SHRI MOHAN RAWLE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kohinoor Mills Company Ltd. (a unit of NTC) in Bombay is lying closed since July 16, 1991, due to collapse of a water tank there;

(b) if so, the whether there was some complaints from the mill workers about the bad condition of the water tank;

(c) whether the management of the said mill had requested the Union Government for removal of the water tank which was in a dilapidated condition, if so, when and the expenditure estimated at that time for its removal;

(d) the amount so far spent on removal of debris of the water tank and the amount likely to be spent further on this job; and

(e) when the mill is likely to be reopened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) yes, Sir.

(b) The matter regarding cracks developed in a part of the spinning building portion below overhead sprinkler tank was reported in one of the Safety Committee Meetings of Kohinoor Mills held in August, 1990.

(c) NTC (SM) Ltd, Bombay, had taken up the matter with CPWD for suggesting necessary remedial measures. However, there was no response from them. The Subsidiary has been constantly monitoring the bad condition of buildings. It had called Limited tenders from 10 parties for disengaging and dismantling, cutting and removing the water tank on 16.5.1991. Subsequently, it was decided to carry out civil

repairs to the overhead hydrant water tank for Rs. 5.00 lakhs through private civil engineers. An advertisement was released in local newspapers inviting tenders on 12.7.91. However, before the due date of fresh tenders, i.e. 22.7.91, the overhead hydrant water tank collapsed on 16.7.91.

(d) Approximately Rs. 3.50 lakhs have been spent so far on removal of debris and it is estimated that further amount of about Rs. 2.50 lakhs may have to be incurred for demolition of hanging portion and propping.

(e) Restarting is subject to permission from the Directorate of Industrial Safety and Health. As per the present schedule after shifting and re-erection of machinery at safer location which is presently in progress, the mill is expected to resume partial working during the month of September and projected normal working by the end of October, 1991.

Increase in Lease Rent by Bombay Port Trust

7080. SHRI MOHAN RAWLE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bombay Port Trust has increased the rent for its land given on lease to individuals/firms;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any consultancy firm was engaged for the purpose;

(d) if so, the name of the firm and the amount paid to it;

(e) whether the Bombay Port Trust has filed cases in court of recover the enhanced lease rent;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) the amount spent so far on litigation by the Bombay Port Trust and the number of cases settled; and

(h) the reasons for the cases remaining pending for a long period?

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

(b) The rents of the Bombay Port estates were revised by the Port Trust Board with effect from 1-10-82 on the basis of the land value assessed. The structure of rent is related to the value of land which is divided into 36 zones depending upon the land value. For residential use, rent is calculated at 12% of the value and for commercial/Industrial occupations at 15%.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. M/s. Kirloskar Consultants Ltd. were appointed as Consultants. A sum of Rs. 8.70 lakhs was paid as Consultancy fee.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. 994 suits have been filed following non-acceptance of revised rents by lessees/tenants.

(g) An amount of about Rs. 15 lakhs has been spent so far by the Bombay Port Trust. Except for lessees/tenants who accepted the revised rents, no other cases have been settled so far.

(h) The Bombay Port Trust made efforts from time to time to settle the cases. A compromise offer was given in 1987. However, the Land Users Action Committee did not accept the compromise offer and therefore the offer was withdrawn and the court cases continued.

Bombay port Trust

7081. SHRI MOHAN RAWLE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be

pleased to state:

(a) whether the post of Deputy Chairman of the Bombay Port Trust is lying vacant;

(b) if so, since when;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) when the post is likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (d). The Post of Deputy Chairman, Bombay Port Trust fell vacant during July' 1990 due to the appointment of the then incumbent of the post as Chairman. Action has already been initiated to fill up the vacancy and a new Deputy Chairman will take over as soon the appointments is cleared by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet.

Branches of Nationalised Banks in Kerala

7082. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the total number of branches of nationalised banks functioning in Kerala at present and the locations thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH As at the end of June, 1991, 1623 branches of Public Sector Banks were functioning in Kerala. The time and labour involved in collecting the names and locations of branches bank-wise may not be commensurate with the objectives to be achieved. However, the district-wise distribution of bank branches in the State of Kerala is as under:-

<i>Name of District</i>	<i>No. of branches</i>
1. Alleppey	114
2. Cannanore	98
3. Ernakulam	258

<i>Name of District</i>	<i>No. of branches</i>
4. Idukki	68
5. Kasaragod	49
6. Kottayam	143
7. Kozhikode	106
8. Malappuram	66
9. Palghat	118
10. Pathanamthitta	101
11. Quilon	124
12. Thiruvananthapuram	215
13. Trichur	131
14. Wayanad	32
Total :-	1623

Pending Death Claims with LIC

7083. **SHRI GANGADHARA SANIPALLI:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of death claims pending with the Life Insurance Corporation of India, State-wise;

(b) the number of such claims which are pending for the last five years or more; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by

the Government to settle these claims expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). It is not the practice in LIC to maintain separate statistics, State-wise and duration-wise, in respect of the outstanding death claims. However, Life Insurance Corporation of India maintain the figures of death claims outstanding for more than 2 years Zone-wise which are given below:-

Zone	States/Union Territories covered	Claims Outstanding as at 31.3.91	Claims Outstanding for more than 2 years as at 31.3.91
1	2	3	4
NORTHERN	Haryana	2203	77
	Himachal Pradesh		
	Jammu & Kashmir		
	Punjab		
	Rajasthan		
CENTRAL	Delhi & Chandigarh		
	Madhya Pradesh	1560	69
	Uttar Pradesh		
	Assam	1217	25
	Meghalaya		

Zone	States/Union Territories covered	Claims Outstanding as at 31.3.91	Claims Outstanding for more than 2 years as at 31.3.91
1	2	3	4
	Arunachal Pradesh		
	Bihar		
	Mizoram		
	Nagaland		
	Orissa		
	Tripura		
	West Bengal and		
	Andaman & Nicobar Islands		
SOUTH	Kerala	1832	79
	Tamil Nadu		
SOUTH CENTRAL	Andhra Pradesh	2682	178

Zone	States/Union Territories covered	Claims Outstanding as at 31.3.91	Claims Outstanding for more than 2 years as at 31.3.91
1	2	3	4
WESTERN	Karnataka		
	Goa	3945	259
	Gujarat		
	Maharashtra		
	Total for Corporation:	13439	685

(c) The Life Insurance Corporation of India has decentralized the work relating to claim settlement operations and other servicing functions to its Branch Offices with an object to bring the servicing to the door steps of the policyholders/claimants. The Agents, Development Officers and the Branch officials extend all possible help to the claimants in furnishing the necessary requirements to the concerned servicing Branch offices in order to settle the claims expeditiously.

Production of Commercial Planes

7084. SHRI C.P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA: Will the Minister for DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to produce commercial planes on a large scale in the Defence Production units;

(b) if so, the units selected for the production of Defence as well as commercial planes; and

(c) the details of the target fixed by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Under the Ministry of Defence the Company for the manufacture of both civil and military aircraft is the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).

(c) It will not be in the public interest to disclose the details.

National Hardware show at Chicago, USA.

7085. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Trade Fair Authority of India organised a National Hardware show in Chicago, U.S.A. recently;

(b) if so, the amount of foreign exchange earned and the total amount of business transacted in the show; and

(c) the total expenditure incurred by the Trade Fair Authority of India on the show?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED): (a) Yes, Sir. The Trade Fair Authority of India organised participation in the National Hardware Show held at Chicago (USA) between 11th and 14th August, 1991.

(b) As per the reports received from the participants in India Pavilion, the value of business booked is of the order of Rs. 11.15 crores. In addition business under negotiation is reported to be of the order of Rs. 14.88 crores.

(c) The estimated expenditure incurred by TFAI on participation in this show is Rs. 18.83 lakhs in foreign exchange and Rs. 1.15 lakhs in Indian currency.

Aid from Japan

7086: SHRI SUNDHIR GIRI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of aid received from Japan during 1990-91;

(b) the specific purpose for which the aid was received;

(c) whether the entire amount of aid was utilised;

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

(e) whether there is any likelihood of an increase in aid from Japan this year; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Each year Govt. of

Japan commits soft loans tied to specific projects. Utilisation of these loans is spread over the duration of the project implementation. In 1990-91 Japan committed loan of Yen 104 Billion tied to 6 projects. However, the aid received (i.e. disbursement actually made) was Yen 62 billion.

(b) Aid received in 1990-91 related to 46 ongoing projects, currently being assisted by Japan for which loans were committed in the earlier Years.

(c) and (d). As stated earlier these loans are project tied and aid utilisation depends upon the implementation of the projects. At any given time, there is unutilised balance in the pipeline which is to be utilised in the subsequent years.

(e) and (f). The Japanese aid for 1991-92 will be pledged at the India Consortium Meeting scheduled to be held on 19th and 20th September, 1991.

Rehabilitation of Ex-Servicemen of Pauri Garhwal and Chamoli Districts

7087. SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

<i>Districts</i>	<i>Number of Registrants</i>			<i>Number of those who have secured employment</i>		
	1988	1989	1990	1988	1989	1990
Pauri Garhwal	431	686	416	22	40	69
Chamoli	288	244	201	13	19	20

(c) to (e). Rehabilitation and employment opportunities in the hill districts are comparatively lower than in the plain areas due to the limited industrial and commercial activities in the hill areas. Self-employment schemes, like SEMFEX-I and SAMFEX-II, are being implemented. In addition, several training schemes to improve the employability of ex-Servicemen and to facilitate in the setting up of self-employment ventures

(a) the number of permanent residents of Pauri Garhwal and Chamoli Districts retired during the last three years from Army, Air Force and Navy, separately;

(b) the number of these retired persons rehabilitated so far in hill districts of Uttar Pradesh itself;

(c) whether the ex-servicemen belonging to hill districts face lot of problems in re-employment and rehabilitation;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether the Government have any scheme to provide proper employment opportunities to these ex-servicemen so that they can be rehabilitated in their native or nearby places?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b). As per the information received from Director General Resettlement, the number of ex-Servicemen, who have got their names registered with the Zila Sainik Boards in Pauri Garhwal and Chamoli Districts and those rehabilitated is as under:-

are being operated.

War Widows Rehabilitation Centres in Hill District of Uttar Pradesh

7088. SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of war widows rehabili-

tation centres in the hill districts of Uttar Pradesh, district-wise;

(b) whether these rehabilitation centres are functioning properly;

(c) if not, the remedial measures the Government propose to take to improve the functioning of these centres;

(d) whether the Government propose to set up more rehabilitation centres in these districts; and

(e) if so, the location thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) to (c). There are two Training-cum-Production Centres, one at Lansdowne (Pauri Garhwal District) and another at Ranikhet (Almora District) being run by Garhwal Rifles and Kumaon Regimental Centre, respectively, for the ex-Servicemen and their dependants, including widows. They are reported to be functioning satisfactorily.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Default in Repayment of Loans by Public Sector Holding Companies

7089. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYA SADUL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be please to state:

(a) whether a number of public sector holding companies have defaulted in repayment of bank loans during the last three years

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating their names and the amount due from each of them, separately; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken to recover the loans from them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). In accordance with the practices and usages customary among bankers and the statutes governing the public sector banks, information relating to bad debts and other details of the constituents is not divulged. The data reporting system given information of sector-wise overdue advances only and it is not available on the basis of ownership of the enterprises. As on March, 1990, the overdue advances of banks in large and medium industry was Rs. 3731 crores in 10629 accounts.

[*Translation*]

Azamgarh - Jaunpur - Allahabad Highway

7090. SHRI RAM BADAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to allocate funds from Central Road Fund for widening and repairing of Azamgarh-Jaunpur-Allahabad Highway in Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Consortium on Major Foreign Tender Issues

7091. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a consortium on major foreign tender issues; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Functioning of Export Promotion Councils.

7092. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to make some changes in the functioning of the Export Promotion Councils;

(b) if so, whether the Export Promotion Councils are proposed to be merged with the respective industrial organisations; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED): (a) to (c). Export Promotion Councils will need to attune themselves to the new industrial and trade policy changes announced recently. Towards achieving the objective, Government is interacting with the Councils.

Government Expenditure on Unproductive Heads

7093. SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the expenditure incurred by the Government under unproductive heads, head-wise, and its percentage to the total expenditure during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the expenditure under these unproductive heads is increasing every year;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the measures being taken by the Government to check this expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) to (d). Under the accounting classification prescribed in terms of article 150 of the Constitution, the expenditure of the Government is brought to account broadly under 3 sectors, namely, General Services, Social Services and Economic Services and not on the basis of productive and unproductive expenditure.

The expenditure of the Government is also divided into Plan and Non-Plan expenditure. It has always been the endeavour of Government to keep Non-Plan expenditure to the minimum.

[Translation]

Realisation of Income Tax from Companies and Corporations

7094. SHRI RAM NARAIN BERWA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased of state:

(a) the total amount of income tax assessed to be paid by various companies and corporations during the financial year 1989-90; and

(b) the amount of income tax realised and the amount still outstanding against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). The total amount of income tax assessed to be paid by companies and corporations during the financial year 1989-90 amounted to Rs. 8925 crores. Out of this, a sum of Rs. 6183 crores was collected either in cash or by way of adjustment of pre-paid taxes during the financial year 1989-90 itself. As regards the subsequent realisation against the balance demand of Rs. 2742 crores separate statistics regarding the year-wise break-up of collection against the aggregate arrear demand outstanding on 1st April every year are not compiled by the Central Board of Direct Taxes. Collecting this information from

the assessing officers spread all over India will require considerable time and effort which will not be commensurate with the results sought to be achieved.

[English]

Premium on Exim Scrips

7095. SHRI RABI RAY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have assessed the prevailing market rate of premium on Exim scrips/REP licences; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) and (b). Under the Import & Export Policy, the Exim Scrips/REP Licences as well as goods imported against such licences are freely transferable. The rate of premium on such licences, if any, shall be determined by the Demand & Supply mechanism.

Amendment of Cantonment Board Act

7096. SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to bring forward legislation to amend the Cantonment Boards Act with a view to involve MP and MLAs in the activities of the Cantonment Boards;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR): (a) to (c). Cantonment Board are statutory bodies constituted under the Cantonments Act, 1924 to manage the affairs of the Cantonments. The local civil population have their own elected representatives on the Cantonment Board. There is no proposal under contemplation to give statutory representation to MPs or MLAs on the Cantonment Boards.

[Translation]

Divisional Offices of LIC in Rajasthan

7097. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Divisional Offices of the Life Insurance Corporation of India functioning in Rajasthan and their location;

(b) the total business transacted by these divisions in Rajasthan during the last three years; and

(c) the total amount invested in the plans of Rajasthan out of the amount deposited with them, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) As on date, four Divisional Offices of Life Insurance Corporation of India are functioning in the State of Rajasthan at Ajmer, Jaipur, Jodhpur and Bikaner.

(b) The total business transacted in Rajasthan during the last 3 years is as follows:-

Year	Business transacted in Rajasthan	
	No. of Policies	No. of Policies (Rs. in crores)
1988-89	2,61,253	745.76
1989-90	3,39,242	1072.12
1990-91	3,99,485	1348.99

(c) The life Insurance Corporation of the invests its funds as a whole in accordance with the investment guidelines issued by the Government from time to time. In terms of Section 27A of Insurance Act, 1938, at least 25% of its annual accretion to the fund is required to be invested in Central Government securities; another 25% in State Governments Securities and other Govt. guaranteed marketable securities; 25% for the approved purpose in the socially oriented sector; and further 20% funds is invested by way of loans and subscription of market purchases of debentures/shares of public limited companies in private sector, loans to LIC policyholders etc; leaving 5% in pipeline; Accordingly; the Life Insurance Corporation of India has invested Rs. 62.78 crores during the financial year 1988-89, Rs. 93.86 crores during the financial year 1989-90 and Rs. 150.68 crores during the financial year 1990-91 in the State of Rajasthan.

[English]

Proposals from Orissa under Foreign Aid Programme

7098. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals sent by the Government of Orissa for different foreign aid programme;

(b) the action taken by the Government thereon;

(c) whether the Government of Orissa had submitted a proposal to the Union Government for the improvement of Bhubaneswar-Puri road (S.H. No.8) under World Bank assistance;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT

(SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) As per information provided by the Orissa PWD, the projects proposed by the State for external assistance are shown in the attached statement.

(b) to (e). Rourkela-Sambalpur road has been included in the Asian Development Bank Assistance Programme. In the World Bank National Highway Package II which has been recently negotiated, the Bank has agreed to include the project of reconstruction of damaged bridges on State Roads in Ganjam District. However, agreement for this loan is yet to be signed. Remaining projects could not be included for external funding so far.

STATEMENT

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Project</i>
1.	Reconstruction of damaged Bridges on State Roads in Ganjam District.
2.	Improvement of Cuttack-Chandabali road
3.	Improvement to Berhampur-Phulbani road
4.	Coastal road from Gopalpur to Chandaneswar
5.	Widening and strengthening of Panikoli-Madhya Pradesh border road.
6.	Widening and strengthening of Panikoli-Keonjhar-Joda-Rajmunda-Rourkela road
7.	Widening and strengthening of Rourkela-Rajgangpur-Sundergarh-Jharsuguda-Sambalpur road (Rourkela-Sambalpur Section)
8.	Improvement of Bhubaneswar-Puri Road

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Project</i>
9.	Improvement of Pipli-Konarak Road
10.	Improvement of Khurda-Nayagarh Daspalla Road
11.	Improvement of Visakhapatnam-Raipur Road (Orissa Portion)
12.	Widening and strengthening of Kendrapara-Indupur Road
13.	Improvement of Thanepur-Kuanpal-Balichandrapur-Lalitgiri Road
14.	Improvement of Lalitgiri-Udaygiri-Ratnagiri Road
15.	Improvement of Koakhai-Barhan-Ratnagiri Road

Suspension of Weaving in NTC Mills

7099. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Textile Corporation proposes to suspend weaving in its composite mills;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of mill workers likely to become surplus as a result thereof;

(d) what alternative has been thought by the Government about them?

THE MINISTRY OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) to (c). No, Sir. However, in some of the mills where the weaving activity is found to be uneconomic it has been curtailed.

(d) In some mills where the weaving

activity is found to be uneconomic, steps are being taken to curtail the activity and also replace plain looms with hightech machines for producing higher value quality fabrics. The workers, excluding those who take voluntary retirement, are redeployed.

[Translation]

Special Penal Law for Bank and Insurance Offences

**7100. SHRI RAM TAHAL CH-
OUDHARY:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Vigilance Commission has suggested for enactment of a special penal law for bank and insurance offences;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). The Central Vigilance Commission had made a suggestion in 1986 regarding banking and insurance industry that it would be worth-while considering amendment in the law for including a provision for confiscation of ill-gotten wealth from the illegitimate possessors.

(c) The matter was considered and in view of the enactment of the prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 and the provisions contained therein, the need for enactment of such law was not felt.

World Bank Loan for Importing Agricultural Products

**7101. SHRI RAM TAHAL CH-
OUDHARY:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to take loan from the World Bank for importing

skimmed milk powder, butter oil and other agricultural products; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). There is no proposal pending with the Government of India for taking a loan from World Bank for import of skimmed milk powder, butter oil or other agricultural product. There is already an ongoing Second National Dairy Project assisted by the World Bank under which investment costs in the dairy sector are being financed.

Schemes for Development of National Highways in Biharxyz

7102. SHRI RAM TAHAL CH-
OUDHARY: Will the Minister of SURFACE
TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have approved certain schemes for development of National Highways in Bihar during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total length of the roads likely to be developed under these schemes and the amount earmarked for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) As the 8th Five Year Plan is yet to be finalised, it has not been possible to chalk out the programme for the development of existing National Highways in Bihar in 8th Plan or to earmark funds for the same.

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

[English]

Release of Fund under Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief Scheme to Gujarat

7103. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has requested the Union Government to release an amount of Rs. 215 crores, half of it as grant and the remaining half as loan through NABARD under A.R.D.R.S. 1990; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Union Government thereon and when it is to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A request was received from the State Government of Gujarat in December, 1990 seeking release of an amount of Rs.259.42 crores to the cooperative banks in the State under the Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief (ARDR) Scheme, 1990. The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that as on 7.9.1991, a sum of Rs.214.82 crores was sanctioned and released to the Gujarat State Cooperative Bank (GSCB) and Gujarat State Land Development Bank (GSLDB). Out of this Rs.107.41 crores was provided as grant towards Central Government's share and Rs.107.41 crores was given by Reserve Bank of India through NABARD as loan for meeting State Government's share of the debt relief. It is expected that the remaining amount will be provided in the current and the next financial year.

Crisis in Jute Industry

7104. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Jute Industry is facing an acute crisis;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) to (c). Government have taken several measures for the revival of jute industry including creation of Jute Modernisation to cater to the modernisation require-

ments of the jute industry establishment of Special Jute Development Fund for restructuring the jute economy, enactment of mandatory use of jute packing for foodgrains, sugar, cement and urea, grant of financial support for R&D Activities and product diversification programmes, regular purchase of B. Twill bags on cot plus basis, encouragement of diversification by providing facilities of excise exemption. Concessional import duty marketing support etc.

Classification of Cities in Uttar Pradesh

7105. SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of cities declared as

metropolitan and 'A' grade cities in Uttar Pradesh so far;

(b) the status of headquarters of eight hill districts of Uttar Pradesh in this regard; and

(c) the obstacles in declaring Dehradun as 'A' Grade city and when a decision to that effect is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) Different types of classification of cities exist for grant of different allowances to Central Govt. Employees. For the purpose of grant of HRA/CCA, cities are classified on the basis of population as reflected in decennial census as follows:-

<i>Classification</i>	<i>Population of city</i>
'A' Class	over 16 lakhs
'B-1' Class	Over 8 lakhs but not exceeding 16 lakhs.
'B-2' Class	Over 4 lakh but not exceeding 8 lakhs.
'C' Class	Over 50 thousand but not exceeding 4 lakhs.

The current classification is based on 1981 Census. In Uttar Pradesh, only Kanpur (Urban Agglomeration) has been classified as 'A' class city for purpose of grant of Compensatory (City) Allowance to the Central Government employees.

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

(c) Since population of Dehradun is below 16 lakhs, it does not qualify for classification as 'A' class city for the purpose of grant of HRA/CCA.

Customs Clearance Permits for Import of Cars/Vehicles

7106. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether customs clearance permits for import of cars and vehicles have been dispensed with;

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

(c) the terms and conditions for importing new cars?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN
THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI
SALMAN SHURSHEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

for import of New Car are contained in
Public Notice No. 197-ITC (PN) /90-93
dated 16.8.1991 as per attached State-
ment.

(b) and (c). Details as well as conditions

STATEMENT*(To be Published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary Part-I Section - I)*

*Government of India
Ministry of Commerce
Import Trade Control*

*Public Notice No. 197 - ITC (PN) 90-93
New Delhi: Dated the 16th August, 1991.*

Subject:- *Important and Export Policy for April 1990 - March 1993.*

Attention is invited to the Import and Export Policy for April 1990 - March 1993, published under the Ministry of Commerce Public Notice No. 1-ITC (PN)/90-93 dated the 30th March, 1990 as amended.

2. The following amendments shall be made in the Policy at appropriate places indicated below:-

Sl. No.	Page no. of Import and Export Policy, 1990-93 (Volume I)	Reference	Amendment
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1.	45 - 46	Chapter IX Import of Car and Vehicles	Paragraphs 135 to 147

Sl. No.	Page no. of Import Export Policy, 1990-93 (Volume I)	Reference	Amendment
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
2.	180	Appendix 6 Import of Items Under Open General Licence	After the existing item No. 51 (inserted by Ministry of Commerce Public Notice No. 115-ITC (PN)/90-93 dated 11.1.91), the following shall be inserted:-
		<p>Item</p> <p>52. Cars, Station wagons, jeeps, motor-cycles, Scooters, autocycles, mini-cars and mopeds.</p>	<p>Categories of eligible importers</p> <p>(A) Indian Nationals or foreign nationals of Indian origin returning to India for permanent settlement.</p>

Sl. No.	Page no. of Import Export Policy, 1990-93 (Volume II)	Reference	Amendment
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
			<p>(B) Foreign Nationals (Including persons of Indian origin) married to Indian Nationals.)</p> <p>(C) Foreign Nationals and foreign experts working in India.</p> <p>(D) Branches/Offices of Foreign institutions (Corporate or otherwise).</p> <p>(E) Indian Company having Foreign Collaboration.</p> <p>(F) Accredited Journalists/ Correspondents of Foreign News Agencies.</p> <p>(G) Air Companies.</p>

Sl. No.	Page no. of Import Export Policy, 1960-63 (Volume I)	Reference	Amendment
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)

(H) Indian Firms executing contracts abroad.

(I) Charitable and Missionary institutions.

(J) Honorary Consuls of foreign Governments.

3. 181 - 189

Appendix 6

conditions

Governing

Imports under

Open General

Licence.

After the existing condition No. (51), the following shall be inserted:-

(51) General conditions applicable to Open General all categories of Importers of Cars/Vehicles unless otherwise provided.

(I) Remittance of foreign exchange from India towards payment of the cost, freight or insurance will not be allowed.

Sl. No.	Page no. of Import Export Policy, 1990-93 (Volume I)	Reference	Amendment
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
(ii)			The Customs duty for the car/vehicle as leviable under the relevant Customs rule is to be paid in foreign convertible currency. Provided, that employees of the Central Government, State Government of Public Sector Undertakings, who are posted in Indian Embassies/High Commissions abroad or in foreign offices of public sector undertakings, may make the payment of Customs duty in Indian Rupees.
(iii)			On arrival of the Car/Vehicle in India it should be got registered in the name of the importer.
(iv)			The ownership or possession of the car/vehicle imported under categories B,D,F,G,H and I of Item 52 or Appendix 6 shall not be transferred for 5 years from the date of importation without the written permission of the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports, New Delhi unless otherwise provided.
(v)			The importer is required to execute a Bond in the prescribed proforma for an amount equal to the Customs assessed C.I.F. value of the car/vehicle in favour of the President of India at the

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Page no. of Import Export Policy, 1990-93 (Volume I)</i>	<i>Reference</i>	<i>Amendment</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)

concerned local Office of the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports, undertaking to fulfil the conditions applicable to import. The Bond should be supported by bank guarantee of a scheduled bank for the Customs assessed C.I.F. value of the car/vehicle against mortgage of the vehicle for the 'No Sale Period' of 5 years or more as the case may be. The bond shall be valid for a period of six years to be extended or renewed for such further period as may be required by the concerned Office of CCI&E.

(vi) The 'No Sale Period' shall not be applicable in the case of category A.

(vii) Import of spares upto a C.I.F. value of Rs. 2,500/- can be made along with the import of car/vehicle.

Special Conditions applicable to particular Category.

Indian National or Foreign Nationals of Indian origin returning to India for Permanent settlement (Category A).

(1) Indian nationals returning to India must have stayed abroad

Sl. No.	Page no. of Import Export Policy, 1980-83 (Volume I)	Reference	Amendment
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)

continuously for a period of 2 years and the vehicle has been purchased out of his own earnings abroad. Import even new cars upto engine size 1400 cc can be made by Indians under Transfer of Residence subject to the condition that the payment has been made abroad before return to India. However, import of cars of engine size above 1400 cc will be subject to the condition that the vehicle has been in use of the importer at least for a period of one year prior to return to India. The importer is required to furnish an affidavit in the prescribed proforma duly notarised. Import of the second car will be allowed only after a minimum period of 5 years stay in India from the date of import of the first vehicle.

Foreign Nationals (including persons of Indian origin) married to Indian nationals (Category B).

- (ii) Persons in this category coming to India for permanent settlement may import a car/vehicle only once as a gift from the parents and within a period of one year of the marriage OR may import car/vehicle only once if it was purchased out of own foreign exchange

Sl. No.	Page no. of Import Export Policy, 1990-93 (Volume I)	Reference	Amendment
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)

earnings and it was in use before marriage and no car has been imported under any other provision.

Foreign Nationals and Foreign experts working in India. (Category C).

- (iii) (a) Foreign nationals including those of Indian origin employed in India in public or private sector will be eligible to import a car/vehicle if the assignment in India is for a minimum period of one year and subject to production of employer's certificate in original.
- (b) Self employed foreign nationals will be required to produce Central/State Government certificate regarding the nature of profession and justification for import.
- (c) Foreign experts coming to India under Aid Programmes will be required to produce a certificate of assignment/employment from the concerned Government Department giving general particulars, nature of work, likely tenure,

Sl. No.	Page no. of Import Export Policy, 1990-93 (Volume I)	Reference	Amendment
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)

particulars of aid programmes, Purchase invoice/registration certificate of ownership of the car/vehicle.

In all cases mentioned at (a), (b), and (c) above import will be subject of the condition that except for a short visit abroad not exceeding 3 months, the vehicle shall be re-exported or sold to the State Trading Corporation of India or to any other foreign national entitled to import a car, when the importer leaves India. Provided that sale of the car in the open market may be permitted by the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports, New Delhi subject to the condition that the repatriable value available to the foreigner is not more than the landed cost paid in foreign exchange after deducting depreciation at the rate applicable for the purposes of Customs valuation.

Branches/Offices of Foreign Institutions (Corporate or otherwise) (Category D).

(iv) Branches/Offices of foreign Institutions will be eligible to to

Sl.	Page no. of Import Export Policy, 1990-93 (Volume I)	Reference	Amendment
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)

import one car/vehicle (two if there are more than one branch/office in different towns) subject to the approval of the Government/Reserve Bank of India for opening the branch/office in India. Import of a second vehicle may be allowed after a lapse of five years from the date of importation of the first vehicle subject to the sale of first vehicle to the State Trading Corporation of India.

Indian Company having foreign collaboration (Category E).

- (v) Indian Company having foreign collaboration will be eligible to import a car/vehicle in cases where the collaboration agreement require employment/visit of foreign director/technicia experts from time to time. The Chief Controller of Imports & Exports, New Delhi may allow sale of the car/vehicle after a period of 10 years and the same shall be required to be offered for sale first to the State Trading Corporation of India.

Sl. No.	Page no. of Import Export Policy, 1990-93 (Volume I)	Reference	Amendment
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)

Accredited Journalists/Correspondents of foreign news agencies (Category F).

- (vi) Accredited Journalist/ Correspondents of foreign news agencies will be eligible to Import car/vehicle subject to production of the recommendation of the Press Information Bureau, New Delhi and subject to the condition of re-export or sale to the State Trading Corporation of India.

Air Companies. (Category G).

- (vii) Air companies will be eligible to Import car/vehicle subject to the production of recommendation of the Ministry of Civil Aviation, New Delhi. Import will be subject to the condition of re-export or sale to State Trading Corporation of India.

Indian Firms executing contracts abroad (Category H)

- (viii) (a) Indian firms executing contracts abroad will be eligible to Import car/vehicles on substantial comple-

Sl. No.	Page no. of Import Export Policy, 1990-93 (Volume I)	Reference	Amendment
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)

tion of the project and will be required to produce approval of Reserve Bank of India/Government of India sanctioning contract and expenditure overseas for the purchase of the car/vehicle for the execution of the contract.

- (b) Indian companies having office abroad will be eligible to import the car/vehicle in case their office is wound up in the foreign country subject to the production of the approval of the Reserve Bank of India towards purchase of the car and a certificate that the car/vehicle has been in use of the company abroad for atleast one year before the winding up of the foreign office.

Charitable and Missionary Institutions. (Category I).

- (ix) Charitable and Missionary Institutions will be eligible to import utility vans, ambulances, station wagons, jeeps,

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(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)

mini-buses or passenger transport vehicles as gift subject to the condition that the institution is an established one functioning for the common benefit of the community and subject to production of necessary clearance under the foreign contribution Act, 1976.

Honorary Consuls of Foreign Governments (Category J).

- (x) Honorary Consuls of foreign Governments will be eligible to import a car subject to production of the Ministry of External Affairs. Import of second car may be allowed after a minimum period of 5 years from the date of import of the first car. The request for sale of the first car in the open market may be considered by the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports, New Delhi in the event of permitting import of a second car. Where an Honorary consul is changed during the period of five years, the new Honorary Consul shall not be allowed to import another car but the car imported by his predecessor shall be transferred to the Honorary Consul with

Sl. No.	Page no. of Import Export Policy, 1990-93 (Volume I)	Reference	Amendment
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)

the prior approval of the Chief controller of Imports and Exports, New Delhi.

3. Attention is also invited to the Hand Book of Procedures for April 1990 - March 1993, published under the Minister of commerce public Notice No. 2-ITC (PN)/90-93 dated the 30th March 1990, as amended.

4. The following amendments shall be made in the Hand book of procedures at appropriate places indicated below:-

1. 52 - 53
Chapter IX
Import of Cars & Vehicles

2. 200 - 202
Appendix IX
Import of Cars & other Vehicles

5. The above amendments in the Import and Export Policy and Hand Book of Procedures have been made in public interest.

Sd/-
(D.R. Mehts)

CHIEF CONTROLLER OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS

Copy to all concerned;

By Order etc.

Sd/-
(B.N. Banerjee)
Dy. Chief Controller of Imports and Exports

(Issued from File NO. IPC/4/5/(126)/85-88)

[*Translation*]

Use of Hindi in Delhi High Court

7107. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred No. 45 on 12 July, 1991 and state:

(a) the reasons for not introducing Hindi in the work of the Delhi High Court; and

(b) the time by which the use of Hindi is likely to be authorised in the Delhi High Court in addition to English?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) Article 348(1) of the Constitution of India provides that all the proceedings in the Supreme Court and every High Court shall be in English language until Parliament by law otherwise provides. In the absence of such a law, the work of Delhi High Court is authorised and undertaken in English.

(b) As on law has been enacted by Parliament in this regard so far, it is not possible to indicate any time limit.,

[*English*]

Issue of licences to Sub-brokers in Stock Exchanges

7108. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV:
SHRI MORESHWAR SAVE :

Will he Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to

grant recognition and licence to sub-brokers in various stock exchanges;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to consider the unemployed graduates for the grant of such licences;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). Government propose to ask the Stock Exchanges to introduce a scheme of registration of sub-brokers who are working with the members of the Stock Exchanges.

(c) to (e). It is for the Stock Exchanges to consider the matter in view of the reply to (a) & (b) above.

Cut in Imports

7109. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the items forming major imports as per the end user classification; and

(b) the steps being taken by the Government to cut down imports to save foreign exchange during the present financial crisis?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) On the basis of the assessment of foreign exchange requirement for various industries in respect of the units operating in the organised sector for which information is available with the technical authorities, it is the electronic industry whose requirements formed the major part

of the foreign exchange requirements during 1991-92.

(b) A number of steps have been taken by the Govt. to contain imports with a view to save foreign exchange. Details in this regard are contained in the Ministry of Commerce Public Notices No. 172 & 173-ITC(PN)/90-93 dt. 4/7/91 and 196-ITC(PN)/90-93 dt. 14/8/91. Copies of these Public Notices are available in the Parliament library.

Loan taken by People of Goa by Mortgaging Gold with Portuguese bank

7110. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of loan taken by the people of Goa by mortgaging gold with the Portuguese Bank at the time of liberation of Goa in 1961;

(b) the interest they have to pay thereon; and

(c) the number of persons who will be getting back this gold?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) State Bank of India have reported that at the time of liberation of Goa in 1961 a sum of Rs. 9.85 lakhs (approximately) was outstanding as gold loan with the then branches of Banco Nacional Ultramarino (BNU) in Goa.

(b) In terms of the agreement entered

into between Chairman, State Bank of India and Chairman, BNU, the gold loan borrowers will have to pay interest at 4 percent (contractual rate) for the last five years together with commission at a flat rate of 6 percent.

(c) While the exact number of persons who will be getting back gold is not known at present, BNU have transferred to State Bank of India 5551 sealed packets of pledged valuables and 33 packets lodged for safe custody.

Revenue Collection from Film Industry

7111. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total annual revenue earned by the Union Government from the film industry (Production, distribution and exhibition);

(b) the names of items on which the tax is levied; and

(c) the amount of revenue collected from each item from April, 1988 to March, 1991, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c). Customs duty is levied on imported cinematograph films and Excise duty is levied on feature films cleared from the processing laboratories.

The excise duty collected from April, 1988 onwards is as under:-

(Rs. in crores)

1.4.88 to 31.3.89	8.00
1.4.89 to 31.3.90	9.76

Feature films are exempted from excise duty w.e.f. 20.3.90.

Collections of Customs duty and Direct Taxes including income tax, are not maintained trade-wise.

[Translation]

Loans to Farmers

7112. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of loans granted to farmers be nationalised bank during the last three years during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the rate of interest at which these

loans were given;

(c) whether the Government propose to reduce the rate of interest on such loans;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The compilation and collection of these figures is a time consuming process. The figures are available, as of now, only upto September, 1989. The amount of outstanding advances for agriculture sector given by public sector banks as on the last Friday of June, 1987, June 1988 and September 1989 (latest available) is given below:-

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Amount Outstanding
June, 1987	9123.04
June, 1988	11147.13
September, 1989	14981.54

(b) The rates of interest on short-term and long-term agricultural loans to farmers with effect from 2.9.1990 are as follows:

Size of loan	Rate of interest (% per annum)	
	Short-term	Long-term
a) Upto Rs.7,500/-	10.0	10.0
b) Over Rs.7,500/- and upto Rs.15,000/-	11.5	11.5
c) Over Rs.15,000/- and upto Rs.25,000/-	12.0	12.0
d) Over Rs.25,000/- and upto Rs.50,000/-	14.0	13.0

<i>Size of loan</i>	<i>Rate of interest (% per annum)</i>	
	<i>Short-term</i>	<i>Long-term</i>
e) Over Rs.50,000/- and upto Rs. 2 lakhs	15.0	14.0
f) Over Rs. 2 lakhs	18.5	14.0
	<i>(Minimum)</i>	

(c) to (e). Reserve bank of India (RBI) has reported that banks raise their resources mainly by way of deposits on which they have to pay an interest and the cost of the fund to banks, including the cost of the establishment, is already high. In case the rates of interest are reduced the profitability of the banks, which is under great strain will be further adversely affected. In view of this RBI is not in favour of allowing any reduction in the rate of interest.

[English]

Fera Cases Against Multinational Companies.

7113. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to State:

(a) whether number of cases are pending against several multinational companies under the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the names of such companies; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to expedite the disposal of these case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c). Information is begin collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Investment by International Finance Corporations in Shipping Industry

7114. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal from international finance corporations to invest in the expansion of Shipping Industry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). No specific proposal has been made by any international finance corporation for investment in the expansion of the Shipping Industry. The Shipping Credit and Investment Company of India Ltd., (SCICI) has, however, reported that the International Finance Corporation, Washington, an affiliate of the World Bank, has contracted a loan of US \$ 15 Million and subscription to partly convertible debentures of US \$ 1.7 Million for M/s. Varun Shipping Company, a company in the private sector, for financing its expansion programme.

Refund of Fixed Deposits by Limited Companies

7115. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints received by the Department of Company Affairs regarding refund of fixed deposits or payment of interests thereon by the limited companies during the last three years; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to arrange for refund of the fixed deposits by these companies to the investors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIR (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b). Prior to 1st September, 1989, there was not statutory provision in the Companies Act, 1956, for dealing with complaints of this type. Such complaints were being passed on to the companies concerned for appropriate action. However, sub-section (9) of Section 58 A of the Companies Act, 1956 as inserted by the Companies (Amendment) Act, 1988 and brought into force from 1st September, 1989, enables depositors to file applications before the Company Law Board for ordering non-banking non-financial companies to repay overdue deposits within such time and subject to such conditions as may be specified in the order. In pursuance of this sub-section, 19, 191 applications were submitted to the Company Law Board during the period from 1st September, 1989 to 31st March, 1991 and the Board passed appropriate orders in respect of 12,201 such applications till 31st March, 1991.

Acceptance of deposits by non-breaking financial companies is governed by the

Non-banking Financial Companies (Reserve Bank) Directions, 1977 and the Miscellaneous Non-Banking Companies (Reserve Bank) Directions, 1977. Companies in respect of such companies are advised to take up the matter with the Reserve Bank of India.

Role of Financial Institutions in General Body Meetings of Companies.

7116. SHRI MOHAN RAWLE: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to State:

(a) the role of financial institutions in the general body meeting of company;

(b) Whether any guidelines have been issued in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, whether such guidelines are proposed to be issued to be followed by the financial institutions in general body meetings of company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (d). Public financial institutions have substantial shareholding in many public limited companies. They have also their nominee directors in the Boards of Directors of many assisted concerns. As shareholders, public financial institutions have to protect their interests and accordingly, they have to take appropriate steps. Decisions therefor are required to be taken by the public financial institutions themselves on merits of each case at the general body meeting of the companies.

Writ Petitions on Service Matters Pending in Delhi High Court

7117. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of admitted writ petitions relating to service matters of the employees of the autonomous bodies and the Union Government are pending for final disposal by the Division Benches of the Delhi High Court.

(b) if so, the number of admitted writ petitions pending till date and since when; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken for early disposal of these writ petitions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b). As reported by the Registry of the High Court on 31.8.1991, 4246 admitted writ petitions relating to service matters of employees of the autonomous bodies were pending in Delhi High Court. However, no service writ of the employees of the Union Government or Delhi Administration is pending in Delhi High Court Since all such writs have been transferred to the Central Administrative Tribunal after coming into its existence. Out of 4246 writ petitions, 956 writs are pending for more than 10 years and the remaining are pending from 1981 onwards.

(c) Cases involving same or similar questions are grouped together and put together before the Court. Steps are being taken to constitute special benches for disposal of old cases.

Allocation of Funds from Central Road Fund for Development of Roads from Yanam to Draksharamam and Kakinada

7118. SHRI K.V.R. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to allocate funds from Central Road Fund for the development and improvement of inter-state Roads from Yanam to Draksharamam and Kakinada; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Various proposals received from Andhra Pradesh Government for funding against the Central Road Fund including the roads from Yanam to Draksharamam and Kakinada, can be processed only after actual argumentation of the Central Road Fund, which has not yet taken place.

[Translation]

Development sericulture in Bihar.

7119. SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether sericulture has been developed in Bihar;

(b) if so, the places where sericulture has been started in the State;

(c) the incentives provided by the government to encourage the farmers engaged in sericulture in Bihar;

(d) whether sericulture has been damaged at a number of places in the State; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps proposed to be taken by the government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Yes, sir.

(b) In Bihar mulberry tasar (tropical) and on sericulture are being practised. The districts under each sector are as under:-

MULBERRY

(i) *Districts with above 1000 acres of Mulberry*
Purnea

(ii) *Districts with above 500 acres*

Ranchi, Gumla, Saharsa.

(iii) *Districts with above 1000 acres*
Singhbhum, Lohardaga, Dumka, Sahibganj.

(iv) *Districts with below 100 acres*

Palama-U. Hazaribagh, Dhanbad, Giridih, Jahanabad, Patna, Rohtas, Nalanda, Chapra, Siwan, Gopalganj, West Champaran, East Champaran, Sitamarhi, Vaishali, Muzaffarpur, Madhubani, Samastipur, Begusarai, Katihar, Bhagalpur, Godda Gaya.

TASAR Tasar culture is largely confined to south Bihar. The other districts where Tassar is practised are Bhagalpur, Munger, Nawada, Rohtas.

ERI Eri is being practised in the following districts:- Patna, Begusarai, Gaya, Muzaffarpur, Bhagalpur, Munger, Ranchi.

(c) In order to supplement the efforts of the State Sericulture Department, the Central Silk Board has been implementing the following schemes applicable to all States including Bihar State to encourage development of sericulture in the country:-

1. Supply of mulberry cuttings/saplings at 50% cost.

2. Free supply of rearing equipments to marginal farmers.

3. Supply of nylon nets for Uzi fly control at 50% cost.

4. Incentive Bonus to Bivoltine Silk-worm rearers and reelers.

5. Arranging farmers study tour.

6. Establishment of mulberry demonstration farm at farmers field at CSB cost.

7. Working capital assistance to the reelers at subsidised interest for purchase of cocoons.

8. Arranging marketing and transportation facilities to the rearers for disposal of cocoons at reeling centres.

(d) and (e). The State Government of Bihar has not reported any such damage to the Central Silk Board.

[English]

Loans to Weaker Sections in Uttar Pradesh

7120. **SHRI HUWAN CHANDRA KHAN-DURI:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the weaker sections are not being extended loans under the differential rate of interest scheme;

(b) the amount of loan the number of persons to whom loans were extended by different nationalist and other commercial banks in Uttar Pradesh during the last two years and also during the current financial years so far;

(c) the amount of loans sanctioned to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and the backward classes during the above period; and

(d) the number of applications for loans

pending with different banks separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The banks advances under the Differential Rate of Interest (DRI) Scheme form part of their advance to 'weaker Sections' The thrust of the credit policy contin-

ues to channel increased flow of credit to weaker sections.

(b) and (c). Available data relating to scheduled commercial banks DRI advances and the share of scheduled casts/scheduled tribes (SC/ST) therein in the State of Uttar Pradesh are as follows:

At the end of	(No. of Accounts in lakhs) (Balance outstanding in crores of Rs)			
	DRI advances		of which to SC/ST	
	No. of accounts	Balance outstanding	No. of accounts	Balance out- standing
September, 1988	2.87	58.09	1.44	27.67
March, 1989	3.19	62.70	1.47	31.34
September, 1989	2.85	64.95	1.40	29.52

Reserve Bank of India has advised that no separate data is reported in respect of other Backward Classes.

(d) The data reporting system from bank does not generate the information relating to the number of applicant for various loans pending with different banks.

Relaxation in Import Curbs on Leather Industry.

7121. SHRIMATIBASVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has recently relaxed import curbs on leather industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the items covered by this relaxation; and

(d) the extent to which it will be beneficial to leather industry?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED): (a) to (c). The Reserve Bank of India by its notification dated 9.8.91 has allowed exemption from the requirement of prescribed minimum cash margins in respect of undermentioned items for leather industry for import by manufacturer-exporters, as well as by export trading houses, provided there are no export bills outstanding beyond six months from the date of export in excess of the prescribed tolerance levels:

(a) Beta naphthylamine

(b) Calamine

(c) Calcium boride

(d) Hides and skins, raw or salted, where the value of hides and skins is more than that

of wool/hair thereon

(e) leather finishing auxiliaries filler, penetrators and slip agents

(f) Pickled hides, skins, where the value of hides and skins is more than that of wool/hair thereon

(g) Pickled hides, skins, pelts, splits and parts thereof

(h) Wattle Extract

(i) Wet Blue Chrome tanned crust and finished leather including splits and sides.

For import of goods other than capital goods, the earlier exemption from the requirement of cash margin upto 10% actual export realisation from the General Currency Area during the previous according Year subject to a Maximum of Rs.2.5. crores in a year available to manufacturer exporters of finished leather/leather products has been enhanced to 20% with a monetary ceiling of Rs. 5 crores in a year provided there are no export bills outstanding beyond six months from the date of export.

(d) The above steps will provide easier access to some of the essential inputs used by the leather industry and hence enhance its competitiveness.

{ Translation }

Inclusion of Roads in National Highway Grid in Bihar

7122. SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any roads have been included in the National Highway grid in Bihar since 1974; and

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

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

(b) The State Roads are included in the National Highway grid not on the basis of any regional or State-wise considerations, but keeping in view the various priorities and requirements vis-a-vis availability of funds, recommendations made by the National Transport Policy committee, *inter-se* priority attached to each individual road on an all-India basis, fulfilment of prescribed criteria for new National Highways etc.

Repair of Border Roads in Arunachal Pradesh

7123. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the pace of repair work of border roads in Arunachal Pradesh has accelerated during the last three years;

(b) if so, the total amount spent on the repair of roads in this area during the above period, year-wise; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to further speed up the repair work of border roads in Arunachal Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The year-wise expenditure for the last three years is as under:

Year	Rs. (lakhs)
1988-89	1070.31
1989-90	1376.48
1990-91	1446.34

(c) The repair/restoration works are attended to by BRO, as required.

Branches of Regional Rural Banks in Varanasi District, U.P.

7124. **SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

(a) the number of branches of Regional Rural Banks functioning in Varanasi district of Uttar Pradesh and the locations thereof;

(b) the achievements of these banks during the last three years; and

(c) the names of the places where the Government propose to open new branches of rural banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Kashi Gramin Bank covers Varanasi District of Uttar Pradesh and operates through a network of 79 branches. The location of branches is given in the attached statement

(b) The progress made by the Kashi Gramin Bank functioning in Varanasi District as reported by National bank for Agriculture and Rural development (NABARD) during the last three years is as under:-

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Advances Outstanding		Deposits mobilised	
	Account	Amount	Account	Amount
1988-89	54666	1634.25	141792	1921.58
1989-90	58998	2037.39	158603	2626.82
1990-91	64945	2470.92	173443	3195.88

The Gramin Bank has also disbursed a sum of Rs. 511 lakhs to 9158 borrowers during the years ended March, 1991.

(c) NABARD have reported that no proposal for opening new branches is pending.

STATEMENT

The Location of Branches of Kashi Gramin Bank in Varanasi district.

Sl. No.	Location of Branches
1.	Varanasi

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Location of Branches</i>
2.	Shanshahpur
3.	Umrahan
4.	Ugapur
5.	Dulahipur
6.	Baraura Bazar
7.	Phoolpur
8.	Hathi Bazar
9.	Kachhwa Road
10.	Jangiganj
11.	Durgaganj
12.	Meerapur Basa
13.	Tanda
14.	Naugarth
15.	Awajapur
16.	Pali
17.	Kanta
18.	Wati
19.	Sadalpura
20.	Cholapur
21.	Katra
22.	Ramgarh

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Location of Branches</i>
23.	Shikarganj
24.	Saidupur
25.	Dheena
26.	Ainagar
27.	Kalikabara
28.	Mondh
29.	Goasain Bazar
30.	Ayar
31.	Jalhpur
32.	Chitaipur
33.	Niyardih
34.	Basani
35.	Ilia
36.	Bhidiura
37.	Mamahar
38.	Koraut
39.	Utraut
40.	Dharahara
41.	Garthama
42.	Gosaipur

Sl. No.	Location of Branches
43.	Mathathu
44.	Papaura
45.	Jawarabad
46.	Ashana
47.	Bhapauli
48.	Rameshwar
49.	Kashipur
50.	Pandeypur
51.	Gaurankala
52.	Hingutar
53.	Munari
54.	Kuwar
55.	Babusarai
56.	Jagannathpur
57.	Khurujha
58.	Parwa
59.	Bohi
60.	Krishwduttapur
61.	Dabaria
62.	Abhiya
63.	Barathi
64.	Bela

Sl. No.	Location of Branches
65.	Kariyawan
66.	Hariharpur
67.	Korauta (P.T.)
68.	Bachchhawan
69.	Sabhaipur
70.	Jagadish Sarai
71.	Gird Badgaon
72.	Saroi
73.	Phattupur
74.	Dharauli
75.	Abholi
76.	Ramnagar
77.	Biraonkot
78.	Nai Bazar
79.	Majhgain

[English]

Raising of Capital By Small Scale Industries From Public

7125. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D.CHAVAN
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the small scale industries are facing great difficult in raising capital from the public;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Union government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESH-WAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). No representation has been received with regard to difficulties being faced by public limited companies in raising capital from the Public. Applications of Public limited companies for capital issues are processed keeping in view the relevant guidelines on issue of capital issued from time to time and consents for capital issues are granted if the proposal of the application company meets the guidelines/norms on issue of capital.

(c) does not arise.

Performance of Overseas Branches of Public Sector Banks

7126. DR. G.L. KANAUIJA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the profit/loss in the overseas branches of public sector banks during the last three years bank-wise and country-wise;

(b) whether there has been drastic fall in the business of certain branches;

(c) if so, whether the government propose to wind up some of these branches;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) other remedial measures proposed to be taken by the Government to reduce the losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). The banks prepare their profit and loss account in the format pre-

scribed in the Third Schedule of the banking Regulation Act, 1949. The profit/loss position of the bank as a whole is reflected therein. Profits/losses of overseas branches are not indicated separately.

(c) to (e). The operation of foreign branches of Indian banks are continuously reviewed by Govt. and RBI. Various steps have been taken in the last few years to monitor and improve the operations of the overseas branches. The steps are aimed at strengthening of personal policy and prudential norms in regard to lending limits and country exposures, reinforcing if internal and supervisory control promoting cooperation and coordination among Indian banks portfolio inspection to international divisions closure of non-viable branches, review of problem credit etc. Important development relating to overseas branches are also discussed by Governor, RBI in his action plan meetings. Measures have been initiated to consolidate the overseas operations of India banks, which may, inter-alia include the setting up of an international bank to take over the existing branches of nationalist banks (except State Bank of India)

Establishment of Ordnance Factory Defence College and Army Recruitment cum Training Centre in Karnataka.

7127. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to establish an ordnance factory, a defence college and an army recruitment cum training centre in Karnataka in the near future;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF PETROLUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRIS. KRISHAN KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

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

Export of Coffee

7128. SHRI S.B. SINDAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the principal countries to which coffee was exported during the last two years;

(b) the amount of foreign exchange earned therefrom, year-wise; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to explore new markets in the world to boost coffee export?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID): (a) The principal countries to which coffee was exported during the last two fiscal years were U.S.S.R. Yugoslavia, Italy, West Germany USA, East Germany, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Switzerland and Romania.

(b) The amount of foreign exchange earned in 1989-90 and 1990-91 in respect of coffee exports to the above mentioned countries were Rs. 31559.28 lakhs and Rs. 24753.51 lakhs respectively.

(c) Besides readjustment of exchange rate, the Government has recently introduced the EXIM Scrips. These are expected to act as an incentive for the coffee exporters to put in greater efforts in maximising exports and diversifying export markets

Projects From Karnataka Pending for Clearance

7129. SHRI S. B. SINDAL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the projects and schemes proposed by the Government of Karnataka pending for clearance with the Union Government; and

(b) the action taken in each case so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). References about Various road and bridge schemes from Karnataka pending with the Government are mentioned below along with their position:

(i) 11 schemes for conversion of State Roads into national Highways and 20 schemes to be taken up under the Economic and Inter-State Importance Programme. These proposals can be considered only after the finalisation of the 8th Plan.

(ii) 166 schemes proposed to be financed against the augmented Central Road Fund. These would be processed after actual augmentation of the Central Road fund, which has not yet taken place.

(iii) 13 estimates for works on National Highways. Subject to availability of funds and provision in the plan, these will be taken up after approval of the current year's Budget.

Loans to Farmers by Public sector Banks in Karnataka

7130. SHRI S.B. SINDAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of branches of Public Sector Banks in Karnataka, district wise and bank-wise;

(b) the total deposits in these banks, district-wise and bank-wise as on April 1, 1990 and April 1, 1991;

(c) the total amount of loans sanctioned by these banks in Karnataka, district-wise,

during the last three years;

(d) whether the nationalised banks have achieved the target fixed for sanctioning such loans;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(f) the amount of loans sanctioned and actually given by these banks in Karnataka to farmers during the last three years district-wise; and

(g) the amount paid back of farmers during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) District-wise and bank-wise number of branches of Public Sector Banks functioning in Karnataka as on 30.6.1991 are given in the attached Statement - II.

(b) According to Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the aggregate deposits of Public Sector Banks in Karnataka as on the last Friday of March, 1990 were Rs. 7192 crores and as on December, 1990 (latest available) were Rs. 7686 crores.

(c) Data relating to total amount of loans sanctioned by Public Sector Banks in Karna-

taka district-wise is not available with RBI. However, district-wise total amount of outstanding advances of all scheduled commercial banks in Karnataka as on the last Friday of December, 1988, December, 1989 and December, 1990 are given in the Attached statement II.

(d) and (e). No target has been fixed for sanctioning of loans by Public Sector Banks in Karnataka.

(f) RBI does not generate district-wise data on loans sanctioned to farmers. However, outstanding advances for agriculture sector by Public Sector Banks in Karnataka as on the last Friday of June, 1987, June, 1988 and September, 1989 (latest available) are given below:—
(Rs. in crores)

<i>June. 1987</i>	<i>June. 1988</i>	<i>Septem ber. 1989</i>
834.83	955.04	1408.67

(g) The percentage of recovery of agricultural advances by all scheduled commercial banks in Karnataka as on the last Friday of June, 1987, June, 1988 and June, 1989 is given below:-

<i>June, 1987</i>	<i>June, 1988</i>	<i>June, 1989</i>
51.9	46.2	47.3

STATEMENT-I

Statement showing district-wise and bank-wise number of branches of each Public Sector Banks functioning in Karnataka as on 30.6.91.

Name of Bank	Name of District						
	Bangalore Rural	Bangalore Urban	Belgaum	Bellary	Bidar	Bijapur	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
1. State Bank of India	5	68	21	7	13	26	
2. State Bank of Bihar & Jaipur	-	3	-	-	-	-	
3. State Bank of Hyderabad	-	4	1	1	15	2	
4. State Bank of Indore	-	1	1	15	2	-	
5. State Bank of Maharashtra	19	72	7	28	2	7	
6. State Bank of Patiala	-	3	-	-	-	-	

<i>Name of Bank</i>	<i>Name of District</i>						
	<i>Bangalore Rural</i>	<i>Bangalore Urban</i>	<i>Belgaum</i>	<i>Bellary</i>	<i>Bidar</i>	<i>Bijapur</i>	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
7. State Bank of saurashtra	-	1	-	-	-	-	
8. State Bank of Travancore	-	5	-	-	-	-	
9. Allahabad Bank	-	4	-	-	-	-	
10. Andhra Bank	-	8	1	2	-	-	
11. Bank of Baroda	2	11	2	-	-	-	
12. Bank of India	-	16	12	3	-	1	
13. Bank of Maharashtra	-	9	8	2	-	4	
14. Canara Bank	23	81	17	6	7	8	

<i>Name of Bank</i>	<i>Name of District</i>						
	<i>Bangalore Rural</i>	<i>Bangalore Urban</i>	<i>Belgaum</i>	<i>Bellary</i>	<i>Bidar</i>	<i>Bijapur</i>	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
15. Central Bank of India	3	21	2	2	.	3	
16. Corporation Bank	5	21	13	4	2	8	
17. Dena Bank	1	11	1	.	.	1	
18. Indian Bank	.	22	2	4	.	2	
19. Indian Overseas Bank	.	14	1	1	.	.	
20. New Bank of India	.	3	
21. Oriental Bank of Commerce	.	3	
22. Punjab & Sind Bank	.	2	.	.	1	.	

<i>Name of Bank</i>	<i>Name of District</i>						
	<i>Bangalore Rural</i>	<i>Bangalore Urban</i>	<i>Belgaum</i>	<i>Bellary</i>	<i>Bidar</i>	<i>Bijapur</i>	
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	
23. Punjab National Bank	-	13	1	-	-	1	
24. Syndicate Bank	-	53	41	18	3	47	
25. UCO Bank	3	12	1	-	-	-	
26. Union Bank of India	-	13	25	2	-	10	
27. United Bank of India	-	4	-	-	-	-	
28. Vijaya Bank	8	50	10	2	-	12	
Total	69	526	166	82	43	133	

<i>Name of Bank</i>	<i>Name of District</i>					
	<i>Chikmangalur</i>	<i>Chitradurga</i>	<i>Dakshina</i>	<i>Kannada</i>	<i>Dharward</i>	<i>Gulbarga</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>
1. State Bank of India	3	3	24	26	16	5
2. State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur	-	-	-	-	-	-
3. State Bank of Hyderabad	-	-	-	-	31	-
4. State Bank of Indore	-	-	-	-	-	-
5. State Bank of Maharashtra	16	21	7	14	1	26
6. State Bank of Patiala	-	-	-	-	-	-
7. State Bank of saurashtra	-	-	-	-	-	-

<i>Name of Bank</i>	<i>Name of District</i>						
	<i>Chikmangalur</i>	<i>Chitradurga</i>	<i>Dakshina</i>	<i>Kannada</i>	<i>Dhanward</i>	<i>Gulbarga</i>	
<i>1</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>	
8. State Bank of Travancore	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
9. Allahabad Bank	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
10. Andhra Bank	-	1	1	1	1	-	-
11. Bank of Baroda	1	1	5	2	1	-	-
12. Bank of India	-	1	2	2	1	2	-
13. Bank of Maharashtra	-	2	1	3	3	-	-
14. Canara Bank	23	23	56	23	9	28	-
15. Central Bank of India	-	1	3	6	1	-	-
16. Corporation Bank	6	6	46	11	1	11	-

Name of Bank	Name of District						
	Chikmangalur	Chitradurga	Dakshina	Kannada	Dharward	Gulbarga	
1	8	9	10	11	12	13	
17. Dena Bank	-	1	1	2	-	-	
18. Indian Bank	2	2	1	3	1	1	
19. Indian Overseas Bank	3	3	5	4	-	1	
20. New Bank of India	-	-	1	-	-	-	
21. Oriental Bank of Commerce	-	-	-	-	-	-	
22. Punjab & Sind Bank	-	-	1	-	-	-	
23. Punjab National Bank	-	-	1	2	3	1	
24. Syndicate Bank	14	51	12	26	7	5	
25. UCO Bank	-	1	1	3	1	-	

<i>Name of Bank</i>	<i>Name of District</i>				
	<i>Chikmangalur</i>	<i>Chitradurga</i>	<i>Dakshina</i>	<i>Kannada</i>	<i>Gulbarga</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>13</i>
26. Union Bank of India	-	1	1	-	-
27. United Bank of India	-	-	11	1	2
28. Vijaya Bank	12	10	104	30	18
Total	80	82	378	170	99

Name of Bank	Name of District						
	Hassan	Kodagu	Kolar	Mandya	Mysore	Raichur	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
1. State Bank of India	5	3	6	4	8	2	
2. State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur	-	-	-	-	-	-	
3. State Bank of Hyderabad	-	-	-	-	1	32	
4. State Bank of Indore	-	-	-	-	-	-	
5. State Bank of Maharashtra	26	5	30	33	56	3	
6. State Bank of Patiala	-	-	-	-	-	-	
7. State Bank of Saurashtra	-	-	-	-	-	-	

Name of Bank	Name of District						
	Hassan	Kodagu	Kolar	Mandya	Mysore	Raichur	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
8. State Bank of Travancore	-	1	-	-	1	-	
9. Allahabad Bank	1	-	-	-	1	-	
10. Andhra Bank	-	-	-	-	1	2	
11. Bank of Baroda	-	-	3	-	1	-	
12. Bank of India	2	-	2	2	3	1	
13. Bank of Maharashtra	-	-	-	-	2	1	
14. Canara Bank	28	23	37	11	20	6	
15. Central Bank of India	-	1	2	1	2	2	
16. Corporation Bank	11	16	5	2	4	1	

Name of Bank	Name of District						
	Hassan	Kodagu	Kolar	Mandya	Mysore	Raichur	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
17. Dena Bank	-	-	1	-	1	-	
18. Indian Bank	1	2	-	1	4	2	
19. Indian Overseas Bank	1	2	-	5	8	2	
20. New Bank of India	-	-	-	-	-	-	
21. Oriental Bank of Commerce	-	-	-	-	-	-	
22. Punjab & Sind Bank	-	-	-	-	1	-	
23. Panjab National Bank	1	-	-	1	2	-	
24. Syndicate Bank	5	8	3	4	10	15	

Name of Bank	Name of District						
	Hassan	Kodagu	Kolar	Mandya	Mysore	Raichur	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
25. UCO Bank	-	-	-	-	1	2	
26. Union Bank of India	-	2	1	-	2	-	
27. United Bank of India	-	-	-	-	1	-	
28. Vijaya Bank	18	18	8	29	21	2	
Total	99	81	98	93	153	73	

Name of Bank	Name of District			
	Shimoga	Tumkur	Uttar Kannada	
1	2	3	4	
1. State Bank of India	4	8	13	
2. State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur	—	—	—	
3. State Bank of Hyderabad	1	—	—	
4. State Bank of Indore	—	—	—	
5. State Bank of Maharashtra	29	55	9	
6. State Bank of Patiala	—	—	—	
7. State Bank of saurashtra	—	—	—	
8. State Bank of Travancore	—	—	—	

<i>Name of Bank</i>	<i>Name of District</i>			
	<i>Shimoga</i>	<i>Tumkur</i>	<i>Uttar Kannada</i>	
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	
9. Allahabad Bank	1	1	—	
10. Andhra Bank	2	—	—	
11. Bank of Baroda	1	—	—	
12. Bank of India	2	—	—	
13. Bank of Maharashtra	—	—	—	
14. Canara Bank	38	16	16	
15. Central Bank of India	—	—	2	
16. Corporation Bank	11	1	10	
17. Dena Bank	—	—	—	

Name of Bank	Name of District			
	Shimoga	Tumkur	Uttar Kannada	
1	2	3	4	
18. Indian Bank	4	1	2	
19. Indian Overseas Bank	2	5	2	
20. New Bank of India	—	—	—	
21. Oriental Bank of Commerce	—	—	—	
22. Punjab & Sind Bank	—	—	—	
23. Punjab National Bank	—	—	—	
24. Syndicate Bank	15	7	46	
25. UCO Bank	—	1	—	
26. Union Bank of India	1	—	—	

<i>Name of Bank</i>	<i>Name of District</i>		
	<i>Shimoga</i>	<i>Tumkur</i>	<i>Uttar Kannada</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>
27. United Bank of India	—	—	—
28. Vijaya Bank	12	10	16
Total	122	106	117

STATEMENT - II

Statement showing district-wise amount of outstanding advances of all scheduled commercial banks in Karnataka as on the last Friday of December, 1988, December, 1989 and December, 1990.

(Rs. in Crores)

Sl. No.	Name of District	Outstanding Advances		
		December 1988	December 1989	December 1990
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Bangalore Rural	73.14	88.06	91.22
2.	Bangalore Urban	2994.91	3282.26	3644.30
3.	Belgaum	267.43	303.00	322.33
4.	Bellary	171.77	188.28	203.78
5.	Bidar	50.77	59.97	60.24
6.	Bijapur	141.68	153.75	160.02
7.	Chikmangalur	135.19	149.57	166.69
8.	Chitradurga	149.27	164.86	168.87

(Rs. in Crores)

Sl. No.	Name of District	Outstanding Advances			December 1990
		December 1988	December 1989	December 1990	
1	2	3	4	5	
9.	Dakshina Kannada	599.65	655.40	820.54	
10.	Dharward	293.39	319.40	321.64	
11.	Gulbarga	131.84	156.58	158.34	
12.	Hassan	115.60	129.71	147.10	
13.	Kodagu	95.22	103.58	113.97	
14.,	Kolar	112.84	126.93	138.37	
15.	Mandya	79.61	89.91	95.66	
16.	Mysore	342.28	389.82	397.96	
17.	Raichur	142.66	158.11	166.29	
18.	Shimoga	213.02	236.27	243.89	

(Rs. in Crores)

Sl. No.	Name of District	Outstanding Advances			
		December 1988	December 1989	December 1990	
1	2	3	4	5	
19.	Tumkur	118.73	127.58	138.87	
20.	Uttar Kannada	89.31	100.16	107.39	

Irregularities/Frauds in Janakpuri Branch of State Bank of Indore

7131. SHRI RAM BADAN Will the Minister of FINANCE please to state:

(a) whether a number of irregularities/frauds committed by the officials, staff members in the Janakpuri Branch, New Delhi of the State Bank of Indore, have been detected during January 1990 to September 1990;

(b) if so, the details thereof, case-wise and amount involved in each case; and

(c) the action taken by the management against the officials found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). State Bank of Indore has reported that no case of fraud was committed by any member of staff in Janakpuri, New Delhi branch during the period January 1990 to September 1990. However, irregularities in the conduct of advances were detected in two cases involving Rs. 6.82 lakhs and Rs. 9.60 lakhs respectively during this period.

(c) The Bank has informed that charge-sheet has been served on the official who was found responsible for the irregularities.

NRIs' Investment

7132. DR. G.K. KANAUNIA:
SHRI BHAGEY
GOBARDHAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the results of the special efforts made by the Government to attract investment by Non-resident Indians;

(b) whether some banks have created special cell to provide facilities like liaison, information, investment, advisory services and following-up of remittances etc; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the response of NRIs thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI REMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Since special schemes and incentives have only recently been announced it is too early to make an assessment of the results.

(b) and (c). Some banks have set up such cells. It is too early to gauge the response of Non-resident Indians.

[Translation]

Housing Facilities to workers of Nationalised Cotton Textile Mills in Uttar Pradesh.

7133. DR. LAL BAHADUR: RAWAL Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the facilities like accommodation, water and electricity are provided to the workers of all the nationalised Cotton Textile Mills in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the names of the mills in which such facilities have been provided to the workers; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) No Sir. However, certain staff like Watch and Ward/Security are provided such facilities. The U.P. based NTC Mills have not generated profit to sustain such proposals.

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

Facilities to Handloom Industry in U.P.

7134. DR. LAL BHADUR RAWAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of hank yarn provided to the handloom weavers of Uttar Pradesh during 1990-91;

(b) the amount of assistance provided to the yarn manufacturing units in Uttar Pradesh for increasing their existing capacity during the above period;

(c) the value of the yarn, dyes and chemicals provided to the weavers in Uttar Pradesh by the National Handloom Development Corporation; during 1990-91;

(d) the additional working capital provided to primary/apex cooperative societies in Uttar Pradesh during 1990-91;

(e) the amount of financial assistance provided by public sector agencies to weavers in Uttar Pradesh during the year;

(f) the amount of assistance provided to apex cooperative societies in Uttar Pradesh under Market Development Scheme in that year; and

(g) the value of the handloom cloth manufactured in Uttar Pradesh and exported by National Handloom Development Corporation during 1990-91?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) As yarn has a national market and its trade being controlled mostly by the private traders, it is not possible to quantify the availability sales of hank yarn in a particular state.

(b) Government of India have not extended any financial assistance during 1990-91 for expansion of existing spinning capacity in the cooperative sector in Uttar Pradesh.

(c) During 1990-91, the National Handloom Development Cooperation supplied yarn worth Rs. 1478.67 lakh and Dyes and Chemicals worth Rs. 4.22 lakh to the weavers and their agencies in Uttar Pradesh.

(d) and (e). Government of India have not released any financial assistance in the form of share capital assistance to any of the State Handloom Agencies in the cooperative or corporate sector in Uttar Pradesh during 1990-91. However, a sum of Rs. 4459.84 lakh has been released during 1990-91 to Government of Uttar Pradesh under various other schemes in order to improve the marketability of handloom cloth and to provide sustained employment to weavers in the state.

(f) A sum of Rs. 658.11 lakh has been released as Market Development assistance to the State handloom Agencies in Cooperative and Corporate sectors of Uttar Pradesh during 1990-91.

(g) the National Handloom Development Corporation has not exported any cloth during 1990-91.

Projects from Uttar Pradesh Pending Clearance

7135. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the projects and schemes proposed by the Government of Uttar Pradesh pending for clearance with Union Government; and

(b) the action taken so far in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGADISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). References about various road and bridge schemes for Uttar Pradesh pending with the Government are mentioned below along with their position:

- (i) Proposal for conversion of four State Roads into National highways. This proposal can be considered only after the finalisation of the 8th Plan.
- (ii) 43 schemes proposed to be financed against the augmented Central Road Fund. These would be processed after actual augmentation of the Central Road fund, which has not yet taken place.
- (iii) 19 estimates for works on National highways. Subject to availability of funds and provision in the Plan, these would be taken up after current year's Budget is approved.

Opening of Branches of Nationalised Banks in Uttar Pradesh.

7136. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to open new branches of the nationalised banks in the rural and backward areas of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the name of the places where they are proposed to be opened; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c) The growth of new bank branches under the extant licensing Policy

will depend on well established need, business potential and financial viability of the proposed branches. Moreover, the opening of branches under the extant licensing policy is a continuous process, which will be governed by licences issued by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in this regard. Hence, at this stage it is not possible to project the number of branches of banks that will be opened in the rural and backward areas of Uttar Pradesh.

[English]

World Bank Assistance to Boost Silk Production in Karnataka

7137. SHRI C.P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of World Bank assistance obtained for boosting the production of silk in Karnataka during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to obtain more assistance from the World bank to boost the production of silk in the State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) to (c). For boosting the production of silk in the country (including Karnataka) a World bank/Swiss assisted National Sericulture Project (N.S.P.) is being implemented by the Central Silk Board (C.S.B.) in collaboration with States (including Karnataka) for a project period of 5 year commencing from 1989-90.

The total provision including Central Silk Board investment in Karnataka for 3 years from 1989-90 to 1991-92 is Rs. 9083.56 lakhs. The investment envisaged for the

remaining tow year period i.e. 1992-93 to 1993-94 is Rs. 4807.58 lakhs. The year-wise break up is as under:-

1989-90	1375.62 lakhs
1990-91	4342.67 lakhs
1991-92	3365.27 lakhs
	9083.56 lakhs
1992-93	2580.43 lakhs
1993-94	2227.15 lakhs
	4807.58

Export of Sandal Wood and Oil

7138. SHRIC.P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of sandal wood and sandal wood oil exported form Karnataka during each of the last three years;

(b) whether any efforts are being made by the Union Government to boost export of sandal wood oil to earn foreign exchange; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SAL-MAN KHURSHED): (a) Export data is not maintained on statewide basis. However, export figures for sandalwood oil for the country as a whole for the last three years are as under:

(Value: Rs. Crores)

Year	Export
1988-89	6.29
1989-90	5.71
1990-91	6.71

(Source: CHEMEXCIL, Bombay)

Export of wood and timber in log and sawn sizes, including sandalwood, is not allowed under the current IMPEX Policy. However, export of Sandalwood chips of rough irregular size and shape with weight not exceeding 50 grams each and sandalwood in the form of dust, flakes and powder is allowed. Export performance of sandalwood products like chips, powder, dust and flakes for the past few years have been as under:

(Value: Rs. Crores)

Year	Exports
1987-88	7.94
1988-89	3.83
1989-90	7.45

(Source: CAPEXCTI, Calcutta)

(b) and (c). The recent liberalisation of the Import-Export Policy and introduction of Exim Scrips will encourage export of sandalwood oil/chips/powder.

Soft Loans to Entrepreneurs in Delhi and Ghazlabad

7139. SHRI RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH:

Will the MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of entrepreneurs in Delhi and Ghaziabad who applied for assistance in the form of soft loans from the IDBI (National Equity Fund) during the last two years till date, for setting up new projects and for rehabilitation of sick units;

(b) the amount sanctioned to each entrepreneur during the above period;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to increase the limit of project cost for grant of loan;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The National Equity Fund Scheme, introduced by Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI), is currently being operated by the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI). According to the information furnished by SIDBI 2 entrepreneurs from Delhi and Ghaziabad have received assistance under the scheme for setting up new projects during the period April 1989-August 1991.

(b) The assistance granted under the NEF Scheme to the two entrepreneurs was Rs. 19,655 and Rs. 40,000 respectively.

(c) and (d). The ceiling on project cost eligible for assistance under the National Equity Fund Scheme has been raised from Rs. 5 lakhs to Rs. 10 lakhs with effect from August 12, 1991, as announced under new policy measures for promoting and strengthening small tiny and village enterprises.

(e) Does not arise.

Applications Under Semflex in Uttar Pradesh

7140. SHRI RAMESH CHAND TOMAR
SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the Outcome of the Scheme for Self Employment of Ex-Servicemen (SEMFEX) during the last three year;

(b) the number of applications received by the Government under the SEMFEX from the Ex-servicemen of Uttar Pradesh during 1990 and 1991 till date;

(c) the number of applications out of them approved for financial assistance and the reasons for delay, if any, in approving the applications; and

(d) the criteria adopted for according the approval?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE. (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR): (a) to (d). A Statement is enclosed.

STATEMENT

The self-employment schemes, SEMFEX-I AND SEMFEX-II were launched in 1987 and 1988, respectively. An amount of Rs. 103 crores had been sanctioned under SEMFEX-I schemes to over 4, 000 Ex-Servicemen, till December 1990. Under SEMFEX-II scheme, an amount of Rs. 6 crores had been sanctioned to over 1, 200 ex-Servicemen, till 31st March, 1991.

As per the information furnished by the Rajya Sainik Board, Uttar Pradesh, 188 applications had been received under SEMFEX-I Scheme from the ex-Servicemen of U.P. during 1990 and 164 during 1991 (upto 30 June, 1991). of these, 99 and 88 applications, respectively, have been sanctioned for assistance. Under SEMFEX-II scheme, 394 applications were received during 1990 and 138 during 1991 (upto 30th June, 1991), of which 85 and 27 applications have been sanctioned for assistance.

The applications which are complete in

all respects are processed and disposed of expeditiously and loan sanctioned generally within a period of three months. However, sometimes delays occur on account of an application being incomplete, the proposed project not being found viable, collateral security not being to the satisfaction of the sanctioning authority etc.

Each application received under SEMFEX-I/SEMFEX-II Schemes is carefully examined on merits, keeping in view the viability of the proposed project. The main eligibility conditions laid down for the schemes include:-

SEMFEX-I

(a) The applicant should be below 60 years of age.

(b) The applicant should be registered with the concerned Zila Sainik board/Rajya Sainik Board. Persons applying for assistance must, in addition, be registered with the Directorate General, Resettlement.

(c) Projects costing upto Rs. 12 lakhs only are considered for assistance.

(d) The applicant should not have any outstanding loan, under any other scheme, to be paid back.

SEMFEX-II

(a) The Applicant should be registered with the concerned Zila Sainik Board/Rajya Sainik Board. Persons applying for assistance must, in addition, be registered with the Directorate General, Resettlement.

(b) The applicant should not have any outstanding loan, under any other scheme, to be paid back.

(c) While there is no ceiling for the farm

sector, Projects for the non-farm sector costing upto Rs. 7.5. lakhs will be financed.

Modernisation of Textile Mills

7141. DR. G.I. KANAUIA:
SHRI KALKA DAS:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the programme of the National Textile Corporation for the modernisation of the various textile mills during the current year;

(b) the amount spent for the modernisation of each textile mill during the last three years, Statewise;

(c) whether some of the textile mills out of them have been closed or are running in heavy losses;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Union Government to ensure that the textile mills on which huge amount has been spent, are not closed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHILOT): (a) At present modernisation scheme in respect of 28 units of NTC, involving an outlay of Rs. 129.34 crores have been cleared by the NTC/Financial Institutions and are various stages of implementation. Modernisation proposal envisaging an outlay of Rs. 88.07 crores in respect of 12 units have also been submitted and are awaiting clearance from Financial Institutions.

(b) The amount sanctioned for the modernisation of such of the textile mills during the last three years Statewise are as under:-

<i>S.No.</i>	<i>States</i>	<i>Amount Spent Rs. in crores</i>
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2.06
2.	Kerala	6.59
3.	Union Territory of Mahe	1.29
4.	Tamil Nadu	8.47
5.	Pondicherry	6.62
6.	Uttar Pradesh	0.37
		25.40

(c) and (d). No, Sir.

[*Translation*]

(e) NTC has been endeavouring to see that no mill is closed in which funds have been spent for modernisation/rehabilitation. The short-term and long-term strategy for improving the performance of NTC mills, amongst other things, covers:-

- i) Selective Modernisation of the mills.
- ii) adhere to higher productivity in spinning & weaving.
- iii) Labour rationalisation wherever found surplus.
- iv) Competitive purchase of raw-materials.
- v) Higher yarn production because it is more remunerative.
- vi) Price optimisation of yarn and cloth.
- vii) Product Upgradation.
- viii) Development of export market, for yarn and cloth.

Selling of shares by Financial Institutions

7142. SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some financial institutions have sold shares of certain companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof, company-wise, and the reasons therefore; and

(c) the criteria for selling the shares?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement showing the names of the companies whose shares have been sold by Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) Industrial Finance Corporation of India (IFCI), Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India (ICICI) and Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India (IRBI) is in the attached statement. These shares have been

sold over periods of time which are not uniform. The main reasons for sale of shares are the need for recycling of funds, earning capital gains and making available good scrips of such scrips and achieve wider dispersal of corporate securities.

(c) Normally scrips which meet the minimum yield criterion of 17.5% per annum are sold in the Market. However, in cases where the possibility of shares appreciating to the level of desired yield is remote, sale of such shares is also made below the desired yield price but generally above par.

STATEMENT

List of Companies

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. A.C.C. | 15. CEMENT Corporation of Gujarat. |
| 2. A.P. Rayons Ltd. | 16. Coromandal Fertilisers. |
| 3. ABS Plastics Ltd. | 17. Chokani International. |
| 4. Ajay Electricals | 18. Chettinad Cement. |
| 5. Amrit Banaspati | 19. Deccan Cement. |
| 6. Andhra Cement | 20. Deepak Fertilisers Ltd. |
| 7. A.P. Paper | 21. Falcon Gulf Ceramics. |
| 8. Asian Hotels | 22. Gajra Beval Gears |
| 9. Aurangabad Paper | 23. GSFC Ltd. |
| 10. Baroda Rayon | 24. Gandhi Sp. 07 Tubes Ltd. |
| 11. Bharat Berg | 25. Gujarat Heavy Chem. Ltd. |
| 12. Bhadrachalam Paper Boards Ltd. | 26. Gujarat Hightech. inds. |
| 13. Bihar Caustic and Chemicals Ltd. | 27. Gujarat Cycles. |
| 14. CESC Ltd. | 28. BEG Ltd. |
| | 29. Him Ispat. |
| | 30. Hindustan Oil Exploration. |
| | 31. Indian Charge Chrome. |
| | 32. Indo Gulf Fertilisers Ltd. |
| | 33. Indu Nissan Oxy. Chem. inds. Ltd. |
| | 34. Lakshmi Auto Components. |
| | 35. Modern Syntex India. |
| | 36. Murudeshwar Ceramics. |
| | 37. NICCO Orissa |

- | | | | |
|-----|--------------------------------------|-----|---------------------------------|
| 38. | J.K. Industries Ltd. | 61. | Rama Phosphates. |
| 39. | Kakatiya Cements | 62. | Relinace Inds. Ltd. |
| 40. | Katare Spg. Mills Ltd. | 63. | Reliance Chemolex Inds. |
| 41. | Kerala Chemical | 64. | Roadmaster Steel Strips. |
| 42. | Kothari Indl. Corpn. Ltd. | 65. | Sagar Cements. |
| 43. | Mahavir Spg. Mills Ltd. | 66. | Shiva Paper. |
| 44. | managalore Chem and
Fert.Ltd | 67. | Shree Bhawani Paper. |
| 45. | Nath Pulp and Paper. | 68. | S.P.I.C.Ltd. |
| 46. | NCL Industries Ltd. | 69. | Shree Cement. |
| 47. | Mukerian Paper | 70. | Special Steels Ltd. |
| 48. | N.O.C.I.L. | 71. | Sunflag Iron and Steel Co. Ltd. |
| 49. | Orissa Sponge Ad Iron | 72. | Shiva Papers Ltd. |
| 50. | Ponni Sugars | 73. | Sri Vishnu Cement. |
| 51. | Prakash Inds.Ltd. | 74. | Swede India Teltronics |
| 52. | Prachit Resorts. | 75. | Sylvania Laxman. |
| 53. | Phosphorous and Chem. Tra-
vancor | 76. | Tata Power Co. Ltd. |
| 54. | Pennar Steel | 77. | Transport Corpn. of India |
| 55. | Pasupati Spinning Mills Ltd. | 78. | Tinplate Company of India |
| 56. | Priyadarshini Cement | 79. | Tuticorin Alkalies. |
| 57. | Priyadarshni Spinning Mills
Ltd. | 80. | Visaka Industries Ltd. |
| 58. | Punjab Mohta Polytex. | 81. | Special Steels Ltd. |
| 59. | Punjab Fibre. | 82. | Modi Alkalies and Chem. Ltd. |
| 60. | Raasi Cement. | 83. | Murudeshwar Ceramics Ltd. |
| | | 84. | Nath Pulp and Power Mills Ltd. |

85. Pasupati Spg. Wvg. Mills Ltd.
86. Peico Electronics and Elec. Ltd.
87. Pennar Steels Ltd.
88. Phosphorous and Chem. Ltd.
89. Rane (Madras) Ltd.
90. Shree Synthetics Ltd.
91. Shriram Indl. Engg. Ltd.
92. SIL Ltd.
93. Tata Power Company Ltd.
94. Third Arruran Sugars Ltd.
95. Tri Star Soya Products Ltd.
96. Vanavti Mfg. Chem Ltd.
97. Videocom International Ltd.
98. Visaka Inds.Ltd.
99. W.W. Industries (India) Ltd.
100. West Coast Paper Mills Ltd.
101. Ahamedabad Elec. Co.Ltd.
102. Associated Cement Co.Ltd.
103. Atul Products Ltd.
104. D.C.M. Ltd.
105. DCM Shriram Consolidated Ltd.
106. DCM Shriram Inds. Ltd.
107. Escorts Tractors Ltd.

108. Excel Inds. Ltd.
109. Gujarat State Fertilisers Ltd.
110. Hind Syntex Ltd.
111. Jaipur Polyspin Ltd.
112. Jayshree Chemicals Ltd.
113. Keo International Ltd.
114. Malwa Cotton Spg. Mills Ltd.
115. Modern Suitings Ltd.
116. Syntex India Ltd.

[English]

**Training and Apprenticeship
Training Scheme of A.I.H.B.**

7143. DR. G.L. KANAUIA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of training and apprenticeship training scheme of the All India Handi Crafts Board, the centres set up in different crafts and State-wise location thereof;

(b) the number of persons trained during the last two years, center-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to open more such training centres in Uttar Pradesh particularly in rural and hilly areas during the current year; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES(SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) and (b). Statement I is attached.

(c) Yes, Sir.

are to:

(d) Statement II is attached.

STATEMENT I

(a) and (b). The details of training and Apprenticeship Training Schemes of the Office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts), the Centres set-up in different Crafts and their State-wise location, and the Number of persons trained during the last two years are as under:-

SCHEME 1: CARPET WEAVING

I. Objectives

The objectives of the training scheme

(a) Increase the production-base in Carpet Weaving in order to meet the growing demand for hand-knotted carpets in the international market and thereby

(b) enhance employment opportunities among the artisans.

II. Training Centres

The Scheme envisages running of Basic and Advanced Training Programmes in Carpet Weaving through departmentally run Centres as per revised parameters.

III. General Revised parameters of the Scheme

(1) Duration of Trg. Course (in Months)		Basic	Advanced
(a)	Jammu and kashmir	18	18
(b)	Rest of India	12	12
(2)	(a) No. of trainees per session	30	20
	(b) No. of Looms	06	05
(3)	Instructor per Course		
	(a) Instructor	01	02
	(b) Assistant Instructor	02	

(4) Rate of stipend per trainee per month Rs.250/- for Basic Course, and Rs 350/- for Advanced Course.

(5) Emoluments of Instructor and Assistant Instructor will be as per approved pay scales.

(6) Raw-material requirements per Training Centre will be budgeted for at the beginning of each financial year and will

be provided as per existing norms.

(7) Supply of tool-kit at a cost not exceeding Rs.500/- per trainee per course (subject to actuals) in order to enable the trainees to work independently after completion of the Training Course.

(8) Payment of rent will be as per reasonability certificate issued by the Competent Authority, i.e. PWD/CPWD/ district

magistrate as the case may be.

(9) Staffing pattern for the basic

Training/Advanced Trg. Centres, service Centres and the Field Administrative Cells will be as per norms prescribed.

IV. Financial Implication Per Training Course

(Rs. in Lakhs)

	<i>In J & K month)</i>	<i>In States (for 18 other than J & K (for 12 months)</i>
A. BASIC COURSE		
1. Stipend (Rs.250 x 30 x12)	1.35	0.90
2. Emoluments to:		
(1) Instructor-One (In the scale of Rs.1200-2040 PM)	1.03	0.68 (Approx)
(2) Assistant Instructor- Two (In the scale of Rs. 950-1500 PM)		
3. Cost of new Carpet Looms (6 Nos) (Where required (subject to actuals)	0.38	0.36
4. Tool Kit to trainees (Rs, 500 X 30)	0.15	0.15
5. Furniture, Fixtures, Accessories and equipment	0.06	0.06
Total	2.95	2.15
B. ADVANCED COURSE		
1. Stipend(Rs.350 x 20 x 12)	1.26	0.84
2. Emoluments of Instructors	0.84 (Approx)	0.84
3. Cost of new Carpet Looms (5 Nos) Where required (subject to actuals)	0.30	0.30
4. Furniture, Fixtures, Accessories and equipment	0.05	0.05
Total	2.45	1.75

C. Financial implications in respect of FAC(Varanasi and Srinagar), Service Centres and the Training Canters including cost of pay, rent, taxes, contingencies and TADA will be as per estimates made in the Budget.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

1. *Advanced Training linked to Basic Training*

To make the Scheme more composite and skill oriented the advanced training is proposed to be linked to the basic course by bringing two Centres - One basic and the other advanced, under one roof.

2. *Selection of Trainees*

For the basic course in Carpet Weaving, 30 trainees will be selected from amongst applicants not below the age of 14 years, by a Committee duly approved by the Deputy Director, Field Administrative Cell or the Regional Director as the case may be.

After completion of the basic course, only 20 will be selected, on the basis of merit, from amongst those trainees who completed the basic course, for admission into the Advanced Training Centre.

The trainees who remain absent continuously for one month (except on medical grounds) should be substituted by a wait-listed candidate in order of merit provided that not more than 2 months of the training session has been completed. No stipend for the period of such absence is payable.

Each trainee selected to undergo training shall be required to tender two passport size photographs. One set of the photographs shall be retained by the concerned FAC/Drawing and disbursing Officer of the Scheme and the other, after attestation shall be kept with the incharge, training Centre.

3. *Timings of the Training*

The timings of the training will normally be from 9.30 a. m. to 4.30 p.m. on all 6 working days of a week with a break of one hour for lunch. However, the timings can be re-scheduled with the approval of the FAC/Regional Directors taking into consideration factors like local and seasonal climatic conditions.

4. *Holidays/Casual Leave.*

- (a) The Training Centre will remain closed on Sundays, Second Saturdays and Government Gazetted Holidays, but trainees will be paid their stipend for these days.
- (b) The trainees will also be entitled to avail of one day's Casual leave in a month but not exceeding 12 days Casual Leave per year. Out of this total they will also be allowed to take six days Casual Leave at a stretch in case of illness or bereavement in the family, etc. They shall not be entitled to stipend for absences in excess of prescribed number of days.

5. *Shifting of Training Centres*

No Centre should normally function in one place for more than 5 consecutive sessions. As a policy, the centre should be shifted to a new place along-with staff and equipment.

SCHEME II: CANE AND BAMBOO, Metal, TEXTILES AND WOODCRAFT.

The training programmes run departmentally by the Office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) in Crafts, other than hand-knotted Wollen/Silk Carpets are confined to the following:

(a) Cane and Bamboo

the above crafts;

(b) Artmetalware

ii) To upgrade the skills of existing craftspersons; and

(c) Hand-printed Textiles

lii) To create employment opportunities among the artisans.

(d) Wood-Craft

1. Objectives

The objectives of the Training Schemes are as follows:-

i) To expand the production base of

II. Number of Training Centres

The number of training Centres sanctioned in the various crafts is shown a under:-

<i>Sl.</i>	<i>Name of the Craft</i>	<i>No of Centres</i>	<i>No of Centres (Existing)</i>	<i>No. of Centres (Proposed)</i>
1.	Textiles	25	13	20
2.	Metal	23	23	23
3.	Cane and Bamboo	35	35	35
4.	Wood Crafts	03	03	08
Total		86	74	86

III. General parameters of the Scheme

Following General parameters will

be adopted uniformly for the training programmes in all the four crafts mentioned above:-

1.	Duration of Course	12 months
2.	No. of trainees per Course	25
3.	No. of Instructors per Course	02 (Two)
(a)	Instructor	01 (One)
(b)	Assistant Instructor	01 (One)
4.	Rate of Stipend per trainee	Rs.250/-P.M. per course.

5. Emolument of Instructor and Asstt. Instructor will be as per approved pay scales.
6. Requirement of raw-material per training centre will be budgeted for at the beginning of each financial year and will be provided as per existing norms.
7. Supply of Tool-kit at a cost not exceeding Rs.500/- per trainee per course (subject to actuals) in order to enable the trainee to work independently after completion of the training course.
8. Payment of rent will be as per the reasonability issued by the Competent Authority e.g. P.W.D. C.P.W.D. as case may be.
9. The staffing pattern will be as per norms

IV. Financial Implication Per Training Centre

Timings of the Training

The timings of the training will normally be from 9.30 a.m. to 4.30. p.m. on all 6 working days of the week with a break of one hour for lunch. However, the timings can be re-scheduled with the approval of the Regional Director/FAC's taking into consideration factors like local and seasonal climatic

conditions.

3. Holidays/Casual Leave.

a) The training Centre will remain closed on Sundays, Saturdays and Govt. Gazetted Holidays but trainees will be paid their stipend for these days.

b) The trainees will also be entitled to avail of one day's casual leave in a month but not exceeding 12 days casual leave per year. Out of this total they will also be allowed to take six days casual leave at a stretch in case of illness or bereavement in the family etc.. They shall not be entitled to stipend for absence in excess of the above prescribed number of days.

Scheme 'C': Apprenticeship Training Scheme:

1. Objectives.

The objectives of the schemes are to:-

i) Augment the production base of crafts having a high market demand.

ii) improve skills of existing craftsmen;

iii) Transfer the skills of mastercraftsmen to new trainees in the Guru Shishya Parampara;

iv) revive rare and dying crafts.

The Apprenticeship Training Scheme seeks to maintain the Guru Shishya tradition of training by assisting highly skilled Master-

craftsman to impart training to young persons in the neighbourhood/community at their own work premises.

II. General Parameters.

The board parameters of training under this Scheme are as follows:-

i)	Duration of training course	12 Months.
ii)	No. of trainees per session	5 to 15 depending on craft discipline.
iii)	mastercraftsman per course	1 (one)
iv)	Rate of stipend per trainee	Rs. 250/-P.M.
v)	Honorarium to mastercraftsman	Rs. 1500/-P.M.

vi) payment of a lump sum not exceeding Rs. 500/- per trainee per course to the mastercraftsperson as compensation for wastage of raw-material used during the training period.

in order to enable the trainee to work independently after completion of training course.

vii) Supply of tool-kits at a cost not exceeding Rs. 500/- per trainee per course

viii) Payment of lump sum amount of Rs.4000/- to the Mastercraftsperson as assistance for general alternation/modification of mastercraftsmen's premises(if required) and for enabling increased supply of water and light.

III. Maximum Financial Assistance per Training Scheme.

i)	Stipend to trainee (Rs. 250 X15 X12)	Rs.o.45 lakhs
ii)	Honorarium to Mastercraftsman (Rs. 1500 X 2)	Rs.0.18 lakhs
iii)	Raw-material Compensation (Rs. 500X15 = 7, 500/-	Rs. 0.15 lakhs
iv)	Tool-kits to trainees (Rs.500X15) 7,500/-	
v)	Assistance for general alternation/ modification of mastercraftsmen's Premises(if required) and for enabling increased supply of water and light	Rs.0.04.lakhs
Total		Rs. 0.82 lakhs

IV. Selection and Sanction.

There shall be a Committee for selection of the Crafts and the mastercraftsperson costing of the following:-

- i) Regional Director
- ii) Asstt. Director of concerned M & SEC.
- iii) Representative of State Govt. (State Handicrafts Development Corporation/DIC/Director Cottage Industries).
- iv) Dy. Director, Regional Design and Tech. Dev. Centre.

The Regional Director shall be the sanctioning authority of the schemes as per recommendation of the above Committee. However, the HQS. Office of the office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) will have the discretion to approve of Apprenticeship Training Schemes in special cases.

GUIDELINES FOR SANCTIONING OF APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING SCHEME.

1. Sanctioning Authority.

The sanctioning authority in case of Apprenticeship Trg. Schemes shall be the respective Regional Directors of the Office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts). This sanction, will be in accordance with the budgetary allocation made by for Apprenticeship Training Schemes for each region. However, in exceptional cases, depending upon the need, the Office of the D.C. (Handicrafts) will have the discretion to sanction such a scheme directly from HQs. itself. All Regional Directors will assess the requirement for conducting Apprenticeship Training Schemes as per revised pattern for the coming financial year, 1990-91 and for-

ward the same to HQs. by September, of the preceding financial year in order to enable HQs. Office to make necessary budgetary provision.

2. Pattern and General/Financial Parameters.

The pattern of the Apprenticeship Training Scheme including duration of training course, number of trainees, instructor per batch and ancillary financial parameters, have been clearly enunciated in the body of the revised scheme.

3. Selection of Craft and Mastercraftsperson.

The selection of the Crafts in which the training is to be imparted and the Mastercraftsperson to be selected, is to be done by a Selection Committee consisting of the:

1. Regional Director as Chairman
2. Dy. Director of the region and Asstt. Director of the M& SEC i whose jurisdiction the training is to be imparted.
3. One representative from the State Govt./Director Cottage Industries/ State handicrafts Corporation should also be co-opted.
4. Dy. Director Regional Design & Tech. Dev. Centre while making selection, the Committee should keep in mind the following norms:-
 - a) That there is a genuine need to impart such training keeping in mind the prospects for gainful employment of the successful trainees.
 - b) That there is no duplication or conflict of effort in a particular area

- between the State and Central Government.
- c) That the craftsperson selected to impart training is of the highest calibre and possesses the dedication and aptitude required for a trainer.
 - d) That the syllabus prescribed for the course is completed in all respects.
 - e) That the craftsperson selected for imparting training has not been sanctioned a scheme for more than 3 batches. However, in exceptional cases, the Committee may, with reasons to be recorded in writing, sanction an Apprenticeship Training Scheme in favour of a mastercraftsman beyond 3 batches, particularly if the craft is a dying or languishing craft and requires revival.

4. Selection of Trainees.

The Selection of trainees shall be done by the Mastercrafts- person in consultation and with the approval of the Regional Director, while doing so, the following norms should be observed:-

- a) Advance local publicity (Munadi) is given in the area about the commencement of the Scheme with a view to ensure a full complement of trainees.
- b) That selection is done on the basis of interview in the presence of a representative of the Regional Office, or Asstt. Director, M&SEC. Preference should be given to trainees from traditional craftsmen's families as the trainee is more likely to adopt the skill as his profession.

- c) That the trainees selected are not less than 14 years of age, which is relaxable at the discretion of the Regional Directors in exceptional cases.
- d) That the selected trainees have not availed of similar training either from the Office of the DC(Handicrafts) or from the State Govt. Corporation.
- e) Due representation is, given to the candidates from SC/ST/BC/PH and minority communities.
- f) That the number of selected trainees does not exceed the maximum limit prescribed.
- g) Each trainee selected to under-go training in an ATS shall be required to tender two passport size photographs. One set of photographs shall be retained by the concerned Regional Office/ Drawing & Disbursing Officer of the Scheme, and other set, after attestation shall be kept with Mastercraftsman under whose supervision the training scheme is being organised. The mastercraftsman shall be liable to show these photographs to the officers who will be visiting the training scheme for inspection /making payments etc. for identification of trainees.

5. General Guidelines For mastercraftspersons.

Besides adhering to the terms and conditions already sent, the mastercraftsperson Instructor selected for imparting training will also observe the following:-

- a) The place of training should be neat, clean and well lighted, having

basic amenities of public convenience.

- b) That punctuality in attendance, discipline etc. should be strictly observed, both by the Instructor as well as the trainees.
- c) That the timings of the training will normally be from 9.30. a.m. to 4. 30 P.M. on all 6 days of a week with a break of 1 hour for lunch. However, the timings can be rescheduled with the approval of the Regional Directors taking into consideration factors like local and seasonal climatic conditions.
- d) The training Centre will remain closed on Sundays, Saturdays and Govt. Gazetted Holidays. Trainees and mastercraftspersons, however, will be paid their stipend/honorarium for these days. The trainees and the mastercraftspersons shall also be entitled to avail of one day's casual leave at the rate of one per month or 12 CIs per year. They shall also be allowed to take six days casual leave in a continuous series in case of illness or bereavement etc. out of this total. They shall not be entitled to stipend/honorarium for absences exceeding the above duration.
- e) The trainees who remain absent continuously for one month (except on medical ground) should be substituted by a waitlisted candi-

date in order of merit provided that not more than 2 months of the training session have been completed. No stipend for the period of such absence is payable.

6. Supervision and Monitoring of the Scheme's progress

Being the sanctioning as well as the implementing authority, the Regional Directors will have the special responsibility to supervise and monitor the progress of the Apprenticeship Trg. Scheme's within their -jurisdiction. Therefore they must devise a mechanism for close and effective supervision of the Scheme to ensure that:-

- a) The requirement of funds for Apprenticeship Training Scheme is timely indented.
- b) That the proposals for A T. S. received, are processed expeditiously. As far as possible, all the training schemes of 12 months duration should start from the 15th April.
- c) That the selection of Craft, mastercraftsperson and trainees is just and fair.
- d) That the Hq. Receives a quarterly progress report in prescribed proforma, stating the financial as well as physical progress and break-up of trainees in terms of SC, ST, Minority and others.

STATEMENT

Statement Showing the training centres set up in different States there craft-wise location and the person trained during the last two years.

Name of the State and the number of Persons trained	Name of the Crafts					
	Hand Block printing/ engraving	Art Metal wares	Cane & Bamboo	Shawls as art wares	Zari goods	
1	2	3	4	5	6	
1. Uttar Pradesh						
(i) No. of Trg. centres	5	17	1	1	1	
(ii) No. of Trainees trained	215	688	36	10	10	
2. Jammu & Kashmir						
(i) No. of Trg. centres	1	—	—	—	1	
(ii) No. of Trainees trained	—	—	—	—	8	
3. Bihar						
(i) No. of Trg. centres	2	1	2	—	—	
(ii) No. of Trainees trained	82	—	77	—	—	

Name of the State and the number of Persons trained	Name of the Crafts					
	Hand Block printing/ engraving	Art Metal wares	Cane & Bamboo	Shawls as art wares	Zari goods	
1	2	3	4	5	6	
4. Rajasthan						
(i) No. of Trg. centres	3	—	—	—	—	
(ii) No. of trainees trained	143	—	—	—	—	
5. Haryana						
(i) No of Trg. centres	—	—	—	—	—	
(ii) No. of trainees trained	—	—	—	—	—	
6. Punjab						
(i) No. of Trg. centres	—	—	—	—	—	
(ii) No. of Trainees trained	—	—	—	—	—	

Name of the State and the number of Persons trained	Name of the Crafts					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		Hand Block printing/ engraving	Art Metal wares	Cane & Bamboo	Shawls as art wares	Zari goods
7. West Bengal						
(i) No. of Trg. centres		2	3	3	—	—
(ii) No. of Trainees trained		80	77	75	—	—
8. Tamil Nadu						
(i) No. of Trg. centres		—	4	3	2	—
(ii) No. of Trainees trained		—	45	151	20	—
9. Andhra Pradesh						
(i) No. of Trg. centres		—	3	2	—	—
(ii) No. of Trainees trained		—	178	87	—	—

Name of the State and the number of Persons trained	Name of the Crafts					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		Hand Block printing/ engraving	Art Metal wares	Cane & Bamboo	Shawls as art wares	Zari goods
10. Pondicherry						
(i) No. of Trg. centres		—	—	—	—	—
(ii) No. of Trainees trained		—	—	—	—	—
11. Karnataka						
(i) No. of Trg. centres		—	—	2	—	—
(ii) No. of Trainees trained		—	—	89	—	—
12. Madhya Pradesh						
(i) No. of Trg. centres		4	—	1	—	—
(ii) No. of Trainees trained		50	—	33	—	—

<i>Name of the State and the number of Persons trained</i>	<i>Name of the Crafts</i>					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
13. Maharashtra						
(i) No. of Trg. centres		1	—	4	—	—
(ii) No. of Trainees trained		—	—	162	—	—
14. Kerala						
(i) No. of Trg. centres		—	1	4	—	—
(ii) No. of Trainees trained		—	45	178	—	—
15. Manipur						
(i) No. of Trg. centres		—	—	2	—	—
(ii) No. of Trainees trained		—	—	55	—	—

Name of the State and the number of Persons trained	Name of the Crafts					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		Hand Block printing/ engraving	Art Metal wares	Cane & Bamboo	Shawls as art wares	Zari goods
16. Meghalaya						
(i) No. of Trg. centres		—	—	1	—	—
(ii) No. of Trainees trained		—	—	32	—	—
17. Tripura						
(i) No. of Trg. centres		—	—	1	—	—
(ii) No. of Trainees trained		—	—	46	—	—
18. Gujarat						
(i) No. of Trg. centres		—	—	2	—	—
(ii) No. of Trainees trained		—	—	78	—	—

<i>Name of the State and the number of Persons trained</i>	<i>Name of the Crafts</i>					
	<i>Hand Block printing/ engraving</i>	<i>Art Metal wares</i>	<i>Cane & Bamboo</i>	<i>Shawls as art wares</i>	<i>Zari goods</i>	
1	2	3	4	5	6	
19. Orissa						
(i) No. of Trg. centres	—	—	2	—	—	—
(ii) No. of Trainees trained	—	—	67	—	—	—
20. Andaman & Nicobar						
(i) No. of Trg. centres	—	—	1	—	—	—
(ii) No. of Trainees trained	—	—	49	—	—	—
21. Assam						
(i) No. of Trg. centres	—	—	4	—	—	—
(ii) No. of Trainees trained	—	—	170	—	—	—

Name of the State and the number of Persons trained	Name of the Crafts					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		Hand Block .printing/ engraving	Art Metal wares	Cane & Bamboo	Shawls as art wares	Zari goods
22. Goa						
(i) No. of Trg. centres		—	—	—	—	—
(ii) No. of Trainees trained		—	—	—	—	—
23. Himachal Pradesh						
(i) No. of Trg. centres		—	—	—	—	—
(ii) No. of Trainees trained		—	—	—	—	—
24. Delhi						
(i) No. of Trg. centres		—	—	—	—	—
(ii) No. of Trainees trained		—	—	—	—	—

Statement Showing the training centres set up in different States there craft-wise location and the person trained during the last two years.

Name of the State and the number of Persons trained	Name of the Crafts				
	Imitation jewellery	Wood wares	Embroidery goods	Carpets	Misc crafts
1	7	8	9	10	11
1. Uttar Pradesh					
(i) No. of Trg. centres	—	—	1	162	10
(ii) No. of Trainees trained	—	—	10	5367	90
2. Jammu & Kashmir					
(i) No. of Trg. centres	—	1	3	175	5
(ii) No. of Trainees trained	—	10	30	4294 (approx)	45
3. Bihar					
(i) No. of Trg. centres	1	2	—	30	3
(ii) No. of Trainees trained	10	20	—	991	30

Name of the State and the number of Persons trained	Name of the Crafts				
	Imitation jewellery	Wood wares	Embroidery goods	Carpets	Misc crafts
1	7	8	9	10	11
4. Rajasthan					
(i) No. of Trg. centres	1	1	2	13	2
(ii) No. of trainees trained	10	10	20	506 (approx)	15
5. Haryana					
(i) No of Trg. centres	—	—	—	4	—
(ii) No. of trainees trained	—	—	—	116	—
6. Punjab					
(i) No. of Trg. centres	—	—	—	5	—
(ii) No. of Trainees trained	—	—	—	185	—

<i>Name of the State and the number of Persons trained</i>	<i>Name of the Crafts</i>				
	<i>Imitation Jewellery</i>	<i>Wood wares</i>	<i>Embroidery goods</i>	<i>Carpets</i>	<i>Misc crafts</i>
1	7	8	9	10	11
7. West Bengal					
(i) No. of Trg. centres	—	1	3	4	7
(ii) No. of Trainees trained	—	10	20	111	40
8. Tamil Nadu					
(i) No. of Trg. centres	—	—	1	3	6
(ii) No. of Trainees trained	—	—	10	52	60
9. Andhra Pradesh					
(i) No. of Trg. centres	—	4	—	19	4
(ii) No. of Trainees trained	—	50	—	816	35

Name of the State and the number of Persons trained	Name of the Crafts				
	Imitation jewellery	Wood wares	Embroi- dery goods	Carpets	Misc crafts
1	7	8	9	10	11
10. Pondicherry					
(i) No. of Trg. centres	—	—	—	1	3
(ii) No. of Trainees trained	—	—	—	25	28
11. Karnataka					
(i) No. of Trg. centres	—	4	1	5	3
(ii) No. of Trainees trained	—	60	10	290	25
12. Madhya Pradesh					
(i) No. of Trg. centres	—	1	—	13	4
(ii) No. of Trainees trained	—	10	—	—	40

<i>Name of the State and the number of Persons trained</i>	<i>Name of the Crafts</i>				
	<i>Imitation jewellery</i>	<i>Wood wares</i>	<i>Embroidery goods</i>	<i>Carpets</i>	<i>Misc crafts</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>
13. Maharashtra					
(i) No. of Trg. centres	1	—	—	—	12
(ii) No. of Trainees trained	10	—	—	—	116
14. Kerala					
(i) No. of Trg. centres	—	4	—	—	3
(ii) No. of Trainees trained	—	40	—	—	30
15. Manipur					
(i) No. of Trg. centres	—	—	—	—	—
(ii) No. of Trainees trained	—	—	—	—	—

<i>Name of the State and the number of Persons trained</i>	<i>Name of the Crafts</i>				
	<i>Imitation jewellery</i>	<i>Wood wares</i>	<i>Embroidery goods</i>	<i>Carpets</i>	<i>Misc crafts</i>
1	7	8	9	10	11
19. Orissa					
(i) No. of Trg. centres	1	—	1	—	7
(ii) No. of Trainees trained	5	—	—	—	63
20. Andaman & Nicobar					
(i) No. of Trg. centres	—	—	—	—	4
(ii) No. of Trainees trained	—	—	—	—	30
21. Assam					
(i) No. of Trg. centres	—	—	—	—	—
(ii) No. of Trainees trained	—	—	—	—	—

Name of the State and the number of Persons trained	Name of the Crafts					
	Imitation jewellery	Wood wares	Embroidery goods	Carpets	Misc crafts	
1	7	8	9	10	11	
22. Goa						
(i) No. of Trg. centres	—	—	1	—	3	
(ii) No. of Trainees trained	—	—	10	—	30	
23. Himachal Pradesh						
(i) No. of Trg. centres	—	1	—	3	4	
(ii) No. of Trainees trained	—	9	—	142	40	
24. Delhi						
(i) No. of Trg. centres	—	—	—	—	2	
(ii) No. of Trainees trained	—	—	—	—	20	

STATEMENT-II

**Statement referred to in reply to part(d)
of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.
7143 for 13.9.1991.**

d) Training centres run by the Office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) are pe. static in nature and while their total number is not proposed to be increased, they are shifted from one place to another when training needs of the area are fulfilled or response of the trainees diminishes. Nevertheless, the following training centres are proposed to be opened in Uttar Pradesh particularly in rural and hilly areas during the current year. One Carpet service Centre has already been set up at Dehradun alongwith training centres as a step towards extending the departmental carpet weaving scheme to the Garhwal hill region of Uttar Pradesh. The Carpet Service Centre of Bareilly will continue to implement the scheme in the Kumaon hills region.

As per requirement and according to the availability of suitable applicants for conducting the Apprenticeship Training Schemes under grants from the Office of the Development Commissioner (handicrafts), such training schemes on the guru-shishya parampara will continue to be approved in Uttar Pradesh from time to time including the rural and hill regions of the state. Two Apprenticeship Training Schemes are likely to

be started at Uttar Kashi and Pauri Garhwal to impart training to about 20 persons in papri Wood Craft and another Apprenticeship Training Scheme will also be operational at Almora to train 10 persons in Copper Metal Artware.B.

Publicly Guaranteed Foreign Debt.

7144. SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the publicly guaranteed foreign debt of India as on June 30, 1991;

(b) the percentage of commercial borrowing or no-concessional debt as part of the Public guaranteed foreign debt during the last three years, years-wise;

(c) the average rate of interest paid for such commercial borrowings year-wise; and

(d) the total debt to be discharged in this category with interest amount, as on June 3, 1991?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The position of India's medium and long term external debt according to latest available estimates namely as on 31st march, 1991 is as under:

Rs. crores

(i)	Government account	66044
(ii)	IMF	4389
(iii)	Non-Government	2346
(iv)	Commercial Borrowings	26706
Total		99485

(i) and (ii). Are borrowings by the Government itself. So the question of guarantee does not arise. No-Government account borrowings (i.e. borrowings from multilateral or bilateral sources by non-Government institutions) are generally required to be guaranteed. For commercial borrowings which comprise loans, bonds and exports credits, the share of government guaranteed debt outstanding was estimated to be Rs. 18724 crores. Adding this to the figure of

non-Government account borrowing, Government guaranteed debt can be arrived at as Rs. 21070 crores as on 31.3.1991 at current prices.

(b) and (c). The percentage of Government guaranteed commercial borrowings to total government guaranteed foreign debt based on above clarification and the average rate of interest paid on such borrowings during the last years is as under:

Financial Year	percentage Share	Average Interest(%)
1988-89	91.3	7.7
1989-90	90.7	8.3
1990-91	88.9.	8.1

(d) The total Government guaranteed commercial borrowings outstanding as on 31st march, 1991 is estimated to be Rs. 18724 crores. The estimated interest payable during the financial year 1991-92 (Using average March, 1991 exchange rates) is Rs. 1392 crores.

The figures for the first quarter of the current financial year are not available.

Rajiv Gandhi Foundation

7145. SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rajiv Gandhi Foundation was constituted by a resolution or notification by the Union Government;

(b) if not, the names of promoters/trustees/ office bearers of the Foundation;

(c) whether it is a registered trust or society and if so, the date and place of its registration and where its office is situated;

(d) the aims and objects and proposed activities as incorporated in the trust deed or constitution or Memorandum of Association;

(e) if a private trust, the main corpus of the trust collected or donated and donated by whom and rules for disbursement of funds, if any, formulated;

(f) whether the government have exempted the grants and donations to this Foundation from income-tax and other taxes, other concessions given to the foundation;

(g) whether the Foundation had approached the Government for grants or help; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The trustees of the Foundation are:

Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma

Smt. Soina Gandhi

Shri Rahul Gandhi

Ms. Priyanka Gandhi

Sh. Amitabh Bachchan

Sh. Suman Dubey

Sh. N.K. Seshan

Sh. Sunil Nehru.

(c) It is a registered trust, registered with the Sub-Registrar, New Delhi, on June 21, 1991 in New Delhi. Its office is located in 1, Akbar Road, New Delhi.

(d) The objects and purposes of the foundation are to institute programmes, projects and awards and to undertake research for encouraging the application of science and technology in the service of the people, particularly the poor and deprived; to undertake the propagation people, particularly the poor and deprived; to undertake the of literacy through programmes, projects and awards under its own auspices or of other agencies; to generate activities and research and the propagation of ideas to meet the challenge of the twenty-first century, including promotion of science and technology, the role of India in the global economy, the protection of the environment, communal harmony and national integration, the uplift of the under-privileged, women and handicapped and the reform and strengthening of the administration and public institutions; to institute special programmes for the health and care of the aged, the vulnerable and dispossessed, the handicapped, women, and children and to generate employment and skills among the youth and to institute awards of excellences and the propagation of the highest standards in the field of aviation.

There shall be no discrimination on the

grounds of race, religion, caste, creed, community or sex in carrying out the above objects,

(e) The foundation is not a private trust.

(f) the foundation has been recognised as a charitable institution for purposes of section 80G of the Income-tax Act. it has also been approved under section 35 (1) (ii) of the Income-tax Act as a scientific research institution, donations, to which are eligible for deduction under section 80 GG of the Income-tax Act.

(g) No, Sir,

(h) Does not arise.

Army Personnel Killed in Sri Lanka

7146. SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN: will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian soldiers/officers killed in the IPKF operations against the LTTE militants in Sri Lanka till their withdrawal;

(b) the number of soldiers wounded including those seriously injured and disabled;

(c) the number of troops who had been captured by the LTTE and released, handed over, or still under their detention or missing;

(d) the expenditure involved in IPKF operations; and

(e) the estimates of LTTE militants or their civilian supporters killed, or injured, in the operations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S.

KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b). Number of Defence Services personnel killed and

wounded during IPKF operations is as follows:-

		<i>Killed</i>	<i>Injured</i>
(i)	Officers	55	162
(ii)	JCOs	77	192
(iii)	ORs	1033	2657

(c) During the operations, reports regarding the missing personnel were received from time to time. When a person is reported missing the prescribed procedure is followed to try and ascertain the whereabouts of such personnel. If the person is not traced within six months, he is presumed dead. 28 missing ORs falling in this category have been presumed dead.

(d) Verified accounts of the total expenditure incurred on the IPKF operations have not so far been separately computed.

(e) Reliable information regarding the casualties suffered by the LTTE are not available.

Import of Major Commodities

7147. **SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the pattern of destination-wise imports of major commodities and items imported into India during 1987-88, 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91 and value of imports of major items from different countries;

(b) whether the source pattern in respect of imports has changed in any decisive way in relation to any major items and commodities during these years; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) (a) to (c). A Statement indicating India's imports of Major commodities by major destinations during the years 1987-88 to 1990-91 is attached. There has not been any substantial shift in the source pattern of major imports during this period.

STATEMENT

(Value : Rs. Crores)

	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90 (P)	1990-91 (P)
Major Commodities/ Items of Imports from Major Countries				
1	2	3	4	5
Machinery	2614	2655	3213	3940
Germany	585	518	635	824
USA	494	535	647	700
Japan	446	427	472	586
UK	244	277	291	337
Italy	136	122	155	252
Singapore	79	117	206	190
France	133	116	145	156
Switzerland	62	73	84	114

(Value : Rs. Crores)					
	1	2	3	4	5
<i>Major Commodities/ Items of Imports from Major Countries</i>	<i>1987-88</i>	<i>1988-89</i>	<i>1989-90 (P)</i>	<i>1990-91 (P)</i>	
Pearls precious and semi precious stones	2018	2866	4242	3732	
Belgium	1110	1596	2285	2283	
UK	701	922	1612	1122	
Israel	85	164	177	132	
USA	30	51	87	101	
Switzerland	2	6	13	19	
Hong Kong	11	11	30	18	
Iron and Steel	1236	1751	2019	1984	
Germany	270	453	561	469	
Japan	325	399	434	426	

(Value : Rs. Crores)

<i>Major Commodities/ Items of Imports from Major Countries</i>	<i>1987-88</i>	<i>1988-89</i>	<i>1989-90 (P)</i>	<i>1990-91 (P)</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
Brazil	27	75	55	146
USA	21	71	138	117
UK	130	151	142	116
France	85	118	100	113
Korea Rep.	46	58	69	92
Electrical Machinery	1093	1598	1922	1741
Japan	266	440	580	426
USA	147	204	300	320
Germany	145	156	197	206
Singapore	101	161	162	153

(Value : Rs. Crores)

Major Commodities/ Items of Imports from Major Countries	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90 (P)	1990-91 (P)
1	2	3	4	5
UK	79	84	98	113
France	51	114	108	80
Chinese Taipei	24	39	56	65
Transport Equipment	760	766	1526	1638
Japan	247	310	267	476
France	139	64	811	383
Australia	5	8	6	165
USA	23	39	146	150
Singapore	20	17	21	139
Netherlands	17	46	5	69

(Value : Rs. Crores)

Major Commodities/ Items of Imports from Major Countries	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90 (P)	1990-91 (P)
1	2	3	4	5
U.K.	68	64	60	59
Germany	60	49	50	53
Italy	20	16	16	25
Organic Chemicals	676	1119	1348	1600
USA	100	150	204	278
Germany	121	179	193	225
Netherlands	62	114	188	179
Japan	57	104	188	174
Italy	60	69	89	90
Belgium	45	63	57	84
UK	57	37	47	84
Saudi Arabia	19	144	80	73

P : Provisional

Source: DGCI & S, Calcutta.

[*Translation*]

Compensation to the Victims of Road Accidents

7148. SHRISURYA NARAYAN YADAV:
Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT
be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to raise the amount of compensation in the hit and run cases;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the victims of accident or their dependents do not get any compensation till the vehicle involved in the accident is seized; and

(d) if so, the reasons for not providing full compensation in such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF SURFACE
TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a)
and (b). Yes, Sir. No final decision on the quantum of increased compensation has been taken.

(c) No, Sir.

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

Motor Accidents Claims

7149. SHRISURYA NARAYAN YADAV:
Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT
be pleased to state:

(a) the number of claims relating to motor accidents pending for disposal till August 31, 1991;

(b) the reasons for delay in settlement of these claims; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken for expedited disposal of these cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF SURFACE
TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a)
Information is being collected and will be laid
on the Table of the House.

(b) The reasons for delay include:-

1. Inadequate staff
2. Cumbersome Court Procedures.
3. Issue of notices to the Respondents.
4. Filling of written statements by the Respondents.
5. Framing of issues by Tribunal/Petitioners.
6. Examination of witnesses and
7. Recording of evidence by Tribunal.

(c) State Government as also the Nationalised Insurance Companies have been asked to take appropriate action for speedy disposal of the claim cases.

[*English*]

Measures to Control Drug Menace

7150. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the legislature measures on Narcotic Drugs have proved ineffective in tackling the drug menace; and

(b) if so, what effective steps the Government propose to take to make the law more rigorous and to make the existing enforcement machinery more stringent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESWAR THAKUR) : (a) and (b): Various new and stringent legislative measures introduced in India in the recent years have been effective in discouraging drug trafficking in and through India. These measures include provisions for rigorous imprisonment from 10 to 30 years, death penalty for repeat offences in certain cases, making drug trafficking a non-bailable offence, trial of such offences in special courts for speedy disposal, and freezing and forfeiture of traffickers financial assets and properties derived from illicit drug trafficking. The legislative measures coupled with a multi-pronged enforcement drive carried out by various enforcement agencies in the country have proved to be effective in tackling drug menace.

Repair of National Highway No.47

7151. SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Highway No. 47 passing through Alleppey District has been damaged by flood at several places;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government for the repairs of the highway; and

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

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Maintenance of National Highway is a continuing activity and the State PWD is taking necessary action to carry out the urgent repairs to keep National Highways in a traffic worthy condition.

Legislation for Marriage with a Foreigner

7152. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Union Government proposed to bring forward legislation making it mandatory to obtain the prior approval of the government for marriage with a foreigner:

(b) if so, the details thereof?

(c) whether there is any such restriction at present in relation to any class of citizens or Government employees; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE, AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KUMARMANGALAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) . Rule 8 of the Indian Foreign Service (Conduct and Discipline) Rules, 1961, as amended in 1986, provides inter alia that a member of the Indian Foreign Service shall not contract a marriage with any person other than an Indian citizen without the prior permission in writing of the Government.

Marriage between Indians And Saudis

7153. SHRI MORESWAR SAEV: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state;

(a) whether Saudi Embassy had requested the Union Government to advise Muslim institutions and centres, which solemnise marriages, not to confirm contracts of marriage between the Indians and the Saudis, without the permission of the Embassy and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The said communication of the Embassy states that with a view to safeguard the interests of both the parties in case of marriage between Saudi National and Indian Nationals the Muslim institutions and centre authorised to solemnise marriages may be advised not to confirm the marriage contract in case where one party happens to be a Saudi national unless they provide a written permission of the Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia in New Delhi.

Instructions by the Government, as provided in the Passport Manual to deal with the cases of Indian Woman married to Arabs are as follows:

"A number of Muslims ladies are marrying Arabs. . In some cases, Government's attention is drawn to their being exploited while abroad. While it is not possible to deny passport facilities to adults, who are married according to their own laws, it is nonetheless essential to protect their interests. The Passport Authorities are required to exercise, the caution in issuing passport to such ladies, after they have fully satisfied themselves and have received recommendations from our Missions as per the prescribed procedure.

The Passport Authorities are further requested to issue them a limited validity passport for two years and intimate passport particulars to the concerned Indian Mission, which would then be in a position to look after their welfare. The passports may be renewed for a further restrictive/normal period after the Consular Officers have satisfied themselves and after getting clearance from the original passport authority."

Apart from the above matter is under consideration of the Government as to how best the situation can be met with legally.

[Translation]

Utilisation of Bank Deposits in Bihar on Development Works

7154. SHRI RAM TAHAL CH-
 OUDHURY:
 SHRI NAWAL KISHORE
 RAI:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the number of branches of nationalised banks in Bihar and the total amount deposited therein;

(b) the per capita investment made in Bihar by the commercial banks and how does it compare with other States; and

(c) the percentage of the total deposits with the banks utilised in Bihar on development works?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) As at the end of June 1991, 2953 branches of public sector Banks were functioning in Bihar, Aggregate deposits of Public Sector Banks in Bihar on the last

Friday of December, 1990, were Rs. 8150 crores.

(b) The per-capita deployment of gross credit by all the scheduled commercial banks in Bihar as at the end of December, 1990 (latest available) was Rs. 488. The per-capita deployment of credit by all the sched-

uled commercial banks in Bihar and other states is given in the attached statement.

(c) The concept of utilisation of deposits for sector-wise credit deployment is not relevant. The deposits, credit and credit:deposit ratio of all scheduled commercial banks as at the end of March, 1991 is given below.

Deposits	Credit	Credit:Deposit Ratio 2.25
9332	3698	39.5%

STATEMENT

Statement showing the per-capita deployment of credit by all scheduled commercial Banks in Bihar and other States as at the end of December, 1990.

Sl. No.	Name of States	Amount of rupees
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1588
2.	Assam	542
3.	Bihar	488
4.	Gujarat	1846
5.	Haryana	1715
6.	Himachal Pradesh	1132
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	1274
8.	Karnataka	2072
9.	Kerala	1693
10.	Madhya Pradesh	931
11.	Maharashtra	4353
12.	Manipur	489
13.	Meghalaya	537
14.	Nagaland	1154

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of States</i>	<i>Amount of rupees</i>
15.	Orissa	759
16.	Punjab	2508
17.	Rajasthan	843
18.	Sikkim	745
19.	Tamil Nadu	2566
20.	Tripura	785
21.	Uttar Pradesh	775
22.	West Bengal	1746
23.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1786
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	395
25.	Goa	4551
26.	Mizoram	587

Recovery of Bad Debts of Nationalised Banks

7155. SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN:
Will the MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up special courts for recovering bad debts of the nationalised banks.

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) if not, what other measures are being considered for recovering the dues of the banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR

SINGH): (a) to (c). The Committee set up to examine the legal and other difficulties faced by the banks and financial institutions in rehabilitation of sick industrial undertakings (Tiwari Committee) had also gone into the issue of recovery of dues. The Committee, inter-alia, recommended the establishment of special tribunals to adjudicate on all matters in relation to recovery of dues of Banks and Financial Institutions. At present, the banks and financial institutions adopt a variety of measures for recovery of overdues. These include pursuing the matter of recovery of with the concerned units as well as their guarantors to fulfil their guarantee obligations. The rescheduling of loans is also resorted to in deserving cases. In respect of certain non-value units the institutions also go in for a one-time settlement. In excep-

tional cases, where measures fail, the bank and financial institutions recall their loans and file recovery suits.

Investment Limit for Tiny Sector Units

7156. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be please to state:

(a) whether the investment limit for tiny units has been raised from Rs. 2 lakhs to Rs. 5 lakhs which may include loans as well as working capital;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether in view of the raising of the investment limit for tiny sector, commercial banks would be eligible for 100 percent refinance from SIDBI to enlarge the flow of assistance for tiny sector for term loans as well as working capital ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). The Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has reported that under the latest policy measures for small, tiny and village enterprises, the limit of investment to the plant and machinery in respect of tiny enterprises has inter-alia been increased from Rs. 2 lakhs to Rs. 5 lakhs irrespective of location of the unit. This limit pertains only to investment in plant and machinery and does not include working capital.

(c) and (d). With a view to accelerating the flow of assistance to tiny and small projects in the Small Scale Sector, the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has liberalised its reference scheme by raising the extent of refinance against term loans granted by the commercial banks upto and including Rs. 5 lakh as per unit to 100% w.e.f. January 1, 1991. Moreover the

working capital granted by commercial banks would be in the nature of short term advances and such would not be covered under its refinances scheme.

Share Capital of Railways In Kerala State Road Transport Corporation

7157. KODIKKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has submitted any memorandum regarding share capital of the Railways in the Kerala State Road Transport Corporation; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto and the amount given to the KSRTC by the Railways under this scheme?

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

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

[Translation]

Export of Iron Ore

7158. SHRI SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the existing policy and value pf export of iron and other metal ores;

(b) the quantity and the value of various ores exported during the last three years, country-wise ;

(c) whether the Government proposes to revise the existing export policy ;

(d) If so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) and (b). A statement giving the existing policy on export of iron and other metal ores (chroma ore, manganese ore and bauxite) and the country wise exports in quantity and value thereof during the last three years is attached.

(c) No, Sir,

(d) Does not arise

STATEMENT

Iron Ore

Export of iron ore, except iron ore of Goan and Redi origin, is canalised through the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India Limited (MMTC). Export of iron ore of Goan origin is allowed directly under OGL-3, subject to registration of contractors with Goa Mineral Ore Exporters Association (GMOEA) to the Markets of Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, China and Europe. Iron Ore of Redi origin is also now allowed for export directly under OGL-3, subject to the registration of contractors with GMOEA. Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited (KIOCL) is al-

lowed to export its products viz: iron ore concentrates and pellets, directly to all markets.

Manganese Ore and Chrome Ore

Chrome Ores and Concentrates, namely (i) Chroma Ore lumps with Cr2O3 not exceeding 38% and (ii) Low Silica friable/fine ore with Cr2O3 not exceeding 52% and silica exceeding 4% are canalised through MMTC. Manganese ore excluding lumpy/blended manganese ore with more than 48% manganese are canalised through MMTC.

The Precise Quantity and grades of these ores to be allowed for exports are decided in consultation with the Department of Steel every licensing year.

Bauxite

Low grade bauxite with alumina content Al₂O₃ less than 54% of west coast origin stands decanalised w.e.f. 14th August, 1991. All other grades of bauxite except Calcined Bauxite is banned for exports.

The precise quantity and grades of this ore to be allowed for export are decided in consultation with the Department of Mines every licensing year.

STATEMENT

Qty: in lakh tonnes

Value : Rs. crores

MANGANESE ORE

By Minerals & Metals Trading Corporation of India Limited (MMTC)

Country	1988-89		1989-90		1990-91	
	Q	V	Q	V	Q	V
Japan	0.66	2.65	0.52	2.90	0.46	4.74
S. Korea	1.46	6.06	1.08	9.96	1.16	14.70
Romania	0.26	0.62	0.82	10.97	0.00	0.00
Pakistan	0.25	1.04	0.41	3.41	3.14	0.29
Czechoslovakia	0.00	0.00	0.17	2.13	0.00	0.00
Switzerland	0.17	0.92	0.32	2.27	0.73	10.02
Holand	0.00	0.00	0.16	1.58	0.00	0.00

Country	1988-89		1989-90		1990-91	
	Q	V	Q	V	Q	V
Taiwan	0.00	0.00	0.22	3.02	0.00	0.00
W.Germany	0.00	0.00	0.14	1.53	0.00	0.00
Poland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.31	8.27
DPRK	0.14	0.82	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL	2.94	13.11	3.84	88.03	2.95	41.20
CHROME ORE						
Japan	1.65	18.58	0.44	10.19	0.00	0.00
China	2.23	29.24	1.89	45.68	1.78	33.66
Phillipines	0.89	11.54	0.16	3.72	0.15	3.01
Taiwan	0.09	0.71	0.10	1.63	0.00	0.00
DPRK	0.00	0.00	0.13	3.62	0.00	0.00
Sweden	0.27	2.64	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Country	1988-89		1989-90		1990-91	
	Q	V	Q	V	Q	V
Romania	0.00	0.00	0.20	2.56	0.00	0.00
Norway	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.35	6.43
TOTAL	5.13	62.71	2.92	67.35	2.28	43.10
BAUXITE						
Middle East	1.99	3.14	2.01	3.90	2.33	5.13
Bangladesh	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.15	0.00	0.00
Romania	0.22	0.37	1.35	2.33	0.00	0.00
Nigeria	0.06	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Kenya	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.14	0.00	0.00
Switzerland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.23	1.56
U S A	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.30	2.23
TOTAL	2.27	3.75	3.43	6.52	2.86	8.92

(P) Provisional

*Country-wise Exports.**Qty. : Million tonnes**Val. : Rs. Crores***IRON ORE***By Minerals & Metals Trading Corporation of India Limited (MMTC)*

Country	1988-89		1989-90		1990-91	
	Q	V	Q	V	Q	V
Japan	10.49	247.25	10.08	33.11	8.60	337.92
Korea Rep.	3.11	71.53	2.91	71.31	3.07	119.14
Pakistan	0.34	6.93	0.39	10.12	0.41	13.52
Rumania	2.36	29.61	2.32	35.74	1.05	20.47
G.D.R.	0.61	11.29	0.70	18.75	0.10	3.57
Others	0.74	14.66	1.12	27.70	0.99	29.89
TOTAL:	17.64	381.27	17.52	496.73	14.22	524.51

By Exporters from Goa:

Country	1988-89		1989-90		1990-91	
	Q	V	Q	V	Q	V
Japan	8.33	133.28	7.87	162.36	9.33	241.36
West Europe	1.67	22.78	2.12	35.56	1.85	44.73
S.Korea	0.99	16.87	0.61	12.96	0.82	22.63
Taiwan	-	-	0.04	0.80	-	-
TOTAL:	10.99	172.93	10.64	211.68	12.00	308.72

By Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Ltd. (KIOCL):

Country	1988-89		1989-90		1990-91	
	Q	V	Q	V	Q	V
Japan	2.367		2.820		3.38	
Bahrain	0.128		0.457		0.14	
Czechoslovakia	0.149		0.168		0.20	
Hungary	0.594		0.531		0.49	
Turkey	0.357		0.325		0.38	
Others	1.080		1.050		1.15	
TOTAL	4.675	116.39	5.356	174.40	5.74	228.49

(P) : Provisional

Export of Black Stone Boulders to Bangladesh

7159. SHRI SIMON MARANDI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether boulders were exported to Bangladesh from black stone quarries at Pakur, Bihar during 1987-89.

(b) if so, the names of the quarries at Pakur and adjoining areas Santhal Pargana along with the quantity exported therefrom;

(c) the details of the quarry owners to whom Payments were made and the amount thereof;

(d) whether the Government have imposed any ban on the export of black stone boulders and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the names of the black stone quarries from which boulders are proposed to be exported by the Government during 1991-92 along with the quantity to be exported and the income to be earned therefrom?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED):

(a) As per DGCI&S classification, export statistics in respect of black stone are not separately maintained. Bihar State Export Construction limited and Indian Railway Corporation Company Limited, the major exporters of stone ballast and boulders to Bangladesh have not exported black stone

boulders to Bangladesh during 1987-89.

(b) and (c). Quarries exports are not being maintained and hence the details asked for are not available.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Quarry-wise exports are not being maintained/monitored.

National Highway in Madhya Pradesh

7160. SHRISATYANARAYANJATIYA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the proposals submitted by the Government of Madhya Pradesh regarding construction of National Highways in the State; and

(b) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Presumably, the Hon'ble Member is having in mind the proposals furnished by the Government of Madhya Pradesh for declaration of State Roads as new National Highways. Their details are given in the attached statement.

(b) It would be possible to take action about declaration of new National Highways only after finalisation of the 8th Five Year Plan, subject to availability of funds and other related factors, including the criteria laid down for declaring new National Highways.

STATEMENT

S.No.	Name of the route	Total Length
1.	Ajmer-Rajgarh-Betul-Nagpur	*322 *(This road is partly in N.H. Net work for 227 Kms)
2.	Gwalior-Jhansi-Khajuraho-Panna-Stana-Reeva-Piperi-Ranchi	512 Kms.
3.	Allahabad-Reeva-Bilaspur-Raipur-Jagdalpur Konta-Rajamundry	614 Kms.
4.	Jabalpur-Arang-Raipur-Berhampur	491 Kms.
5.	Bilaspur-Ambicapur-Aurangabad-Patna	312 Kms.
6.	Ahmedabad-Indore-Bhopal-Sagar-Jabalpur-Ambicapur-Sanchi	1236 Kms.
7.	Varanasi-Ambicapur-Saraipali-Raigarh.	396 Kms.
8.	Behrampur-NH 5-Titalgarh-Kanker-Banda	282 Kms.
9.	Kanpur-Banda-Chattarpur-Sagar	267 Kms.
10.	Jhansi-Chattarpur-Katni-Shahdol-Korba Sohal	750 Kms.

<i>S.No.</i>	<i>Name of the route</i>	<i>Total Length</i>
11.	Ajmer-Chittor-Neemuch-Mandsour-Ratlam- Mhow-Khandeja-Jaigaon	500 Kms.
12.	Jaigaon-Barhanpur-Khandwa-Hoshangabad- Piparia-Narsinghpur-Jabalpur	540 Kms.
13.	Lakhandom-NH 26-Pilani-Kavalari-Ujji-Baleghat- Godia-Jajir-NH6.	220 Kms.
Total:		6215 Kms.

Funds to Bihar for Plan Expenditure

7161. SHRI KAMLA MISHRA MADHKAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Bihar have urged upon the Union Government not to deduct the outstanding amount against the Government of Bihar from the funds to be released for plan expenditure to Bihar for 1991-92 and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHANTARAM POTIDUKHE): (a) and (b). The Chief Minister of Bihar, in his letter dated September 17, 1990 addressed to the former Finance Minister had, inter alia pointed out that it was not desirable to deduct from the Central assistance due to the State, amounts due from the Bihar State Electricity Board to certain Central Undertakings and had also specifically requested that such deductions should not be made in the Central assistance due to the State in the months of September and October, 1990. These suggestions could not be accepted as the various factors brought out by the State government had already been taken into account before taking a decision in the matter. No request has been received from the State Government against making such deductions in the current year (1991-92).

[English]

Collection of Outstanding Amount From Sick Units

7162. SHRI BH. VIJAYA KUMAR RAJU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the action the Government proposes to

take for collection of huge outstanding amounts from the sick small scale industrial Units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): To facilitate collection of outstanding amounts from the sick small scale industrial units, the following action is being taken by financial institutions and banks;

(i) In the case of potentially viable units rehabilitation packages are evolved under which dues of banks and financial institutions are being recovered in a phased manner. (ii) In the case of units which are non-viable and cannot be rehabilitated (a) institutions and banks initiate legal action through issue of recall notices against the borrower for recovery of the outstanding amount of action adopted by banks institutions include filing of suit, sale of stock, entering into companies proposal for one time settlement, etc. Application is made to the courts for sale of the security for the loan and for enforcing the liability of surety, if any; (b) Under Section 29 of State Financial Corporations Act, 1951, the SFCs have the right to take over the management or possession or both of the industrial concerns in default. They also have the right to transfer by way of lease or sale and realise the property pledged, mortgaged, hypothecated or assigned to the SFCs. Further, under Section 32G of the SFCs Act; they can make an application to the State government for recovery of the amount due to them and if the State Government is satisfied it may issue a certificate for the amount to the Collector who shall proceed to recover that amount in the same manner as an arrear of land revenue (c) SFCs have constituted Default Review Committees at their Head Offices & Regional/Branch Offices for review of the cases of defaulting units in their portfolio and arrive at negotiated settlements with the borrowers.

[*Translation*]

Loans Outstanding against Big Industrialists

1763. P.R. GANGWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the names of the big industrialists against whom loans are outstanding and the amount of loan outstanding against each one of them; and

(b) the details of steps taken to recover the loan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) In accordance with the practices and usages customary amongst the bankers and the financial institutions and the statutes governing them, information relating to, or to the affairs of their individual constituents is not divulged.

(b) The public sector banks have been instructed by RBI to review all borrowal accounts periodically. Whenever the conduct of an individual account reveals irregularities, steps are taken to regularise the advance and, if they fail, loans are recalled and various measures taken to recover the dues including resorting to legal proceedings against the borrowers and the guarantors, if any.

12.00 hrs.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I am allowing the Lady Member to speak.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHALIA (Ju-

nagarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you for granting me permission to speak during zero hour.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Central Government to a very urgent matter.

Gujarat produces largest quantity of groundnut in the country. During the last few days the groundnut crop has been affected by the 'Rataria' disease and 'Lashkari' pest is damaging it in Saurashtra area. At a time when supply of oilseeds has become a matter of concern to all, it has become even more essential to save this crop. Therefore, through you, I would like to request the Central Government to take immediate steps in this direction. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I am calling Shri Sudersan Raychaudhuri to speak.

SHRI SUDERSAN RAYCHAUDHURI (Serampore): Sir, the Indian Council of World Affairs, New Delhi, is a prestigious academic institution of our country providing facilities for research and study of the world affairs and foreign policy. It has gained international reputation and the names of luminaries like Shri Tej Bahadur Sapru, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and Dr. Rajendra Prasad are associated with this institution. Unfortunately, during the last several years, utter mismanagement and gross misappropriation of funds have been reported and these have even ruined the institution. Number of bogus members is increasing day by day. Important books and documents are decaying and they are pest-stricken. I have these books with me and I can show you that. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MURLI DEORA (Bombay South): How were you allowed to bring these books?

SHRI SUDERSAN RAYCHAUDHURI: Members have taken these books from the Delivery Lending Section.

Staff and employees are not getting

their salaries. The NF Government under the circumstances introduced a Bill to take over the institution so that it may function properly. The Bill was passed, I suppose, by the Rajya Sabha in the month of September last year. But after that the Ninth Lok Sabha was dissolved. Now the Government is remaining a silent spectator about the ruin of this institution. I do not know what are the reasons for this. Whom are you going to shield?

I demand immediate attention of the Government and something should be done to save this institution. Let the External Affairs Minister intervene immediately in this and give a statement in this House. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa): We share the concern of the hon. Member and we have all our support for this. I think, the Government must come forward with a Bill that had been passed in the Rajya Sabha and get it passed in the Lok Sabha immediately. *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had tried to raise an issue when the question hour began at 11.00 o'clock.

MR. SPEAKER: I am not allowing you to speak on that topic. So please don't try to do it again.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: I would not try to do that. How have you come to know what I have not still done? I may not have been a law student yet I do understand the limitations of our conduct. I would not speak anything contrary to your position.

MR. SPEAKER: It is the question of the honour of the Constitution, of the country and of the Parliament of this country.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: I promise to keep honour of all that. Today is an historic day for our country when as many as one

hundred and six members of Parliament consisting of all political parties, irrespective of party affiliation, including members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes prepared a joint memorandum which contained three main demands.

MR. SPEAKER: It would be expunged from the record of the House, if the speech is not relevant to the subject. I allotted a ten hour discussion times to it.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: I agree with you, you may expunge it from the proceedings of the House if you find it out of subject.

We went to Rashtrapati Bhawan to submit one memorandum containing five main demands which included land reforms, legislation for reservation, to clear backlog, reservations in Rajya Sabha, Legislative Council and Judiciary and in the field of education. We could not meet the President. We come back after submitting our memorandum to his officers, though we were quite hopeful to meet the President.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I think that Rashtrapati is advised by the Council of Ministers and Council of Ministers is not advised by Rashtrapathiiji.... *(Interruptions)*...

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir with your permission, I would like to submit about the constitution of a Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes which has already been granted constitutional status. For the last one and half years a national commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has not been appointed. On 31st March, 1990 the Parliament had passed an important Bill to constitute a commission and to give it a Constitutional status by passing the constitution (Sixty Fifth Amendment) Bill. The President assented to the Bill on 7 June, 1990 but till today it has not been constituted.

With the result, the post of the National Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Commissioner has been lying vacant and its working has come to a standstill for the last three months for which purpose this Bill has been brought forwards. Since this Commission has not been constituted, a fair inquiry into incidents of atrocities is not possible because there are no other branches or departments of this Commission. The Commissioner has to rely on the reports provided by those State Governments and district administration whose interests lie in keeping the real facts in dark. The Commissioner does not have the authority to order someone to collect factual information. It cannot take actions to check the atrocities. Some Members of the ruling party... (*Interruptions*)... since there has been no consensus among the party members on the issue of person to be fit for the post of Commissioner, post is left vacant for quite sometime. Much time is spent on the discussion on issue of atrocities, the central objective is the constitution of commission so that the complaints can be attended by the Commission - an objective for which is has been granted Constitutional status. Why then it is not constituted? Government should clarify its stand on this issue in the House.

[*English*]

SHRI BH. VIJAYAKUMAR RAJU: You are allowing others and you are not allowing us. This is a very important subject.

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow you. Please sit down.

SHRI PETER G. MARBANIANG (Shillong): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the postal employees of North-Eastern Region comprising of Meghalaya, Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Tripura and also part of Assam are denied of the Special Duty Allowance as granted by the Central Government from November 1983. The Special Duty Allowance was specially granted to the Central Government Employees serving in North-Eastern Region on the basis of the peculiar geographical condition, bottle-necked com-

munication/transportation and comparatively high cost of living with the pre-condition of the facility that the employees having All-India transfer liability will be entitled for the said allowance. The Group 'C' and Group 'D' employees of the Postal Department having all-India transfer liability will be entitled for the said allowance like its counterpart Telecom employees of the North-Eastern Region. The CAT, Guwahati, in its verdict in 1989, had issued a direction to the authorities to pay the Special Duty Allowance to all Group 'C' and Group 'D' employees of North-Eastern Region. The Ministry of Communication did not honour this verdict of the CAT, Guwahati.

I urge upon the Ministry of Communication to make an immediate payment of the Special Duty Allowance with all the arrears to the Postal employees of North-Eastern Region with the same terms and conditions as applicable to the Telecom Wing employees..... (*Interruptions*)...

[*Translation*]

SHRI BRISHIN PATEL (SIWAN): On 11.9.91, under the leadership of Union Minister Shri Rajesh Pilot, against the Bihar Government..... (*Interruptions*).....

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Have you given a notice to Mr. Rajesh Pilot?... (*Interruptions*)... You inform him and then raise it tomorrow.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BRISHIN PATEL: Please listen to me ... (*Interruptions*)...

MR. SPEAKER: You please listen, if you want to speak anything against any member, give notice today then speak on it tomorrow.... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI BRISHIN PATEL: I withdraw the name... (*Interruptions*)...

MR. SPEAKER: Now you have already

spoken the name and that has been recorded...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. SPEAKER: You may also do what Shri George Fernandes had done.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow you tomorrow.

[Translation]

SHRI BRISHIN PATEL: You have allowed me to speak...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. SPEAKER: Be seated, please. I have not allowed you....*(Interruptions)*...

MR. SPEAKER: This may relate to you also, if it relates to you, it is my duty to protect you. That is why I am asking you that you should tell him about it in advance.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BRISHIN PATEL: I want to speak now because I have to go today. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The Parliamentary business is more essential. You take case of other business later on.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BRISHIN PATEL: I withdraw my name.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I am not allowing you.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: This House will not run according to your will. I have not said that I shall not allow you. You may speak tomorrow

after mentioning it to him.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I am not giving you the time.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not argue like this.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am not allowing you.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You, please sit down. I am not allowing you.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. The rule I am applying will project you as well. Sometimes, any member may raise his voice against you by taking the plea that I had allowed him to do so, which could not be heard by him.

[English]

On the floor of the House, I am saying that I will allow you tomorrow.

[Translation]

Even then you are going on trying to speak.

[English]

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You should understand what I am saying.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack): Sir I

would like to draw your attention and the attention of the entire House towards the alarming situation of Koraput district of Orissa. Nearly 2000 tribal people have died within a span of only one month due to epidemics like diarrhoea and gastroenteritis. The Health Department and the Government of Orissa are trying to control these epidemics but they have to get help to control these epidemics and so, they have sought the assistance of the Government of India. But the Government of India has not responded so far. This is the situation in the tribal areas of Koraput and Kalahandi districts. Every year people die but no body takes cognizance of this. Within a span of only one month, 2000 tribal people have died, but the national Press has not taken it seriously and a line has not been published. If one man is killed in Delhi or in the periphery of Delhi, it takes place in the front page of the national Press. But here, 2000 tribal people have died and even the Ministers are not concerned, the Government of India is not concerned, the Press and the electronic media are not concerned. Koraput is a backward district in the country. Therefore, I request you to kindly direct the Government to immediately assist the State Government and help to control the epidemics so that the situation there will return to normalcy.

MR. SPEAKER: As this pertains to the tribal area, I would request the Minister to please look into it and extend help to the extent possible.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHIV SHARAN VERMA (Machhlishahar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to tell you, about the odd situation faced by me. Sir, I had been a member in the 9th Lok Sabha also, but no flat has yet been allotted to me...(*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: I shall talk to you, I will help you.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You, come to me, I will help you fully. Such issues cannot be raised in the House. Whatever you are saying will not go on record. You come to me, I will help you.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Roserā): Mr. Speaker, Sir, he is a very senior member and it is his third term. As per your instruction if any member's residence is to be shifted or his residence is to be vacated, you must be consulted before doing so. He was in the hospital...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing is going on record.

(*Interruptions*)*

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: You talk to me please. I shall call the officers concerned.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I am telling you that all this is not going on record. Come to me, I shall talk to the officers.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat, come to me, I will help you.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (Ahemadabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, due to Textile Policy of 1985 a number of textile mills in the country have been closed. Gujarat, especially, is the worst victim of this policy where 26 textile mills have been lying closed for the last 4-5 years. In 1986 the Central Government had formulated a scheme namely "Textile Workers Rehabilitation Fund Scheme" under which 12000 retrenched workers were paid their dues amounting to Rs. 23 cores 65 lakh. Mr.

*Not recorded.

Speaker, Sir, there are 14000 more jobless workers who are eligible for these facilities but are still waiting to get their dues. Though they have completed the necessary formalities seven years earlier. The Government has sanctioned the amount but these poor workers have not yet received it. They have been jobless for the last 7 years. Some sort of objection is always raised in regard to their payment. Diwali is at hand but their lots are still unchanged. Many of them have committed suicide. No one is taking any care of their plight. In the previous Textile Committee I happened to be a member and then we with our efforts have made some funds sanctioned for them. Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is the issue of life and death for them. It is my request that the sanctioned amount may be disbursed among them immediately.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am related directly to the city of Ahmedabad. The hon. Minister of Finance is present in the House. He might be knowing that whenever the Industrial policy has been discussed here, doubts have always been expressed regarding the condition of the labourers and the impact on them of the changes made in the industrial policy. We are very much concerned about their lot. The Government has always been giving assurances that the interests of the labourers will always be protected. Time will tell as to how far these assurances are fulfilled. But the reality is that 26 thousands labourers of Ahmedabad, Gandhi Nagar which I represent, became jobless and unemployed as a result of the amendment in the Textile Policy in 1985. The scheme which was formulated to protect the interest of the labourers, could help 12000 workers and that too after vigorous efforts and the remaining 14 thousands are still in a very miserable condition.

I urge upon the Government to take immediate steps to give benefits of the scheme to those 14 thousand labourers also. Otherwise it would be very difficult to support the future amendments however good enough they may be.

[English]

SHRI RADHIKA RANJAN PRAMANIK (Mathurapur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, under Rule 222, I have given a privilege notice, in reply to my unstarred question No.6416, dated the 10 September 1991, regarding the revitalisation of the coal-based magnetic hydrodynamic (MHD) power plant (5 MW), the Minister of Power and Non-Conventional Energy Sources gave a reply that the coal based MHD powerplant has been successfully demonstrated at the experimental level, proving the technical feasibility of generating electricity using MHD technology.

In the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended on 31 March 1990, No. 2 of 1991, Union Government (Scientific Departments), it is categorically mentioned that the pilot plant was being run on LPG instead of coal, contravening the approved project proposal in which it had been stated that MHD technology once mastered with coal, could subsequently be developed with gas, but the reverse would not naturally follow.

The objective of the programme to set up coal-based MHD power plant for creating indigenous capability for generating power economically, using MHD technology is still a distant goal.

This project has incurred an expenditure of Rs.26 crores and has taken 13 years. The statement of the Hon. Minister is against the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General...

MR. SPEAKER: No Please. You do not have to read it. You have given the notice. I have to look into it.

SHRI RADHIKA RANJAN PRAMANIK: This is a very vital issue and the statement made by the Minister is untrue.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: First, we must compliment the Hon. Member. He has found out from the CAG Report a very technical matter.

MR. SPEAKER: It should not be raised like this. Let me see if it can be admitted and then only I can give consent.

[*Translation*]

*SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (V.S.Palghat): Tens of thousands of Malayalees had to flee Kuwait after its invasion by Iraq last year, leaving behind all their savings. As a temporary measure of help to these people, the Government of India fixed the exchange rate of Dinar. But this was very low. Even at the time of crisis in Kuwait, the exchange rate of Dinar was more than sixty rupees, but the Government of India paid them only Rs.25. They were assured by the Government that when normalcy is restored, the balance amount would be paid. Today the circumstances have changed and the present exchange rate of Kuwait Dinar is Rs.85. When these people approached the banks for the balance amount, they have been told by the bank authorities that nothing could be done without the permission of the Government.

Although the Government has helped these people in many ways, many of them are not able to go back to Kuwait. In this situation, it is only just and proper that they should be paid the existing exchange rate of Dinar.

Sir, the Hon. Finance Minister is present here. I would request him to help these people. They have earned valuable foreign exchange for our country. Most of them have come back leaving all their savings there. So, at least on humanitarian grounds, you should help them.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Yesterday you had come to me and you had informed me as to what you are going to raise today. If it can be admitted; if it can go on record, it will go on record otherwise, I will put it out of the record.

So, you shall have to make the statement very carefully. I am allowing you to make the statement but I will see if it can go on record.

SHRI D. VENKATESWAR RAO (Bapatia): Sir, in the State of Andhra Pradesh a series of incidents took place resulting in a huge loss to the Government exchequer, that too not in rupee but in foreign exchange. The loss is not in a single digit; not one crore, ten crores or hundred crores, but it is coming to thousands of crores.

One granite mine, worth about Rs.5,000 crores, has been found in Ongole district of Andhra Pradesh. It is spread over to 150 acres of land and has the depth of 30 metre. Out of this, 60 acres of land coasting about Rs. 2,500 crores has been sold to four persons. About hundred applicants, who have got export oriented projects, were denied the opportunity and in the morning an application was taken from the Member named*.....

MR. SPEAKER: The name will not go on record.

SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO: And the next day they allotted about 60 acres of mining lease worth about Rs.2,500 crores to four persons.

MR. SPEAKER: Reference to State Legislature's activity will not go on record.

SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO: They cancelled this lease. This prima facie shows that the State Government is guilty of it.

The other incident which we brought to the notice of the Hon. Prime Minister and other ministries is regarding Singareni Collieries. Singareni Collieries have got an Open Cast Mining Stage II project which is estimated to cost about Rs. 270 crores. But, unfortunately the Singareni Collieries bogged down and went for the German technology which costs about Rs.470 crores. In the

*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Malayalam.

beginning stage, the Singareni Collieries passed a resolution on the 21st January, 1991 requesting in the reduction in the cost of project by Rs.35 crores. After 30 days they passed another resolution, without caring for the earlier resolution, and they straightaway said that they are going to enter into a contract whereby there has been about Rs.200 crores loss to the Government exchequer, which is again in the foreign exchange.

Then there is another thing. The World Bank has given about Rs. 217 million crores for the Sri Sailam project in the State of Andhra Pradesh. There were about 35 applicants. Out of these 35 applicants the conditions were laid down in such a manner that only five were able to get the order. There also, about Rs.90 crores in excess was given and there was an exchange of the order of about Rs.14 crores between the Government and the main parties. The result is that there is no need for any external aid. About Rs. 700 crore was given for Cyclone Relief Fund by the World Bank but that was utilised by their own people. The work was entrusted to them on a nomination basis.

Why should we bring all the money from outside? Every time, the hon. Prime Minister and the Hon. Finance Minister use to tell us that we are in a great financial crisis. Our external debt is so much, our deficit is so much and so on. Thousands of crores of rupees are wasted like this. So, we are borrowing money from outside, that is from the World Bank and so on, and we are wasting it. It is a matter of shame for people like us, who are sitting here and watching and not doing anything. If such types of malpractices are done by high officials, then we demand a high-powered Committee to go into this (*Interruptions*).

SHRI BH. VIJAYAKUMAR RAJU (Narasapur): Sir, we demand that a high-powered Committee should be appointed to go into the merits of the case. (*Interruptions*)*

MR. SPEAKER: It is not going on record. Please take your seats. I am standing. You know that one your colleagues had done it very ably. Why do you want just to speak at one and the same time?

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BH. VIJAYAKUMAR RAJU: We are demanding that a high-powered Committee should be appointed by the Prime Minister to go into this. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I am not allowing reference to the Committee of the Legislature, in this House. Suppose if you are to the activities etc. in other Legislatures, they will also refer to your activities here. Please understand it. I have said that your colleague has done it quite rightly and you do not have to repeat it. It is not necessary. We are coming to the fag end of this Session. There are many Members who also want to raise their issues. I am going to allow them in deference to their wishes. Please sit down now.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARPAL PANWAR (Kairana): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention towards the Delhi-Saharanpur via Baramulla-Shamli Railway line. The Government of India has withdrawn 9 small halts on this Railway line. The line passes through 3 districts i.e. Muzaffarnagar, Meerut and Saharanpur. The roads in this area are narrow but the density of population is high. So the withdrawing of the halt facility on this line will create a lot of problems for the people. Keeping in view the agriculture importance of the area, it is the most vital part of U.P. Sir, through you I would request the Government of India to review its decision and restore the halt facility immediately. Otherwise the people of the area will have no alternative but to launch an agitation on this issue which may result in blockade of roads and trains and we

too shall not have another option than to participate in that agitation.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, this area is one of the important and fertile areas of Uttar Pradesh. Hence, more facilities should be provided to the people of the area instead of withdrawing whatever little facilities they have got. So, through you it is my request to the hon. Minister of Railways to review his decision and store the halting facility. Sir, through you I would like to say one more thing in this connection that on that railway line there are two railway crossings near Allam 60-70 persons have been killed in accidents during the last 3-4 years while negotiating these two crossings. But manned level crossing have not been so far provided. I have repeatedly requested for provision of manned level crossings there. Besides, the decision to do away with the halt should immediately be withdrawn as people are facing a lot of inconvenience and they would agitate. The problems would also increase.

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA (Firozabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention to a famous pilgrim centre, Bateshwarnath and Lord Mahavir's temple in my constituency. Lord Bateshwarnath's temple is situated between Yamuna and Chambal rivers in Agra district of Uttar Pradesh. Pilgrims from not only within the country but also from foreign countries visit this temple. This is a major tourist centre and the greatest attraction is the animal fair on the occasion of 'Kartik Poonima' wherein lakhs of cows and oxen are sold. The State Government and the Central Government get lot of revenue out of this function.

Just 3 kms. from Bateshwarnath is Shohripur where the temple of Lord Mahavir is situated. People of Jain Community come in large number from Maharashtra, West Bengal, Rajasthan and other parts of the country to visit this temple but there are no adequate facilities of roads etc. as a result they have to face lot of difficulties.

Both Bateshwarnath and the temple of Lord Mahavir in Shohripur are major tourist

places. Thousands of pilgrims visit these places. Last time, when I went there on a visit, people of the area drew my attention to both these pilgrimages and requested that financial assistance should be got sanctioned for beautification of these places from the Ministry of Tourism. Therefore, I request you personally to sanction more and more funds for beautification of Bateshwarnath and Lord Mahavir's temple.

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: You are not giving us an opportunity to speak. You told us yesterday and day before yesterday also that you would give us time to speak, but why are you not allowing us? Have we committed a sin?

MR. SPEAKER: You have taken maximum time. I am allowing others. You will not be allowed anytime today.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MAHENDRA KUMAR SINGH THAKUR (Khandwa): Sir, I want to draw your attention to provide railway facility to Khandwa district ... *(Interruptions)*... I request you to provide a stoppage of Goa Express at Khandwa, Karnataka Express at Bushanpur and Lucknow - Bombay at Harsood so that the people of these places which are predominantly inhabited by Adivasis could be benefited. Providing a stoppage of the Karnataka Express at Burhanpur and Goa Express at Khandwa is essential so that people from these areas could have a direct link to the South. Therefore, I demand that these stoppages should be provided on priority basis.

SHRI RAM NIHOR RAI (Robertsganj): Sir, I want to draw your attention to an important point regarding Sonbhadra and Mirzapur districts which are adjacent to Bihar. The biggest dam in the country i.e. the Rihand dam was inaugurated by Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru in 1963. 30 Years have already passed and every year Rs. 10 lakhs are spent on repairs etc. but infact no work is undertaken. The Hindustan Construction Company had constructed a bridge near the dam. On 5th of

this month an engineer opened the sluice gates when the water level suddenly rose and consequently the bridge was washed away. Shri Virendra Singh paid a visit to that area on the 7th of this month. I would like to give the names of villages which are affected. Means of transportation have collapsed. The Engineer committed a blunder by opening the sluice gates. The capacity of the reservoir is 880. According to rules, some sluice gates should have been opened in the month of August. Had it been done the bridge would not have collapsed, and damage worth crores of rupees could have been avoided. The Engineer was careless and opened twelve sluice gates and as a result the bridge collapsed and several villages were destroyed. Some of the villages are - Bhairva, Khadia, Shaktinagar, Mishra Rehata, Vispur Purankhas, Jogichaurea, Dibulganj, Veena, Khadeeya, Kakri, Dudichua and Chilka Tad. Many other people along with me paid a visit to these affected villages and saw the ruined houses. They were once uprooted when the dam was to be constructed and now once again they have got uprooted. They have not so far got the compensation from the Project authorities. The Chilka Tad village has been destroyed for the fourth time. I would like to demand, through you, that the Harijan and Adivasis whose houses have been washed away should be provided more ration and fuel. Besides, the project authorities should be asked to provide them houses, education to their children, drinking water facility and electricity. Because of the collapse of the bridge of Rihand dam the entire population of Anpara, Shaktinagar, Vindhya Thermal power etc. and Bedan area of Madhya Pradesh are in dire need of foodgrains and fuel. Sir, I would request the hon. Minister of Railways to start a special train to Mirzapur and Varanasi so that foodgrains and other items could reach the needy urgently. The Central Government should take up the construction work of the destroyed bridge on a war footing. The people of this area have got a meagre compensation whereas those living in the area falling under Madhya Pradesh got a good amount.

MR. SPEAKER: Now Shri Bhubaneswar Prasad Mehta's name will go on record.

SHRI BHUBANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA (Hazaribagh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the Government, through you, to the lack of irrigation facilities in Bihar. Not even a single inch of land is irrigated through the dams which have been constructed either by D.V.C., Central Government or the Bihar Government in Chhotanagpur or Santhal Parganas district. So far only 3 percent of the total land in the State has got irrigation facility. Not even single person belonging to those families whose land has been submerged has got employment. Hundreds of villages have been submerged but nobody has got employment in lieu thereof. Siwane Reservoir Scheme, Devkali Reservoir Scheme, Donmashya Scheme and Tillaya Upper Canal Project in Hazaribagh district are pending with the Central Water Commission. There are pending unnecessarily and the commission is not approving them. Sir, I want to submit to the Government that Chhotanagpur, Santhal Pargana and Jharkhand are in Bihar are predominantly Adivasi areas and these have been neglected for quite sometime particularly in respect of irrigation. I demand that a Master Plan be formulated to provide irrigation facilities to these areas and they should not be neglected anymore.

SHRI SARAT CHANDRA PAT-TANAYAK (Bolangir): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to draw your attention to the bridge connecting Bolangir and Kalahandi districts which is being constructed for the last 22 years but has not been completed so far. I feel there might not be any bridge in India or even throughout the world which might have taken 22 years and yet was incomplete. I do not know who is responsible for it - the engineers or the State Government but we have to face the consequences.

Secondly, there is an Ordinance factory in Bolangir where thousands of workers from Kalahandi district come and work. They earn their bread after lot of hard work

but at the same time they have to face lot of hardships also because they cannot return back to their homes in the absence of this bridge. That is why hundreds of people from Bolangir and Kalahandi districts are forced to go to Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar in search of livelihood. They are forced to leave their home and hearth, their mother, sister, brother and children behind them. Therefore, I would like to submit to the Government through you, that the said bridge should be constructed at the earliest to ameliorate the sufferings of the people of these areas.

[English]

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE (Jhalawar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have seen from the newspaper that yesterday the Minister for Environment in a statement in Rajya Sabha said that 1,52,000 hectares of forest land was converted over a period of ten years from 1980 to 1990 and in one year, that is, 1989-90, 1,32,000 hectares of forest land was converted. I bring it to the notice of the House today because the Environment Ministry in particular has been a major block in the development of Rajasthan, particularly in the power sector. The Chief Minister of Rajasthan and the Members from Rajasthan, who are all present here, have brought this to the notice of the House and to the notice of the Prime Minister. If 1,32,000 hectares of land was converted in a year, I would like to ask the Minister why it was converted, how it was converted? And when a coal based thermal power station has been suggested for a particular area or gas based power stations have been suggested for certain areas for the development of the power sector in Rajasthan, why is it that the Environment Ministry time and again brings up excuses to block projects on grounds of environment?

I am sure that all Members of the House who belong to Rajasthan and who are sitting over here today, will join me in my appeal to the Prime Minister, who is present here today, that Rajasthan is suffering from acute power shortage and the Ministry of Environ-

ment cannot condone the blockage of projects, as it has been to do over the last ten years on grounds of disturbance of environment, and it should stand by the developmental projects not only in Rajasthan but also in other States. I would request the Prime Minister to give an assurance to us in the House that of the development of power sector in Rajasthan, he will do his very best to help us.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittorgarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, an appeal was made by my capable friend, who comes from my neighboring constituency in Rajasthan, that all the Members of Parliament from Rajasthan should join her. Therefore, I wholeheartedly support her... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Your cause is just. All Members from all the States will join you.

[Translation]

SHRI BUTA SINGH (Jalore): Mr. Speaker, Sir, you will be glad to know that today morning a group of S.C., S.T. Members of Parliament marched from the statue of Baba Saheb Ambedkar to Rashtrapati Bhawan and submitted a memorandum to the President in which attention has been drawn towards increasing atrocities on the Harijans. In the memorandum, we mentioned atrocities concerning distribution of land, usurpation of land, exploitation by the moneylanders in the name of debt, problem related to minimum wages and bonded labourers, atrocities regarding prevention of their entry in the temple due to untouchability, atrocities connected with not permitting S.Cs and S.Ts to draw water from wells or the police atrocities. About all these issues we submitted a detailed memorandum to the President and then we came back. After coming back I met the Prime Minister and I am very happy to know that the Prime Minister agreed to discuss these issues with us. He has given assurance that the orders and directions in this regard would be issued by the Government.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, if you permit me, I would like to place a copy of the memorandum on the Table of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: I shall look into it.

SHRI BUTA SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir if there is nay binding of rules, we shall follow these rule. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Prime Minister is present here and since he had discussed it with Shri Buta Singh, I request him to call M. Ps belonging to S.Cs, S.Ts and discuss the matter of atrocities with them. He can do it. He can given assurance. Pleas given an audience to the M.Ps belong to S.Cs and S.Ts in order to listen to their problems. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Please say something about it.

SHRI BUTA SINGH: He has invited us to dinner.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI P.V. NARASHIMHA RAO): What else do you want, I am inviting. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Credit for this goes to the Members of all parties.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dum Dum): Sir, in today's rally not only the Scheduled Castes hon. Members were there, some of us also were there who do not belong to either Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe.

[Translation]

KUMARI UMA BHARTI (Khajuraho) Mr. Speaker, Sir, Earlier also I had drawn the attention of the House through you to the fact that in Delhi and some other metropolitan cities, there are many clinics which are making money by inserting advertisement in the newspapers... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: A bill on this subject has been introduced.

KUMARI UMA BHARTI: Please listen to me.

MR. SPEAKER: You will get an opportunity to speak when the bill comes up for consideration.

KUMARI UMA BHARTI: In this regard, I was assured that the Government would give its decision before the current session comes to an end. The hon. Prime Minister is present here.

MR. SPEAKER: The Bill was introduced yesterday, you please read the paper.

KUMARI UMA BHARTI: I thank the Prime Minister and the Government for this.

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH (Bikramganj): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Central Government through you its negligent attitude towards the Government of Bihar. In Bihar, not a single kilometre of new road has been constructed since 1974. Alongwith this, the amount allotted for the repairs of national highways is not sufficient. The condition of the roads is so much dilapidated that one has to find a passage while driving on the road. The condition of roads is so bad that every second day there are accidents, the condition of the national highway known as

G.T.Road is particularly bad. The condition of the National Highway No. 30, named after brave warrior Shri Kanwar Singh is also very bad. Sufficient funds for the repairs of these roads have not been provided till now. I urge the Government of India to give to Bihar what is due the State. If the Central Government is not doing so, the Government of Bihar and the people of the State will launch an agitation and stage a peaceful *dharna* in order to get its demands fulfilled.

[English]

PROF. K.V.THOMAS (Ernakulam): Sir, there are four thousand Indian students studying in various colleges and universities of USSR. They went to USSR with Russian scholarship. Now, after the present political situation, the new republics are not honouring the earlier agreements and commitments. The value of the rouble has come down. The transactions are taking place either in dollars or in pounds. As a result of this many of the Indian students are at the point of starvation.

I request the hon. Prime Minister to intervene in this matter so that these 4000 students who are studying either in medical colleges or in engineering colleges or in universities are able to continue their studies. I request the hon. Prime Minister to look into this.

[Translation]

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU (Secunderabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you very much. Our hon. Member from Andhra Pradesh said that -

MR. SPEAKER: Please don't repeat. Be seated after endorsing it.

SHRIDATTATRAYA BANDARU: A rare quality of black granite is found in Prakasham district of Andhra Pradesh. It is a rare

thing and is not found anywhere else in the world.

MR. SPEAKER: If you say that you agree to that, that is enough. If you want to make another point, welcome.

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU: The State Government has given it on lease to the private parties. Now the Government of Andhra Pradesh has cancelled it. In this connection, I met the Prime Minister also yesterday and presented a Memorandum to him. Foreign exchange to the tune of 6 to 6.5 thousand crores is earned by exporting it. I would request the Prime Minister that these mines may be operated through N.M.D.C. so that the Central Government can earn money through this operation. Tenders have been invited by Shriram Sagar Project which is being financed through World Bank loan. They are giving tenders on the nomination basis which is against the rules. Not only that, it involves a bungling of Rs.270 crore. Besides, there has been a loss of Rs.240 crore in the foreign technology used in Singreni collieries. In view of all these things, the Central Government should appoint a committee to look into this matter. That is all.

SHRIBHOGENDRAJHA (Madhubani): Mr. Speaker, Sir, high level talks between the Indian and Nepalese officials were held on 3rd September. Our Cabinet Secretary has issued a statement that some positive results have emerged from the talks. In my view, most of our officials and some political leaders are having an opinion about Nepal with regard to Kosi, Pancheshwar, Kamali multipurpose projects as if it is some enemy country. Nature has made us real brothers, and we are real brothers historically and culturally also. We are bestowed with Himalayas, mountains and rivers. We have spent so much of money on it for the simple reason that we alone and not Nepal should be benefited. But it resulted in a loss to both the

countries. The policy which our Government has been pursuing with regard to embankments, has worsened the problem of drought and floods. Since it can't be tackled in the plains, a multipurpose dam will have to be constructed in the foothills of Himalayas from where river waters flow down to the plains. Millions and crores of rupees we have spent to control the drought and floods have instead gone to increase both. The project proposal which was sent to Nepal from India in 1981 for Barahchandra Dam with an estimated capacity of 3500 megawatts of hydro electricity, apart from Kosi dam which was to generate 7 thousand megawatts of power fell victims to red tapism on the pretext that on the expert advice of a Japanese Team, Nepal has shifted the site of the proposed dam upstream. This project is not detrimental to our interests. It will add some strength to lessen the flood waters and it will not hamper the generation of electricity. With such ridiculous talk -

MR. SPEAKER: Please conclude now.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: I am concluding my speech now. Therefore, I would urge that a dialogue should be initiated with Nepal on political level. Our capital is being wasted because of floods, drought and power crisis. Kosi Karnali and Pancheshwar Projects are pending because of lack of vision on our part. The railway line which was laid for Barakchandra dam is likely to be dismantled. The Railway Minister is present here. I would urge him to take up this work and subsequently it may be constructed. It is on the land of Nepal, so it would be difficult later on. The railway line between Birpur and Chhapra. *(Interruptions)* Mr. Speaker, Sir I am concluding. It is not related to Bihar or Nepal alone. If executed, the project will generate sufficient electricity not only to meet the existing demand but also the projected demand. The Government of India has issued a letter in 1974 in which it was written that -

[English]

We would not have market for such a huge block of power.

[Translation]

We won't be consuming so much of electricity. On the one hand, we are complaining and on the other hand such an impediment is there. Funds are swindled in earth work. A part of it goes to the politician, a part of it goes to the engineer and some to the contractor but the problem remains as it is. The Prime Minister is present here. I would urge him that long ago an assurance was given in the House that talks on political level would be held. The same may please be held. Minor things like whether it would be of some benefit to Nepal or not should not be a deterrent. Unless we understand that whatever is for the good of Nepal would be good for us also, we would be seeing an enemy in our friend. The Prime Minister should definitely intervene in this matter. That is my submission.

13.00 hrs.

MR. SPEAKER: You see, the House will sit for a few days more, so I know it fully well that there are so many members who should be given an opportunity to speak and present their views. Since it is Friday today, we have to have an interval also. Thereafter, the Prime Minister who has returned from abroad has also to make a statement about his foreign visit.

I would request the senior Members here that they should give a chance to other members so that they can speak. I would be giving them a chance to speak tomorrow and the day after.

13.02 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Annual Report of and Review by the Government on the working of the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute, Darjeeling etc.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): Sir, on behalf of Shri Sharad Pawar, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Coast Guard Director-General Recruitment Rules, 1990 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.R.O. 69 in Gazette of India dated the 23rd March, 1991 under sub-section (3) of section 123 of the Coast Guard Act, 1978 [Placed in library See No. LT-624/91]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute, Darjeeling, for the year 1989-90.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute, Darjeeling, for the year 1989-90 together with Audit Report thereon.

- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute, Darjeeling, for the year 1989-90.

- (3) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above. [Placed in Library See No. LT-625/91]

- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Nehru Institute of Mountaineering, Uttarkashi, for the year 1989-90.

- (ii) a copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Nehru Institute of Mountaineering Uttarkashi for the year 1989-90 together with Audit Report thereon.

- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Nehru Institute of Mountaineering, Uttarkashi, for the year 1989-90.

- (5) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above. [Placed in Library See No. LT. 626/91]

Railway Passengers Amendment Rules, 1991 etc.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Railway Passengers (Cancellation of Tickets and Refund of Fares) Amendment Rules, 1991 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 551 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 29th August, 1991 under section 199 of the Railways Act, 1989. [Placed in Library See No. LT-627/91]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the All India Handloom Fabrics Marketing Co-operative Society Limited, Delhi, for the year 1989-90 alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the All India Handloom Fabrics Marketing Co-operative Society Limited, Delhi, for the year 1989-90.

- (2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. [Placed in Library See No. LT-628/91]

Notification under Banking Companies Act, 1970 etc.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR
SINGH): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of undertakings) Act, 1970:-

- (i) Amendments to the Canara Bank (Officers') Service (Amendment) Regulations, 1979 published in Notification No. PWPM: 2929:71:RAO in Gazette of India dated the 20th April, 1991. [Placed in Library See No. LT-629/91]

- (ii) Amendments to the Canara Bank (Officers') Service (Amendment) Regulation, 1979 published in Notification No. PWPM:1512:71:RAO in Gazette of India dated the 26th January, 1991. [Placed in Library See No. LT-630/91]

- (iii) The Bank of Maharashtra Officers' Service Amendment Regulations, 1989 published in Notification No. Advt. III/IV/F. 178/90-91 in Gazette of India dated the 1st September, 1990. [Placed in Library See No. LT-631/91]

- (2) A copy of the Corporation Bank (Officers') service (Amendment) Regulations, 1989 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. HRD/G/58821/010/90 in Gazette of India dated the 20th April, 1991 under sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1980. [Placed in Library See No. LT-632/91]

- (3) A copy of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 48, of the Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956:-

- (i) The Life Insurance Corporation of India Class III and Class IV Employees (Revision of terms and conditions of service) Amendment Rules, 1991 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 338(E) in Gazette of India dated the 11th July, 1991.

- (ii) The Life Insurance Corporation of India Class III Employees (Special Allowance for passing Examination) Amendment Rules, 1991 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 339 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 11th July, 1991. [Placed in Library See No. LT-633/91]
- (4) A copy of the Appropriation Accounts of the Defence Services for the year 1989-90 (Hindi and English versions). [Placed in Library See No. LT-634/91]
- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Export-Import Bank of India for the year 1990-91 alongwith Audited Accounts under sub-section (5) of section 19 and sub-section (5) of section 24 of the Export - Import Bank of India Act, 1981.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Export-Import Bank of India for the year 1990-91. [Placed in Library See No. LT-635/91]

Notifications Issued under Section 3 of the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, 1947 etc.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHIR SALMAN KHURSHEED): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) issued under section 3 of the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, 1947:-

- (i) S.O. 183 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th March, 1991 making certain amendments in the (Import Trade Control) Order, No. 41/90-93, dated the 5th October, 1990.
- (ii) S.O. 433(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th June, 1991 directing that the Import Trade Control Order No.1/90-93 (Open General Licence No. 1/90), dated the 30th March, 1990 shall remain further suspended upto the 31st July, 1991.
- (iii) S.O. 431(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th June, 1991 directing that the Import Trade Control Order No.3/90-93 (Open General Licence No. 3/90), dated the 30th March, 1990 shall remain further suspended upto the 31st July, 1991.
- (iv) S.O. 432(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th June, 1991 directing that the Import Trade Control Order No.7/90-93 (Open General Licence No.7/90), dated the 30th March 1990 shall remain further suspended upto the 31st July, 1991.
- (v) S.O. 448(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th July, 1991 directing that the Import Trade Control Order No. 1/90-93 (Open General Licence No. 1/90), dated the 30th March, 1990 shall be suspended for the remaining period of the Import and Export Policy, 1990-93.

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| <p>(vi) S.O. 449 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th July, 1991, making certain amendments in the Open General Licence No. 1/90, dated the 30th March, 1990</p> <p>(vii) S.O. 450(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th July, 1991 directing that the Import Trade Control Order No. 3/90-93 (Open General Licence No. 3/90), dated the 30th March, 1990 shall be suspended for the remaining period of the Imported Export Policy, 1990-93.</p> <p>(viii) S.O. 552 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th August, 1991 making certain amendments in the Import Trade Control Order No. 1/90-93 (Open General Licence No. 1/90), dated the 30th March, 1990.</p> <p>(ix) S.O. 523(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th August, 1991 making certain amendments in the Import Trade Control Order No. 7/90-93 dated the 30th March, 1990.</p> <p>(x) S.O. 524(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th August, 1991 making certain amendments in the Import Trade Control Order No. 15/90-93 (Open General Licence NO. 15/90, dated the 30th March, 1990.</p> <p>(xi) S.O. 525(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th August, 1991 making</p> | <p>(xii) S.O. 531(E) published In Gazette of India dated the 16th August, 1991 making certain amendments in the Import Trade Control Order No. 16/90-93, dated the 30th March, 1990.</p> <p>(xiii) S.O. 559(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th August, 1991 making certain amendments in the Import Trade Control No. 1/90-93, (Open General Licence No. 1/90) dated the 30th March, 1990.</p> <p>(xiv) S.O. 560(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th August, 1991 making certain amendments in the Import Trade Control Order No. 3/90-93, (Open General Licence No. 3/90) dated the 30th March, 1990. [Placed in Library See No. LT-636/91]</p> | <p>certain amendments in the Import Trade Control Order No. 16/90-93, dated the 30th March, 1990.</p> <p>(2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the Annual Report (Volume II)* of the Export Inspection Council and Export Inspection Agencies for the year 1989-90. [Placed in Library See No. LT-637/91]</p> |
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*The Annual Report (Volume-II) was laid on the Table on 23.8.1991.

STATEMENT BY PRIME MINISTER

**Visit to Federal Republic of
Germany**

[English]

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO): I visited the Federal Republic of Germany from the 5th to 7th September 1991. This was essentially a goodwill visit, the main purpose of which was to inaugurate, alongwith Chancellor Helmut Kohl, the Festival of India in Germany. I took advantage of this occasion to exchange views with German leaders on a wide range of bilateral and international issues. During the visit, I called on President Richard Von Weizaecker and Chancellor Helmut Kohl with whom I had more than an hour - long meeting. I also met Dr. Spranger, Minister for Economic Cooperation and Dr. Juergen Moellemann, Minister for Economics, and had discussions with them on Indo-German economic and commercial relations.

The other import features of the visit were a meeting with the Senior Executive of leading members of the German business community, and a luncheon meeting with German idologists. I met Members of the Indian community in Germany at a reception arranged by our Ambassador in Germany.

I acquainted my German interlocutors with the changes we have recently brought about in our economic policies and emphasised that they constituted an important milestone in a natural evolution and derived from the logic of the present level and stage of our development. They were, therefore, irreversible. They also enjoyed the support of the people and Parliament of India.

There was full appreciation on the German side of the nature and significance of the changes and about Indias determination to press ahead with them. They recognised that these changes were of decisive importance for determining future cooperation

between India and Germany and that they deserved to be fully supported by the international community. I was told by the German Chancellor that despite the new burdens imposed upon Germany by the process of its unification and developments in Europe, particularly in the Soviet Union, Germany remained fully committed on its development cooperation with India.

The inauguration of the Festival of India in Germany was a major event in the cultural life of the German people. In his inaugural address, Chancellor Kohl described it "as the largest cultural presentation of a friendly country which has ever taken place in Germany". The festival is heading towards a resounding success and is bound to have a decisive impact on the hearts and minds of the German people.

I dedicated the Festival to the memory of Shri Rajiv Gandhi who had mooted the idea three years ago during his meeting with Chancellor Kohl. Rajivji had made an outstanding contribution to the furtherance of Indo-German cooperation. A reciprocal Festival of Germany in India is planned for the year 1993-94.

Hon'ble Members are aware of the German fascination, enthusiasm and pursuit of Indian culture and the importance of culture in the shaping of Indo-German relations, which came much before the development of political and economic interchanges between the two countries in recent times. My meeting with the German Indologists proved beyond doubt that German scholars and intellectuals still retained their deep interest in India's cultural, spiritual and philosophical heritage and in the contemporary scene in India. It is important for us to do everything possible to encourage the German Indologists, indeed Indologists everywhere, in their pursuit of knowledge about India. Cultural contacts and Inter-change are the fountainhead of better understanding between countries and societies. I may also add that it is time we organised an international conference of Indologists in Delhi or some other appropriate place in India. I

intend to sound out the State Chief Ministers for their cooperation I am also confident that the event will evoke unstinted cooperation from academic and cultural circles in India.

I am glad to inform the House that this first visit of mine to a foreign country after taking over as Prime Minister, went off very well and succeeded in achieving the objective I had in mind. I am confident that it would provide a fresh impetus to Indo-German cooperation. I am particularly happy to have had this opportunity of renewing my contact with Chancellor Kohl. Of particular significance is the desire expressed by him to me to draw India closer to the New Europe that is emerging.

MR. SPEAKER: Today we have decided to work after the Private Members Business over. I am going to adjourn the House after taking up the Matters under Rule 377 so that we have lunch time.

Now I call upon Shri Pala K.M. Mathew to raise the matter under Rule 377.

13.06 hrs

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (i) **Need to waive off the loans given to small cardamom growers and provide other tax exemptions to them**

[English]

SHRI PALA K.M. MATHEW (Idukki): The small cardamom growers are put to immense hardship. The spices Board is taking stringent steps to collect the loans taken by the farmers under Cardamom replanting loan schemes.

Because of previous year's cyclone and poor rains, the small farmers are not in a position to repay the loans. The loan waiver facility of the Government should be extended to these cardamom loans also.

The exemption under Agricultural In-

come Tax should be extended up to 4 hectares. The panchayat professional tax from Cardamom growers should be abolished. Pattas should be issued to Kuthagapattam land occupants. The auction sale of tax defaulters land under the Sales Tax Act. etc. should never be allowed to ruin cardamom farmers.

- (ii) **Need to set up special Development Board at Bolangir**

SHRI SARAT CHANDRA PAT-TANAYAK (Bolangir): The three districts of Orissa, Bolangir, Kalahandi and Phulbani, are most backward regions of Orissa. There is no major industry in the area. Despite being rich in natural resources the rate of development in the field of education, industry, transport, irrigation and agriculture is very low in proportion to the State's average growth in these areas. The rate of economic growth is very low. The literacy rate is also marginal. As the tribal (SC & ST) population is higher in percentage, special efforts are needed to improve their living conditions. Though large chunk of revenue is collected from there the share of this region for departmental work is low. In order to fight the poverty, illiteracy, drought and to improve the living conditions, Special Development Board in the pattern of Saurashtra and Vidarbha should be established immediately at Bolangir.

- (iii) **Need to extend the benefits of abolition of 'Lease System' to the Cooperative Housing Societies**

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the decision of the Government to convert 'Lease System' into 'Free Hold' is quite praise worthy. Under the new land system a fixed amount will be charged in lumpsum. The new land system on the one hand, will definitely in the present circumstances make huge funds available to

the Government and on the other hand will give mental reprieve to the flat/plot owners from the payment of annual landrent (ground rent), in addition to reducing pressure on administration to a large extent. Though this decision will be equally extended to flat/plot owners, but it has not been made clear whether the decision will be applicable to those flats/plots owners also who have been given flats/plots by the Cooperative Housing Societies. If it is not so, it is essential that the new land system should be extended to properties allotted by Cooperative Housing Societies, so that maximum number of persons can be allowed to avail of the benefits of 'free-hold' system.

Therefore, I urge the Government to allay all the apprehensions before implementing the new land system, in the larger interest of people. In whole of India, the 'lease system' should be replaced by 'free-hold' system.

- (iv) **Need to provide due share of natural gas to Ahmedabad city**

[English]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (Ahmedabad): Sir, the pollution level in Ahmedabad city is one of the highest in the country. Replacement of kerosene, wood coal etc. used for domestic and industrial purposes would bring down the level of pollution and also improve the health and hygiene of the people, particularly the women in the middle and lower sections of the society. Saving of the kerosene would reduce the foreign exchange outflow. Replacement of wood would help in conservation of forest wealth which is so scanty. Piped gas supply would contribute effectively in giving much needed boost to the economy of Ahmedabad city.

Gas reserves have been found at many places in Gujarat. A detailed feasibility project report has also been prepared and the same was submitted to Government of India. In this connection, the State Government has requested to allocate at least 1

MC-MD Gas for immediate requirement. The State Government have been informed by the Central Government that after finalisation of gas use policy, necessary allocation to Ahmedabad city will be considered.

I request the Central Government that the Gas use policy should be decided immediately and the due share of the Gas should be allocated to Ahmedabad city.

- (v) **Need to supply thread to weavers are powerloom and handloom workers at subsidised rates particularly those in West Bengal**

DR. ASIM BALA (Nabadwip): Sir, lakhs and lakhs of weavers, especially handloom and powerloom workers are suffering in West Bengal due to recent price hike of cotton. It has increased at the rate of Rs. 10/- per kg. and weavers and workers have been rendered jobless. The small and marginal weavers have no capacity to buy this cotton thread which is very much used by the poor weavers and the cloth produced is mostly worn by the poor people in our country. Under these circumstances, if the Government does not take necessary steps, the weavers are bound to leave their profession. It is my earnest demand to the Central Government to make necessary arrangements to supply threads at a subsidised rate to the weavers at the earliest.

- (vi) **Need for comprehensive review of copyright Act, 1957 to extend copyright to Rabindra Nath Tagore's work**

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): Sir, on the completion of 50 years of his death anniversary, the copyrights of the works of Tagore shall expire on December 31, 1991.

A delegation from the Viswa Bharati University led by the Vice-Chancellor met the Minister of Human Resources and also the Prime Minister, requesting for the extension of Rabindra Nath Tagore's works' copy-

[Sh. Chitta Basu]

right, now resting with the Viswa Bharati University by a Trust deed executed by the poet himself. They also submitted relevant papers in justification of their request, including legal opinion obtained from a retired Judge of Calcutta High Court.

Tagore, the Philosopher, Writer, Composer, Educationist and Artist stands on a unique pedestal. It is the responsibility of the Government to protect his true image which may not be possible through likely uncontrolled commercialisation of his works after the copyright period ends on 31st December, 1991.

The Government have let it known that the provisions of the Copyright Act, 1957 were under comprehensive review and the issue of extension of copyright would be duly considered along with the ongoing review.

As the matter is very urgent, it is imperative to delink it with the comprehensive review of the Copyright Act, 1957 and early decision taken on the merit of the issue itself.

(viii) Need to Construct an overbridge at Chalakudy Railway Station

PROF. (SHRIMATI) SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN (Mukundapuram): Sir, construction of a foot over bridge at Chalakudy in place of the road closed by the Railways at the time of platform extension is essential. An existing road on the southern side of the Railway station crossing the rail track from East to West of Chalakudy Municipal area was closed by the Railway authorities without considering various problems of the commuters. On representation to the Southern Railway authorities, the response from the authorities was not favourable. Moreover, the existing road was closed permanently.

The four divisions of Chalakudy Municipal areas on the western side of the track and the school going small children, immobile patients, pregnant women, office going per-

sonnel are forced to cross the track to reach the eastern side risking their lives to reach their destinations of work.

In view of the above difficulties, I strongly urge upon the Government of India for an early construction of a foot over bridge at Chalakudy railway station connecting western side and eastern side of the railway track.

13.16 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Fifteen Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Eighteen Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock

[SHRI P.M. SAYED in the Chair]

FINANCE (NO. 2) BILL - 1991 —Contd.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will now take up further consideration of the Finance (No. 2) Bill. Shri Ram Kapse to continue his speech.

SHRI RAM KAPSE (Thane): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Yesterday when I started my speech, I have reminded the Finance Minister of his post-budget press briefing. The Finance Minister stated the following objectives in presenting the Budget for the year 1991-92: the first was adjustment with a humane-face; the second was, encouragement to economic growth and the third was checking inflation. Now, after nearly two months it is clear that we have galloping inflation and the price rise is nearly 20 per cent even in the period of August-September, the months in which inflation is generally under control. So, you can imagine about the next few months.

Sir, in this connection I would like to say

that the poor, the lower-middle classes and the vulnerable sections of society such as the pensioners, widows are the worst hit. It is the responsibility and duty of the Finance Minister to protect the needy and the suffering sections of the Society—urban as well as rural. He should withdraw all measures which hurt these classes and which go against the existing avenues that look after their interest and which will also generate employment. My amendments are guided by these basic principles and I request the House to support them unanimously.

My first amendment is about the raising of income-tax limit from Rs. 22000 to Rs. 58,000. The Finance Minister stated in his press briefing that the reforms will have a humane face. But what human consideration is kept in mind when, after devaluation and inflation, he refuses to raise the income-tax limit? People below the poverty line are undoubtedly hit the most. But at the same time, all persons with low fixed incomes find it very difficult to make both ends meet—whether in villages or in cities. I request him to be humane and raise the income-tax limit.

The Finance Minister has accepted our amendment to the proposed extension of the expenditure tax on restaurants and we thank him. But I fail to understand the retaining of the air-conditioning criterion. Because of inflation, the restaurants are already under tremendous pressure and the extreme congestion in cities like Bombay means that air-conditioning is no longer a luxury, at least in Bombay.

I also propose an amendment about the tax-deduction at source from interest on bank deposits where it exceeds Rs. 2,500 in a year.

The small depositors are panicky today because for many of them this interest is the only source of income. The pensioners, widows, old people who have deposited their life's earnings with urban banks have already started withdrawing their term deposits from these banks. Actually, Government earnings from this move will not be

very high. But it is against the interest of the needy and also against the growth of the cooperative movement. It also does not help the saving habit and creates problems both for the banks and for the Income-Tax Department. Under the Income-Tax Act, Section 80L, the income from interest up to Rs. 7000 is exempted. Does not this move run contrary to the income-tax provisions?

The same arguments apply to deduction of income-tax at the rate of 20 per cent on withdrawals from the National Savings Scheme and the three percent tax on profits earned by banks. I propose an amendment to withdraw these measures.

The cooperative banks are democratic institutions which have got rid of extortionist money-lenders. They cater to the credit needs of the lower strata of society by mobilising deposits from the same class of society. They have brought in large amounts of money, nearly Rs. 8,559 crores of deposits mostly through small savings. They have helped the regulatory authority to achieve the desired effect in price mechanisms and helped the saving habit. They have played a pivotal role in the social and economic upliftment of lower and lower middle classes and weaker sections of the society. They have immensely contributed to self-employment and employment generation through financing small scale industries. If they are forced to increase the lending interest rate, these clients too will be badly hit, and the small scale industries are already placed in a very bad condition today.

In fact, the Finance Minister can help a small scale industry namely the Paint manufacturers by restoring exemption in excise duty. There are nearly 2000 small units which manufacture paint and which also have to compete with powerful large scale units. With the introduction of 22 per cent excise duty, they will not be able to compete successfully with the large scale industries.

I urge the Finance Minister to favour the small-scale industries and to ensure that they will flourish and not extinguish.

[Sh. Ram Kapse]

In conclusion, I would like to request the Finance Minister to do some serious soul-searching and consider where we are going. No one disputes the pressing need for reforms but the cure should not be worse than the malady. After his measures about fertilizer subsidy and cooperative banks, the only measure of equality regarding both the urban and the rural population seems to be an insensitive attack on the most vulnerable sections of both areas.

We should always keep in mind the developing nature of our country and its glaring inequalities. The need today is to protect the poor, and to remember Shumacher's words that "small is beautiful".

SHRI CHINNASAMY SRINIVASAN (Dindigui): Mr. Chairman, Sir I wish to say a few words on the Finance Bill. The country is in a deep crisis and we have to take very hard measures. New taxes have been proposed to net Rs. 2,500 crores. While essential commodities have been exempted, has consumption items are going to cost more. There is generally a fear among the public that prices will rise very steeply. The prices have indeed risen very steeply affecting the common man. Unless the Prime Minister takes drastic steps to contain black money and hoarding, the price will counting to shoot up..

The increase in fertilizer price will be passed on by the big farmers on to those poor farmers and thereby affecting their wages. Therefore, the fertilizer price increase in respect of all farmers should be dropped.

The IPG is a common consumption item, used by all. The increase would discourage the use of LPG and many in the villages would take to the traditional way of using wood as fuel thus leading to felling of tree. To avoid their implications, the Finance Minister must restore the prices of LPG cylinders.

A democratic country must have a free press. The newspapers promote to literacy, educate the masses and enlighten them. The steep hike in newsprint would increase the price of newspapers. This would give you a setback to information being spread in the villages. Therefore, this sector should be left untouched.

One the whole, I welcome the concession given to big and small scale industries. Licences in respect of many of the industries have been abolished. This would really halt the generation of black money.

As the Government is keen in increasing industrial production, the Government must also be keen in seeing that all Government sponsored schemes are cleared without any delay.

The Tamilnadu Government has requested for an aromatic plant in Madras. That should be cleared immediately. The Southern gas pipeline project is also pending for a long time. The project is feasible and would help Tamilnadu to tide over the power crisis. I urge upon the Government to accord high priority for clearing the project.

There was a proposal to set up a cine colour film unit in Ooty. The letter of intent are already issued. The Government, must set up this colour film unit in Ooty so as to help the backward industry in Tamilnadu. I request the Government to direct the concerned department to take immediate steps regarding setting up of this Ooty colour film unit.

Coal to Tamilnadu Electricity Board as to come from Paradeep Port. It involves a long rail and road transportation. If the coal handling operation at Paradeep Port mechanised, then coal will, at lesser cost, reach the TNEB for power production.

A free port can be established in Tuticorin or Kanyakumari. It is still pending the Consideration of the Central Government. It should also be cleared immediately.

During the oil crisis due to Gulf war, the Central Government imposed a cut of 10 per cent in diesel on Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation buses. Now the situation has relaxed. The cut should be removed. Nearly 70 per cent of bus passengers use State transport buses. This should, therefore, be done immediately.

Shri Rajiv Gandhi had a technological mission for providing drinking water to rural areas. For this year, the State Government is willing to provide Rs. 40 crores for rural drinking water programme. I request the Central Government to provide matching grant for implementing the scheme.

For improving the police in Tamil Nadu, Rs. 20 crores were asked for during 1991-92. The Central Government perhaps is willing to provide nearly Rs. 10 crores. This matter involves public safety and the demand in full must be met.

Under the dynamic leadership of Puraichy Thalaivi Jayalalitha, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, the State Government as strictly imposed prohibition in the State and the cheap liquor project has been abolished. This has resulted in Rs. 320 crore revenue loss during the current year. The Central Government provide special grant to compensate this revenue loss.

I welcome the Finance Bill. Finally, I request the Government to increase the income-tax limit to Rs. 48,000 in respect of salaried class.

I hope the hon. Minister would consider all the suggestions I have made and favourably respond at the time of his reply. With these words, I conclude. Thank you.'

SHRISANDIPAN BHAGWAN THORAT (Pandharpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Finance Bill with some suggestions. The Finance Bill, moved by the hon. Finance Minister, is very useful for the country in the present days.

The Planning Commission is the main

body which comes to play the financial role of the country. As Member of the scheduled caste community, I feel that there is no Member in the Planning Commission who represents the interests of the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. Because you also belong to scheduled tribe, I suggest through you that at least one Member should be there in the Planning Commission so that our interests are safeguarded.

There are some provisions in the Plan itself. The Plan process is a very important process in the country. While preparing the Plan, if sufficient amounts not provided for the welfare of the scheduled caste and scheduled tribes, then, what is the need of here moving the Bill. So, I would suggest that at least one eminent Member should be from scheduled castes or scheduled tribes. Who will look after the interest of the scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

When you look to the Annual Report of the Planning Commission, you will find that only five lines are mentioned in the whole report. Only there is one Backward Classes Division in the Planning Commission.

Only five lines are mentioned about the Backward Classes Division in this Report. With your permission, I would like to read those five lines, I quote:

"Backward Classes Division: Detailed discussions were held with States and Union Territories to finalise the special component plan for Scheduled Castes (SC/ST) and Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) for the Eighth Five year Plan and the Annual Plan, 1991-92 after reviewing the programmes for enabling suitable adjustment in policies and programmes implemented for the development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes."

Unquote

This is the only mention in the Report about the backward classes. They have consulted with the states and the Union Territories. So,

[Sh. Sandipan Bhagwan Thorat]

I suggest that there should be a representation in the Planning Commission. The schemes which had been formulated during the pre-Independence period are followed now. So, I would suggest that the schemes which are beneficial to the Scheduled Castes and Tribes should be formulated anew and a new perspective plan for the Scheduled Castes and Tribes, which may be for ten or twenty years, should be prepared for their welfare.

Another point which I would like to suggest is that a separate Planning committee should be appointed at the State level. Unless there is a separate body at the state level, the grievances of the Scheduled Castes and Tribes could not come to the States' notice. The State planning committee should be adequately represented. I suggest that there should be a separate body or a planning committee for each and every State and UT. At this juncture, I would suggest that the overall economic development of the Scheduled Castes and Tribes in the country is essential. This portion constitutes 1/5th of the total population of India. Unless proper attention and monetary benefits are given to this Community, there will not be a peaceful India. These people are agitating for over 40 years after Independence but still no proper and adequate amenities are provided for them. Unless there is proper planning for these people, their economic grievances would not be solved. For this purpose, I would suggest that State planning committee, which would be constituted should be go to the district level and at the district level also there should be a District Development Council for the welfare of Scheduled Castes and less Tribes. Though there are tribal sub-plane, so far as Scheduled Castes are concerned, special component plans which are being implemented through the States give rise to a very wonderful situation. I would like to quote one example, that is, the IRDP scheme. Though it is implemented through the special component plan, what actually happens at the district and taluka levels is not very satisfactory. The beneficiaries are

given loans through banks as per the plan. But the first and foremost grievances of the Scheduled Castes is that banks are not coming forward to finance them.

The Banks have their own targets and they say that their target is completed and therefore they will not finance any further. Then there is the second aspect. There is a provision for 50 per cent subsidy and 50 per cent loan. But the Bank officers ask these people to take the 50 per cent subsidy and 50 per cent loan amount is adjusted without its being given to the beneficiaries. These things are happening. The real benefits do not reach the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes persons in the rural areas. For this purpose, Schedule Castes Development Council on par with the Zilla parishads should be formulated. Here, I may mention the example of Maharashtra. The Zilla Parishads and Panchayat Samithis Act was passed in Maharashtra. Through that Act, rural people are being educated about their political rights. If there is a Scheduled Caste Development Council at the district level, on the lines of Zilla parishads, it will help to create awareness among these people about their rights.

So far as economic benefits are compared, there are States Corporations to help the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes people. But these corporations are not being funded properly at the State level as well as at the Central level.

Even at the central level, there is the National Scheduled Caste Finance Development Corporation. But the funds provided for these Corporations are very meagre. They do not come forward to finance big projects which can be prepared, formulated and implemented by the Scheduled Castes entrepreneurs. So, my suggestion is that the funds provided for these Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribe Development Corporations should be increased. Here I would like to point out that all the State Corporations throughout the country are provided just Rs. 68 crores. The population of SC/ST according to the 1991 census is nearly 17 crores;

and the fund comes to them is Rs. 4/- per capita. Only this much amount is provided for the economic benefit of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. This amount is very meagre and it should be increased. Mr. Finance Minister Sir, this is what is happening in our country. You please see to it that this amount is increased. Sufficient funds should be provided to these corporations.

So far agricultural benefits are concerned, the land of the small farmers belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is normally situated out of the purview of surface irrigation. This is because cost of these lands are given to them through the surplus land made available by the land legislation in the States. So naturally their lands are out of the purview of irrigation facilities.

Sir, these people do not get the benefit to surface irrigation, constructed through dams etc. So, my suggestion would be that if they are not able to get the surface irrigation then there should be some provision in the Finance Bill or the Budget to dig wells for them, and it should be done free of cost. They should not be asked to go to banks and seek loans to dig wells. Government should bear all the expenses involved in digging the wells.

Regarding the credit flow to the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes people in the rural areas, I would like to say that banks are not cooperative to the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe people. So, my suggestion is that if the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe people are prepared to come forward to have their own cooperative banks in the districts, they must be given the facility to open their own bank in the cooperative sector. In Maharashtra the Cooperative Sector is much more beneficial to the rural people. So, these people should be given licence and all the hurdles which are put forth by R.B.I. should be done away with.

Though there is free education to everybody in India, the educational facilities are

very poor. What happens is that the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe people live in rural areas. Almost 84 per cent of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe population lives in the rural areas. Suppose the husband and wife both are landless labour, and they go for work on Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, to earn their livelihood they remain out of their home for the whole day. Their child cannot go to the school and if he goes to school, then there will be no one to take care of that child. So, my suggestion is that you should open residential schools in each revenue circle of each Taluka so that the child can get education up to 10th or 12th standard.

The whole House is very much concerned about the atrocities being committed on the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribe people. Every section of the society, you I and even the Prime Minister, is concerned about it, but we are not still able to find its solution.

There is a link between the people who commit atrocities and the big bosses.

So, my suggestion is that there should be a higher officer who can come and help the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes, who are residing in that particular area where the atrocities are committed. You should create an impression that there are people who take care of their interests. Unless this feeling is created in the minds of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, the atrocities will go on continuing. The Centre should not see that this is a State Subject. I know that the Centre is also very much concerned about the welfare of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

I would suggest that a coordination committee should be less appointed, which should be headed by a Scheduled Caste person so that there should not be a quarrel between the Centre and the States.

This is provided in Article 263. There should be some Coordination Committee for monitoring the welfare activities of the Sched-

[Sh. Sandipan Bhagwan Throat]

uled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The Centre should not say that the States should look into such matters.

One paper project was proposed to be set up in my constituency at Mimgaon (T) in Madhu Taluk in Distt. Solapur. For which a licence has already been sanctioned. But I am told that according to last Government's policy the public sectors should not be financed and now that project is going to someone else in Private Sector. I would request the hon. Finance Minister, through you, that this project should be taken over by the Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Ltd., as the licence is already with the RCF. The proper and adequate provision be made in the Budget.

With these few words, I conclude.

SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN (Barpeta): Mr. Chairman, Sir, while introducing the Finance Bill, the hon. Finance Minister has given certain concessions on direct and indirect taxes. It is also good that you have withdrawn taxes interest in case of Cooperative Societies acting as lending institutions.

Sir, I would say that these concessions do not change the basic reaction of the Budget, the direction set by the IMF conditionalities. Essentially, the conditionalities of the IMF are cuts in food subsidies and other welfare measures, dismantling of public distribution system, privatisation of public sector, liberalisation of imports etc. This will undermine the self-reliance of our economy. This means further to place the entire burden of the grave crisis on the shoulders of the common people.

The crisis in our economy and consequently the crisis in BOP is not the creation of the common people but the result of the policies pursued by the ruling party since independence.

The policies serve basically the interests of the landlords and monopolists-national and international.

The IMF loan taken in 1981 did not stabilise the BOP, it belies the statement made by the Government. It is better to remember that the path of liberalisation pursued during the period of 1984-89 and not controls and regulations led to be present crisis. The imports feeding the elitists and import intensive production structure, as well as all kinds of non-Government imports were mainly financed by indiscriminate international borrowings which included large short terms loans that accounted for almost 50 per cent of the additional borrowings in 1988-89.

In the midst of this crisis, the Finance Minister has asked the people of our country to safeguard the national interest. In this context, I want to say that we should not equate the national interest with the interest of the monopolists and landlords.

India is now such a country that out of 120 countries in the world, its position is 21st and the income of 2 per cent of families is equal to 98 per cent of the families. Now, how is our national interest is being served in the budget?

Take the question of price hike. Already there is above 15 per cent inflation. The devaluation and the cut in subsidies and price hike in petroleum products and sugar will further increase the prices. The increase in fare and freight charges in Railway Budget will have a cascading effect on price situation. This will erode the real income of the common people.

There are no radical structural changes in the taxes. In the Budget, the indirect tax dominates. There is a claim of increase in direct tax. Ever since 1950-51, we have seen that the amount of excise duty on a number of items has increased and the number of items under the excise duty has also increased. The increase in the corporate tax is minimum.

Even in this Budget also, the income and wealth of the rich-both urban and rural-is hardly touched. Bulk of the extra revenue

is coming from the increase in special excise duty and the hike in prices of the petroleum products.

It can be seen that additional revenue from direct tax almost amounts to Rs. 504 crores. The additional tax effort plus the revenue resulting from price hike in petroleum products almost accounts to Rs. 3,407 crores excluding the Railway Budget. Out of this, only Rs. 504 crores that is one-seventh comes from additional direct tax; and the main path of the Corporation tax also comes from the public sector undertakings.

We have seen that in a country where almost one-third of the population is below poverty line, rich are paying the minimum taxes; that is how they are making sacrifices for the nation.

The new industrial policy will, I think, create a havoc because this is a policy of delicensing, scrapping of MRTP limit, and invasment of private capital in as many as ten areas reserved for the public sector, opening the door wide for multinational etc. Now there is a hue and cry for privatisation of public sector.

15.00 hrs.

Hera is a report by the RBI which says that in the private sector only there are more than 1,20,000 sick units. The causes for the closure or the sickness of the industries are also given in the report.

In this context it is better to remember what the Chairman of BIFR says :

"The unit becomes sick but the persons responsible for making the units sick continue to become more and more affluent."

That is the condition in our country.

Again, the investment in our public sector is raised only by about ten percent. And as there is devaluation of Money, in real term it will be far less. So, the problem of unemploy-

ment will be further aggravated.

Again this policy of liberalisation of imports is also not correct. It is seen from the experience of the Third World countries, that in spite of the devaluation there is no increase in the exports. It is also seen in the context of the trade policy, that there is less encouragement for the export of manufacture of goods because only traditional goods are export items.

The price of tea in London market-yarn is gratefully decreasing. So, this import policy will not, think, bring in any thing good for the country.

In the field of rural development there is only an increase of about eight per cent compared to the last year's figure. This will only touch the fringes of the problem, as there are 130 million agricultural labourers in our country. The real problem is, to develop the rural areas we have to bring about radical land reforms. This will not only create the basis for eliminating the attacks on the Scheduled Caste, and Scheduled Tribe people and women in our country, but create a basis for a strong homo market.

Some of our friends are mentioning the success stories of South Korea and Taiwan. In those countries industrial development was possible because there were land reforms. So, if we want to build a strong basis and eliminate atrocities on the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes, and also create a baiss or onditions for eliminating illiteracy, land reforms are essential. They assume lot importance.

In this connection, I would also like to mention that the Centre-State relations should be strengthened and financial autonomy should be given to our States. Because, during the last few years we have seen that as there is centralisation, there is also a tendency for separatist movements to come up .

I now want to mention the Assam problem of backwardness.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dum Dum): In the closed circuit TV the name is being shown wrongly as 'Shri Palas Barman' instead of 'Uddhab Barman'. Will somebody take notice of it ?

MR. CHARIMAN: This has been given by your party. Anyway, we will take note of it.

SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN: Sir, the present Industrial Policy will create problems for the development of the State like Assam. The Public sector is a sort of safeguard for development of a State like Assam. It is seen that the index of per capita income is gradually going down. In 1960-61, the index was 103 and in 1980-81 it was 78.

The indicators of development can be seen here. In the case of per capita income in Assam in 1984-85 was Rs. 1,821 as against the All India figure of 2,855. The net irrigated area as percentage of sown area is 20.2 per cent as against the All India 36.6 per cent. The installed power capacity per 1,000 people is 17.5 KW as against the All India figure of 57.3 KW. The surface road length per lakh population is 41 Km. as against the All India figure of 107 Km. The per capita income generated in manufacturing is 70 as against the All India figure of 140. The fertiliser consumption is 5.4 Kg. as against the All India figure of 45 Kg. The population covered by each primary school is 823 as against the All India figure of 1,405. The number of hospital bed per 10,000 population is six as against the All India figure of 9. The literacy percentage is 35 per cent as against the All India average of 36.2 per cent.

These are some of the indicators about the backwardness of Assam.

The communication system is very bad and there is a longstanding demand for extension of broadgauge up to Dibrugarh and for improving the Lumding-Bodarpur-Silchar line. No step has been taken so far in this regard. The surface roads are in bad shape. Assam, being the gateway to the North Eastern Region, the Central Government should come forward to improve the

road communication system so that the entire region develops. Master Plans have been prepared for. Brahmaputra, Barak and their tributaries, but proper execution has not been done so far. The Central Government should have a political will to implement these Master Plans to control the recurring floods and to save the economy and people of NE region.

Many districts in Assam are without industries. The new refinery and gas cracker are yet to be executed. One of the main industries contributing to foreign exchange is Tea Industry. Mainly Assam contributes about 50 per cent of tea but the condition of labourers in the industry is very miserable. The number of regular employees is declining and the daily wage ranges from Rs. 12 to Rs. 15. There is no scope for their education also. And naturally there is simmering discontentment among the garden population. So this Industrial Policy and the Tax Policy will create and aggravate regional imbalances in the area also.

We hope that along with India, Assam development is made possible. To save India, you have to save Assam also.

Thank you.

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): Sir, we are now at the final step or rather concluding stage of the budget making process of the nation. I deem it my responsibility to warn the Government about the injurious repercussions which are likely to befall the country and the repercussions of the proposals on the living conditions of the broad masses of our people. I deem it my responsibility at this final stage of the budget making process.

The measures taken by the Government in the matter of devaluation of the rupee, in the matter of transfer of gold, in the matter of formulation of the budget policies, in the matter of shaping the Industrial Policy of our country and other host of economic policies and measures and fiscal policies taken by the Government would have serious repercussions on the country as a whole

and also the masses of our country.

I have not got much time to discuss and I refrain myself of doing that. I would only draw the attention of this House and the nation that the budget and other proposals already have imposed intolerable burden on the common people. They have led to the steep rise in the prices of all essential commodities. They will lead to large-scale closures, retrenchments and loss of jobs for workers and employees and the unemployment will be further increased.

These policies will also fleece the great masses of the peasantry of our country particularly the agricultural workers and rural artisans less of our country. These provisions will erode the public sector and throw the doors wide open to monopolists and multinationals, plunge the country into a debt trap and compromises our economic independence leading ultimately to the compromise of political independence of our country. At this last stage of budget making, I again warn the Government about the consequences that are likely to follow.

Two days back, the hon. Finance Minister was very much pleased to announce more concessions in order to boost up the exports of our country. That is naturally expected because that follows the thrust of the Government's economy and fiscal policies. Even after these hosts of concessions being given, I think the prospect is not going to improve. It is not my view, it is the opinion given by the latest Report of the Reserve Bank of India. I simply draw the attention of the Finance Minister to three specific aspects of the Report. One aspect of the Report says that,

"There shall be a slow down in the overall growth of the economy for the year 1991-92" ..

Another aspect it brings to the fore is that;

"It expects the GPD to grow at around

three per cent during the year, down 5 per cent in 1990-91".

"The performance of export sector was not satisfactory" in 1990-91".

The Report also says that,

Even after these hosts of concessions being given, these are the warnings of the Reserve Bank of India.

I am sorry, I am constrained to say that the policies announced by the Government will transform this great country of ours into a happy haunting ground for Multinational Corporations of the world.

Sir, I have got not much time to explain. In an unusual haste—I would say to be more soft in my expression—the Government has cleared the entrance of several multinational companies, particularly, belonging to the United States of America, within a few weeks. I mention some of them. The computer giant IBM has been given clearance to enter into the Indian market. It is to be known by the country that several years ago their entrance was refused by the Government of India. They are now being invited to produce computers in order to computerise the offices, leading to large-scale unemployment, leading to loss of jobs in various segments of our country. Then Sir plastics and chemical manufacturers, Du. Pout are being invited and they have been cleared. Similarly, motor cycle makers BMW of Germany have been cleared. British Gas have also been cleared. Even in the matter of manufacturing food articles, Kello Foods are being invited. General Electrics and so many others are being invited. I have got very big list with me. What does it mean? It means to allow the foreign multinational to flood our country and perpetuate the loot and plunder. Are we here to allow this Government to continue this kind of loot and plunder? IBM has already entered into a collaboration project with Tatas for a Rs. 100 crores project to make computers which will go in for massive computerisation, leading to large-scale unemployment.

[Sh. Chita Basu]

Most amazing and surprising to me is that the Government is in an unusai haste and have broken all the records in order to accommodate the foreign multinational companies. A four member Foreign Investment Promotion Board, headed by the Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister, has been set up to clear foreign investment proposals which do not fall within the parameters of even the changed policies. The Government has charged the policy to invite multinationals. Even if some multinationals do not fall within the parameters of the changed policy, as I have mentioned, a four-member committee has been given the authority to clear any project offered by them of their choice.

Sir, you have rung twice. So, it will not be proper for me to continue and disobey. Lastly I would any that it appears from the entire speech and from all the announcement made subsequently by the Government that to resorts are there for the country. One is to invite foreign investment and the other to go on for IMF loan. Even today I have seen that the IMF has agreed to give us the third instalment of the loan. We are going in even for further loan under more harsh conditions. They say that all these reforms or all these economic policies have been framed under the instructions of the World Bank and the IMF. This is proved by a statement made yesterday at paris. What does the Consortium at paris say? It says: "The reforms process now underway in India is both impressive and necessary." The Budget has not been framed by the Ministers or by the Council of Ministers, the Budget, it appears, has been framed by those who met yesterday in Paris and who say today that the reforms process now underway in India in impressive and necessary..

I think this will make clear the basic philosophy behind the Budget proposals and the fiscal and economic measures.

With this, I oppose this Bill with all the force at my command.

Thank you.

[*Translation*]

SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR (Durg): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support the Finance Bill. My submission is that the Budget should always be presented in November after the monsoon season. After monsoon season it becomes clear what will be the agricultural out put. For this purpose, a committee was formed under the Chairmanship of late Shri L.K. Jha. Committee recommended that the Budget be presented in November December every year. Budget each year is presented on 28th February as a matter of convention, since the days of British regime. We are following it blindly. After presentation of Budget on 28th February money is allocated for development of village and it reaches the rural areas just by the end of April. After a few days of work, the funds remain unutilized crores of rupees remain unutilised in districts in the country. Every year it is stated that the proposals in the Budget will be rationalised. The Government must think over agricultural production and industrial production. The Budget must be made equally relevant for both industries, traders, as well as farmers. Often it is seen that in the Budget year after year farmers are some what neglected. This year for many reasons such a situation has developed. So such a provision should be made that maximum number of farmers should be benefited by the Budget. Seeds received by the farmers are adulterated to the extend of 50 per cent. Chemical fertilisers contain sand. Insecticides are also spuriouss. To check contamination in all these three things, IO would like to request the hon. Minister of Finance to enact stringent laws, so that contamination and adulteration could be detected. I suggest that to detect contamination in all these three things, testing facilities and equipments may be provided for every 15-20 lakh population. It may also be judged which type of chemical fertilisers should be used. Last month's Reserve Bank of India's

report states that this year for the third or fourth year in succession, agricultural crops will be good and profitable. Budget is presented at such times when full benefits cannot be reaped. For example, land is not being put to proper use in the country. Land is being misused in the country. For irrigation water is an important source. Benefits derived from water are equal to the destruction caused by it. Land management and Water management is so poor, that it is causing more harm to the country than giving any benefits. In our country, 17 crores and 30 lakhs ton. foodgrains are produced by cultivating 14 crore and 30 lakh hectare land, though in China 30 crore ton foodgrains are produced by cultivating 10 crore hectares land. It can be concluded that in China more foodgrains are produced by cultivating less land in comparison to India. The main cause of it is the numerous deficiencies in 'Land management and Water Management.'

Sir, in China per capita availability of land is 0.11 hectare where as in India it is 0.17 hectares. In India population is growing at a fast pace, but in China because of different administrative structure or for any other reasons growth of population has been checked. If the population growth continues then the per person availability of land in 2001 will decline to that of China i.e. 0.11 hectares from 0.17 hectares at present in the country. Per capita foodgrains availability in India is 200 gm. while in China it is 300 gms. If the target to make available 300 gms. foodgrains is fixed instead of 200 gms at present, then the foodgrains production will have to be raised to 25 crores ton per annum. Is our country prepared for such a high target? I think even 10 percent benefits of all the researches going on in our laboratories are not trickling down to farms in the country, which in English is called Lap Land.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the agriculture report, mentions that there are large number of laboratories in the country which have developed only 9 varieties of rice in the country and that too have not reached farmers. I even say that not a single variety has become

known to farmers. So how can the full benefits be reaped? so long complete arrangements for disseminating information are not made nothing will materialise. The Government has set up agriculture science centres. Out of 468 districts, agricultural science centres are functioning in just 159 districts in the country. And even at these centre conditions are so poor that scientists do not want to work there. Many factors are responsible for this state of affairs. Firstly, low salary and secondly, every scientist wants that his children should live in a city and get good education. In China as per the wishes of scientists living in villages, the Chinese Government has made special arrangements for the education of children of scientists in cities. I do not want to take much time, but would like to say that

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can continue your speech after the Private Member's Business is over at 6 o'clock.

15.30 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Sixth Report

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): Sir, I beg to present the Sixth Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, we are taking up the Private Members Business.

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum): Sir, are we sitting after 6 o'clock?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Charles, when it comes to cross the bridge, we will think of it.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMAN-GAILAM: Sir, the Speaker has already announced in the House that we would be sitting after 6 O'clock. That was the understanding of all the parties to continue the discussion the Finance Bill it depends on how long they would like to continue it. But today we shall complete the discussion and tomorrow will be the reply and voting.

DR. LAXMI NARAYAN PANDEY (Mandsaur): Sir, what about dinner arrangements?

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMRAMAN-GALAM : Sir, a very good dinner is being arranged.

15.31 hrs

CONSTITUTION AMENDMENT BILL*

(Insertion of new Article 18A)

[English]

SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA (Tamluk): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the constitution of India.

MR. CHARIMAN: The question is

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the constitution of India".

The motion was adopted

SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.32 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Amendment of Article 310 and 311)

[English]

SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA: Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"The leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

The motion was adopted

SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.32 1/2 hrs.

FOREST BILL*

[English]

SHRI CHANDUBHAI DESHMUKH (Bharuch): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to Consolidate laws relating to forests, the transit of forest-produce and to make special Provisions for the regulation of felling and replanting of trees in urban and rural areas and sandalwood, and for matters connected therewith.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to consolidate Laws relating to forests, the transit of forest-produce and to make special provisions for two regulation of felling and replanting of trees in urban and rural areas and

sandalwood, and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

SHRICHANDUBHAI DESHMUKH: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.33 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (SCHEDULED CASTES) ORDER (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Amendment of the schedule)

[English]

SHRISHABUDDINSYED (Kishanganj): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950."

The motion was adopted

SHRI SHAHABUDDIN SYED : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.33 1/2 hrs.

AGRICULTURAL WORKERS (MINIMUM WAGES AND WELFARE) Bill*

[English]

SHRI CHANDUBHAI DESHMUKH (Bharuch): Sir I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the payment of minimum wages and for Welfare of agricultural workers.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the payment less of minimum wages and for welfare of agricultural workers"

The Motion was adopted

SHRI CHANDUBHAI DESHMUKH: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.34 hrs.

RESERVATION OF VACANCIES IN POST AND SERVICES (FOR SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES) BILL*

[English]

SHRI CHANDUBHAI DESHMUKH (Bharuch): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for adequate representation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in posts and services under the Government of India.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for adequate representation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in posts and services under the Government of India."

The Motion was adopted

SHRI CHANDUBHAI DESHMUKH: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.34 1/2 hrs.

HIGH COURT IN MADRAS (ESTABLISHMENT OF A PERMANENT BENCH AT MADURAI) BILL*

[English]

SHRI A.G.S. RAM BABU (Madurai): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill

[Sh. A.G.S. Ram Babu]

to provide for the establishment of a permanent Bench of the High Court at Madras at Madurai.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of a permanent Bench of the High Court at Madras at Madurai."

The Motion was adopted

SHRI A.G.S. RAM BABU: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.35hrs.

**CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*
(AMENDMENT OF ARTICLE 58, ETC.).**

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India:

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

The Motion was adopted

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.35 1/2 hrs.

CONSUMER ASSOCIATIONS (REGISTRATION) BILL.*

[English]

SHRI RAM KAPSE (Thane): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the registration of consumer associations and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the registration of consumer associations and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto ".

The Motion was adopted

SHRI RAM KAPSE: Sir, I Introduce the Bill.

15.36 hrs

COMPULSORY STERILISATION BILL *

[English]

SHRI RAMESWAR PATIDAR (Khar-gone): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for compulsory sterilisation for promoting small family norm and for matter connected therewith.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for compulsory sterilisation for promoting small family norm and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted

SHRI RAMEWARPATIDAR: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

Bill to amend the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act. 1971.*

The motion was adopted

15.36 1/2 hrs.

[Translation]

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

KUMARI UMA BHARTI: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

(Amendment of Article 350A).

[English]

SHRI SHAHABUDDIN SYED (Kishanganj): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

15.38 hrs.

ONE-FAMILY ONE-POST (IN GOVERNMENT SERVICE) BILL*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

SHRI C.P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA (Chitradurga): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for appointment of only one member of a family in public services and posts in connection with the affairs of the Union.

The motion was adopted

SHRI SHAHABUDDIN SYED: I introduce the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a bill to provide for appointment of only one member of a family in public services and posts in connection with the affairs of the Union."

15.37 hrs.

MEDICAL TERMINATION OF PREGNANCY (AMENDMENT) BILL*

The motion was adopted

(Amendment of Section 3 and 4)

SHRI C.P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA: I introduce the Bill.

[Translation]

KUMARI UMA BHARTI (Khajurato): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act. 1971.

15.39 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Amendment of Article 371)

[English]

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

SHRI UTTAMRAO DEORAO PATIL (Yavatmal): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

"That leave be granted to introduce a

*Published in Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 2, dated 13.9.1991.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That the leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

[*Translation*]

SHRI DATTA MEGHE (Nagpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to oppose this bill, because the provision introduced by the hon. Member in this Bill requires the constitution of the Board before October 19, 1991. My submission is that there was no need to introduce this Bill. I would like the hon. President to issue an ordinance for setting up a Board, because the proposal to this effect has already been approved unanimously by the members in Maharashtra Legislative Assembly. An agitation has been going on in Vidarbha and Marathwada for the last 2-3 years. When Shri Rajiv Gandhi went there for his election campaign, he had given an assurance to set up the Board as soon as his Government came into power. Similar promises were made by Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh and Shri Chandrashekhar. Despite the repeated assurances given by our leaders the Board has not been constituted so far. As a result of it the educational and industrial development required there has not taken place. In this way, the constitutional provision has not been implemented so far. Therefore the participation of the Government of Maharashtra has also become significant in this regard. The Government should issue an ordinance so that the longstanding demand of the lakhs of people for setting up a Board could be fulfilled immediately.

The hon. Member Shri Patil also belongs to Vidarbha and he knows each and everything. It would not be improper if the matter is discussed in the House. But so far as the matter of setting up the Board is concerned, I would suggest that the Board should be constituted immediately latest by October, 19.

MR. CHAIRMAN: At the moment you cannot speak on merit of the Bill.

SHRI DATTA MEGHE: It has been a longstanding demand of the people of our area. Whatever provisions are made by the Government of Maharashtra are proved futile due to non-allotment of funds. Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh, Shri Chandrashekhar and then Shri Rajiv Gandhi-one after the other gave the assurance to the people to set up Board immediately, but in vain. Therefore, bringing the bill in the House will further delay the execution of the proposal, we want the Board to be set up.

SHRI UTTAMRAO DEORAO PATIL (Yavatmal): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I do not think that the Bill I have moved and the views expressed by Shri Datta Meghe clash with each other. I have suggested that the hon. President should issue an order latest by September 30 for setting up the Board positively before October 19, 1991. It would not be a matter of objection even if the Government proposes to set up the Board earlier than that. It would be in the interest of the backward areas of Vidarbha, Marathwada and the rest of Maharashtra if the Board is set up. Therefore, instead of opposing the Bill Shri Meghe should urge the Government to set up the Board at the earliest.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India".

The motion was adopted

SHRI UTTAMRAO DEORAO PATIL: I introduce the Bill.

15.46 hrs

MEDICAL TERMINATION OF PREGNANCY (AMENDMENT) BILL **(Amendment of Sections 3 and 4)**[English]*

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN (Indore): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act, 1971.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to amend the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act, 1971."

The motion was adopted.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: I introduce the Bill.

15.46 1/2 hrs.

INDIAN PENAL CODE (AMENDMENT) BILL **(Amendment of Section 376)**[English]*

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA (Surat): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Penal Code.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Penal Code."

The question was adopted.

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: I introduce the Bill.

15.47 hrs.

COMPULSORY MILITARY TRAINING BILL **[English]*

SHRI C.P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA (Chitradurga): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to make military training compulsory for all able-bodied persons*.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to make military training compulsory for all able-bodied persons."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI C.P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA: I introduce the Bill.

15.47 1/2 hrs.

WELFARE OF HANDICAPPED, DISABLED AND MENTALLY RETARDED PERSONS BILL **[English]*

SHRI C.P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA (Chitradurga): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the welfare by the Government of all persons who are born handicapped, disabled or mentally retarded.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the welfare by the Government of all persons who are born handicapped, disabled or mentally retarded."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI C.P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA: I introduce the Bill.

15.48 hrs.

COMPULSORY REGISTRATION OF MARRIAGES BILL**[English]*

SHRI C.P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA (Chitradurga): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for compulsory registration of all marriages in India.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for compulsory registration of all marriages in India".

The motion was adopted.

SHRI C.P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA: I introduce the Bill.

15.48 1/2 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(In Section of New Article 48 B)

[Translation]

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT (Agra): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the constitution of India.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"The leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India".

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT:

I introduce the Bill.

15.49 hrs.

NARCOTIC DRUGS AND PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES ACT (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Amendment to Section 2 etc.)

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is:

"The leave be granted to introduce Bill to amend the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985".

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: I introduce the Bill.

15.49 1/2 hrs

CONSTITUTION (SCHEDULED TRIBES) ORDER (AMENDMENT) BILL *

(Amendment of the Schedule)

[English]

SHRI UTTAMRAO DEORAO PATIL (Yavatmal): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950".

The motion was adopted.

SHRI UTTAMRAO DEORAO PATIL: I introduce the Bill.

15.50 hrs.

FOREST (CONSERVATION) AMENDMENT BILL *

(Amendment of Section 2, etc.)

[English]

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR (Khar-gone): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR: I introduce the Bill.

15.50 1/2 hrs.

HUMAN RESOURCES (UTILISATION) BILL *

[English]

SHRI S.B. SIDNAL (Belgaum): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the utilisation of human resources in the best interests of the country and for matters connected therewith.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the utilisation of human resources in the best interests of the country and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: I introduce the Bill.

15.51 hrs.

YOUTH WELFARE BILL *

[English]

SHRI S.B. SIDNAL (Belgaum): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for a comprehensive policy for the development of the Youth in the country.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for a comprehensive policy for the development of the Youth in the country."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: I introduce the Bill.

15.51 1/2 hrs

NATIONAL CHILD WELFARE BOARD BILL *

[English]

SHRI S.B. SIDNAL (Belgaum): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of a National Child Welfare Board for welfare of children and for matters connected therewith.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

" That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of a National Child Welfare Board for welfare of children and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: I introduce the Bill.

15.52 hrs

RESTRICTION ON HOLIDAYS IN PUBLIC OFFICES BILL *

[English]

SHRI S.B. SIDNAL (Belgaum): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to put restriction on number of holidays in public offices.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

" That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to put restriction on number of holidays in public offices."

The motion was adopted

SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: I introduce the Bill.

15.52 1/2 hrs

REHABILITATION OF DEPENDENTS OF VICTIMS OF TERRORISM BILL *

[English]

PROF. K.V. THOMAS (Ernakulam): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for payment of monthly pension and provision of other facilities to the members of the families of persons killed in terrorist violence in the country.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

" That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for payment of monthly pension and provision of other facilities to the members of the families of persons killed in terrorist violence in the country."

The motion was adopted

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: I introduce the Bill.

15.53 hrs

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL *

(Amendment of Article 311)

[English]

PROF. K.V. THOMAS (Ernakulam): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

" That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted

PROF. K.V. THOMAS : I introduce the Bill.

15.53 1/2 hrs

CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE (AMENDMENT) BILL *

(Amendment of Section 2, etc.)

[English]

SHRI R. RAMASWAMY (Periyakulam): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill

further to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973."

The motion was adopted

SHRI. R. RAMASWAMY: I introduce the Bill.

15.54 hrs

CONSUMER PROTECTION (AMENDMENT) BILL *

(Amendment of Section 2. etc.)

[English]

PROF. RAM KAPSE (Thane): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Consumer Protection Act, 1986.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to amend the Consumer Protection Act, 1986."

The motion was adopted

PROF. RAM KAPSE: I introduce the Bill.

15.55 hrs

CONSTITUTION AMENDMENT BILL *

(Amendment of Article 370)

[Translation]

KUMARI UMA BHARTI (Khajuraho): I

beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the constitution of India."

The motion was adopted

[Translation]

KUMARI UMA BHARTI: I introduce the Bill.

15.56 hrs

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL (INSERTION OF NEW ARTICLE 19 A)

By Shri Chitta Basu Contd

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will now take up further consideration of the following motion moved by Shri Chitta Basu on the 30th August, 1991, namely:-

"That the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India, be taken into consideration."

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): On the last occasion when I moved the motion for the consideration of the Bill standing against my name, I did not speak at length. I think today you shall give me an opportunity to explain the various aspects of the Bill.

Sir, the Bill seeks to incorporate the right to information as a fundamental right in the Constitution of our country. Naturally, hon. Members of the House expect to know the concept or the perception of the right to

[Sh. Chitta Basu]

information. What do we really mean by right to information? In my view, the right to information should be a comprehensive one. This right embraces in its ambit, the right to communication involving freedom for collection, storage, processing, dissemination of news data, pictures, facts, messages, opinions and comments required in order to understand and react knowledgeably on personal, environmental, national and international conditions, to take appropriate decisions and to establish oneself as an effective member of the society in which one lives. Not only the individuals, but the communities collectively also need the facilities of communication for their very survival or existence. Therefore, this right to information is a very comprehensive concept and from that point of view, we should proceed to discuss the matter.

Sir, freedom of communication is a most precious acquisition of democracy. If we cannot interact, if different sections of people cannot interact among themselves, democracy cannot exist. With this right of freedom for communication linked is the right to know. What shall I communicate unless I know? Therefore to know is a right which is also derivative of the right of freedom to communicate. Why do I want this right? I want this right because in the modern society, these rights enable the individuals as also popular governments to acquire knowledge which equips them with the power to discharge their responsibilities. If I have no right to know, I cannot equip myself with the power to discharge my responsibilities as an individual in the society.

16.00 hrs

As an elected representative of the people, I cannot discharge my responsibility in this House unless I know the fact. Unless I know how the Government governs; how the ruling party governs; how the policies are framed, unless I am conversant with these, I cannot discharge my responsibilities as a Member of this House. It is also applicable

to an individual if he is to function in the society as a responsible citizen of the country.

It is also very necessary for a popular Government to communicate to the people; educate the people about its policies and programmes. They should learn from the people. And, if you allow me to use a phrase used by Mao-Tse-tund, "From the masses and to the masses" That is, the Government should learn or a person should learn from the masses and again it should be transmitted to the masses.

To communicate is the highest form of democracy and it requires the right to know. So, Sir, the right to know is of fundamental nature and I want it to be incorporated as one of the fundamental rights in the Constitution of our country. It is not my view alone. Even the United Nations have accepted this principle. I would like to quote the universal declaration of Human Rights adopted by United Nations General Assembly on 10th December, 1948.

"Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression. This right includes freedom to hold opinion without interference and to see, receive and impart information and ideas through any media regardless of frontiers."

It is not only limited in a particular society in a particular country but it is also a universal right.

Sir, as I have mentioned earlier, a representative Government must also have the means to govern. Unless the Government encourages debates on public issues, Government cannot also understand or realise the intensity of the feeling of the people and cannot take appropriate action in response to them.

Sir, Madison has said, "People who mean to be their governors must earn themselves with the power which knowledge gives." As I mentioned earlier, that power

can be acquired only if we have got the right to know.

Sir, this movement of right to information has a chequered history of its own. It is not a sudden demand of a section of the people. It took roots in the latter half of the Sixteenth Century and in response to that, Sweden passed the Freedom of Press Act in 1766. Swedish people even now has access to all official documents. Here, we have not. Classified documents are there but we have no access to them.

I have mentioned some of the instances in the Statement of Objects and Reasons of the Bill. Under the garb of Official Secrets Act, you do not have access to superficial information.

In 1942, a movement started in the United States of America for the recognition of right to information. The result of the movement was the enactment of the Administrative Procedure Act, 1946. It was followed by an automatic system that the Government documents will be de-classified or open to the people with the lapse of twelve years. So, a law provides for an automatic system of de-classification.

Sir, the Act of 1946 in the United States of America was replaced by the Freedom of Information Act of 1966. This had ensured, access to public, all official documents as a general rule. Now, they have further improved it. Every document is accessible to the people in the country.

There was another enactment in 1974 which provides for making certain categories of information or documents to be inaccessible by law. There may be certain documents which may be declared as inaccessible, not open to all, by the Legislature.

There are other Acts also. By describing this history I only like to bring to the notice of the House that there has been a consistent demand from the people to have a right to know or right to information as a fundamental right.

In India, in our Constitution, Article 19(1) (a) guarantees freedom of speech and expression; and from that freedom of expression and freedom of speech derives the right to information. If I have not the right to information, I cannot communicate; I cannot express my views. Therefore, right to information, right to know is taken to be a fundamental right as a derivative not direct. What my amendment seeks to achieve is in a state of allowing it to remain as a derivative from Article 19(1) (a), I want that this right should be direct and fundamental; that means right to know, right to information.

In 1989, there was a great political change in our country. A new Government was ushered in. The Congress (I) Government was dislodged from power. The National Front Party formed the Government at the Centre. We, the Left Parties, and also the BJP, extended support to the Government formed by Shri V.P. Singh. On December 6, 1989, the Prime Minister, Shri V.P. Singh - do not get angry simply by hearing the name of Shri V.P. Singh - announced the following message:

"Functioning of the Government would be made more transparent and secrecy will be maintained only when interests of national security and foreign relations so warrant."

This is exactly what I want, that is, the Government should function in a transparent way, which the present Government and the earlier Government did not do. - Even yesterday, only a simple demand was to see that the Government takes effective steps to pursue the Bofors' case just to uncover the truth. And what happened in the House? Therefore, the Government did not function in a transparent way. Unless the Government functions in a transparent way, the Parliament is denied the right to know; the people are denied the right to know. How can this democracy survive, flourish and blossom?

The President of India on the 20th December, 1989, said in his Address to the

[Sh. Chitta Basu]

Joint Session as follows:

"A Participative democracy requires an enlightened and informed electorate. An open Government functioning in full public view, will minimise the wrong doing. The Official Secrets Act will be suitably amended so that people have increased access to information. Doordarshan and AIR will be given autonomy to ensure free flow of information.

That was the announcement made by the President of the country on December 20, 1989.

The President further said, -

"Legislative measures will be taken to have the right to information enshrined in the Constitution and to ensure free flow of information to the people."

That was also the statement made by the President of the country on December 20, 1989.

Therefore, the Government policy was enunciated in the clearest possible terms. The Government is government, with continuity. The earlier government which framed the policy of incorporating the right to information as a Fundamental Right also announced it. And it was also announced by no less a person than the President of the country, but it has not been acted upon by the subsequent governments. I think that in a parliamentary democracy it is not a tenable practice. This practice should not be encouraged. This practice should not be accepted.

Not only this. An earlier Government, the National Front Government set up a Cabinet Committee on December 8, 1989 and studied all the aspects of granting the right to information to the citizens of India. And again they decided on January 1, 1990, and it was announced by the Government at

that time, that a amendment of the Official Secrets Act, 1923, would be carried out to ensure the right to information by the citizens.

Therefore, as I was saying, the policy of the Government has been to provide for the incorporation of the right to information as a Fundamental Right. But it has not been implemented as yet.

But why has this policy not been implemented? It is because I think the bureaucracy does not want to part with the power. It is because the bureaucracy does not want the people to enjoy this right.

Max Weber writes in his Essays in Sociology' thus:

"Every bureaucracy seeks to increase the superiority of the professionally informed by keeping their knowledge and intentions secret. Bureaucratic administration always tends to be an administration of 'secret sessions' in so far as it can. It hides its knowledge and actions from criticism."

Therefore, I think, the bureaucracy here also stood in the way.

Sir, I would only refer to certain risks which our journalists are exposed while in discharging their responsibility.

Only yesterday the Indian Federation of Small and Medium Newspaper protested against the harassment of journalists by the State under the Terrorist and Disruptive Activities Act.

It is a very sad story to tell. The journalist Ms. Sanabam Ongbi Th. Belu was reported breast-feeding her baby when she was picked up by the local police under TADA. She is a journalist of a Manipuri daily. She was arrested along with her infant without being shown any papers. What was the reasons? Ms. Belu was arrested for her article "Police and Nasha" (Police and Intoxication) in her publication. The news item

was in no way provocative or seditious. It did not advocate incite or facilitate the commission of any disruptive activities to invoke TADA. She is a lady journalist and she wrote a speech presumbaly against the police and that was the reason for her arrest along with her infant while she was breast-feeding her infant and put in the jail under TADA. ..(Inter-
ruptions)

SHRI SHAHABUDDIN SYED (Kishanganj): Who knows the infant was not a terrorist.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : You are right. They are afraid of infant also.

There is another news, about which Shri S.S. Ahluwalia referred. *Univarta* Sub-editor Shri Manohar Singh was assaulted by a policeman in a bus and later branded as a pickpocket after he disclosed his identity. Mr. Singh was manhandled by the members of the public also.

Sir, these are the fate of journalists while they are discharging their duty or discharging their responsibility. I have a long list of those instances. Even a journalist in Orissa was killed and his wife was raped. There are many instances. I do not like to give them.

Now, another element of the right to freedom is the grant of immunity from disclosing the source. The investigative journalism is appreciated in our country. The journalists are exposed to some kind of risk. As a matter of fact, the issue came before the House of Lords. This related to the case between Brish Steel Corporation versus Granada Television. The House of Lords held that there is no absolute immunity. The journalist may be required to disclose the source if the Court so directs. In India we find the same perception accepted in the Press Council Act, 1978. I want this perception should be resented, if we are really interested to see that the investigative journalism is to search and inform the people, educate the people about the wrong doings of persons in authority, wrong doings

of the Government or anybody who is responsible.

I want other Members of the House to speak out their voice. In conclusion, I want to say that the Government is the most important institutional repository of information. They have documents, they analyse documents, they collect information in the course of formulating their socio-economic and political policies. The citizens of this country are entitled to have those information. It should be available to all. BUT, our experience is that all information is not easily available to the Members of Parliament. They are having dialogues with the IMF. They are signing agreements, they are accepting the loans under certain conditionalities. This Parliament should know what are those conditions. Therefore, I have sought to include the right to information as a Fundamental Right. I hope and I believe that this House will give proper consideration to this and accept the Bill in order to enable the people of our country to exercise their democratic rights, the right to know, the right to information and that will help of further progress of our democracy. With these words, I commend that the Motion be accepted.

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, we have got one-and-a-half-hour at our disposal. There are 14 hon. Members who have already given their names to participate in the Debate. Kindly look to your subsequent speakers. There are some Members who have not got the chance at all. Such Members may also be allowed to participate in the Debate. Secondly, the consolidated list from each wing of the respective parties would help the Chair in calling the names of the intending speakers in a proper order, as agreed upon. So, this may kindly be borne in mind.

SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL (Erandol): Sir, I congratulate Shri Basu for having brought this Bill regarding Freedom of Information. We have got Fundamental Rights incorporated in our Constitution. But, even for these Right, there are some reasonable

[Sh. Vijay Naval Patil]

restrictions which are understood and followed.

In the Constitution of every democratic country, there are reasonable restrictions on Fundamental Rights and again to add to these Fundamental Rights by bringing in this amendment of article 19 and by incorporating it as article 19A, I do not think is necessary at this juncture. A suitable amendment to the Official Secrets Act would serve the purpose.

For running the Government, for the proper functioning of democracy, the information which the Government possesses is of three kinds. One is the information which is necessarily to be made public; the other is the information which can be got on demand; and there is a third kind of information which has to be kept secret from the public. Of course, as Shri Basu has suggested that in other countries, after ten or twelve years that information can be made public, that aspect can be considered.

The information with the Government which has to be made public is, for example, when the Government has to construct some dam or get some supplies, it has to call for the tenders, or when it has to recruit people, it has to make the advertisement. Such kinds of informations is to be made public. Similarly, when there is the opening of a new telephone exchange, it has to be made public; when there is a new post office opened, it has to be made public; if a new train is started or even when the timings of the trains are changed, these are to be made public.

There are other things which are to be kept secret from the public but if necessary, the information can be divulged on demand. For example, with regard to our gas pipelines which are running underground, or the with regard to the water pipelines, the information can be given to the Members of Parliament or to the public, when the intention of getting the information is honest.

Otherwise, it has to be kept secret from the scrupulous elements like extremists. If it is made known to such elements, it would be dangerous for the functioning of the State and for the public also.

There is a third type of information which is to be kept secret. Not only it is to be kept secret by the State but sometimes even the courts have to conduct their proceedings secretly. I would like to quote from the Official Secrets Act where it is mentioned that the court has power to exclude the public from the proceedings:

"In addition and without prejudice to any powers which a court may possess to order the exclusion of the public from any proceedings, if in the course of proceedings before a court against any person for an offence under this Act or the proceedings on appeal, or in the course of the trial of a person under this Act, application is made by the prosecution, on the ground that the publication of any evidence to be given or of any statement to be made in the course of the proceedings would be prejudicial to the safety of the State..." So, we have to consider the safety of the State also and for that, even the proceedings in the courts are to be conducted secretly many times.

We consider and we are always conscious of the independence of judiciary. But even in the case of appointment of judges, some advocates or some bars have demanded that the appointments which are contemplated should be made public before they are finalised by the Chief Justice of the High Court or the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. But there also there are different opinions. What I want to emphasise is that in the functioning of the Government, there are certain documents, there are certain papers which are to be kept secret. There is also a fundamental duty of every Indian citizen to abide by certain things. For example, a citizen has to give information, on his own, to the police or to the officials if there is some crime committed before his

eyes. But what we find is that there is a tendency today that we are not duty bound to divulge or to give information. As per the Official Secrets Act, there is a duty to be performed by each individual. If he notices some crime or murder committed before him, he has to give information. But, if he does not give, the punishment for the same is two years' imprisonment. It was earlier three years' imprisonment which has been reduced to two years. I would like to urge upon the Government to reconsider this. We generally find that the citizens do not consider it their duty, even if they notice an accident on the road, to tell the police or to concerned official so that the victim could be helped. We are going away from our duty.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Instead of the victim being helped, those who give the information are being harassed very much for adducing the evidence.

SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL: It is so because they are afraid of giving evidence or going to court and spending their time. Every individual is now becoming indifferent to such incidents. But I feel that if such things continue and if accidents take place and the victim is not helped in time and the support of evidence is not given, they will not get any compensation or any help from anybody in society. On the one hand we ask for the freedom of information as fundamental right and on the other, we are not giving information which is required to be given to help our fellow citizens.

I agree with Shri Chitta Basu that some information, which is contained in the enquiry reports, can be divulged. But it is kept as secret on the pretext of being secret information which is not necessarily required for maintenance of safety of the State. On the whole, I would like to state that our Indian Constitution incorporates the fundamental rights which are required for the citizens for their welfare in the society. I quote another Basu, who has commented on the Indian Constitution, the part dealing with the fundamental rights:

"It has been contended that this Part of our Constitution relating to Fundamental Rights is more elaborate than the Bill of Rights contained in any other existing Constitution of Importance and covers a wide range of topics."

Then the other thing which has been said in this House is the Constitution of Switzerland and other countries are being amended. BUT, I would like to say that what we have incorporated earlier is not existing in other Constitutions even today. I would again like to quote Shri Basu:

"Similarly there are rights covered by the European Convention of Human Rights which have not been included in the Indian list of fundamental rights. It should, however, be added that the Indian declaration does recognize certain minority rights which are not usually found in other Constitutions."

We are having some minority rights which other Constitutions do not contain or are not incorporated in them. So also, if in other countries there is a right incorporated regarding freedom of information, it is not necessary that it should be incorporated here. My only contention again is that suitable amendment to the Official Secrets Act will well serve the purpose.

With these words I oppose the amendment and thank the Chair for the opportunity given.

[Translation]

PROF. PREM DHUMAL (Hamirpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I support the Amendment Bill introduced by the hon. Member Shri Chitta Basu. It gives sanction to the right to information as a fundamental right. Of late, it has been an experience that whenever the Government intends to cover it lapses and shortcomings, it always takes the shelter of the existing laws and put the plea that revealing. The information would not be in public interest. And now we are facing the

[Prof. Premdhumal]

consequences of it. Many Enquiry Commissions were appointed; the reports were provided to the Government and the people were also eager to know the detail of the reports. But all these reports were suppressed on the plea that placing those reports before the House would not be in the public interest.

The tragic assassination of Shrimati Indira Gandhi took place. An Enquiry Commission was set up to enquire into the details of the riots that broke out after the assassination. The report was submitted and the Government suppressed it on the plea that it was not in the public interest to reveal the information to the common people.

[English]

The phrase 'public interest' has become most safe for the Government to take shelter under it.

[Translation]

Whenever they want to avoid any information from the Public they say that it is not in the public interest.

This phrase of 'Right to information' becomes right to disinformation as it is misused by the Government. The Government does not give right information. As a result rumours are spread and people get false information. The Government says that it will be against the public interest to give them right to information. In such circumstances, people believe on such investments and take the wrong information as right information.

In the Bill, moved here by Shri Chitta Basu, he has himself said that-

[English]

"Nothing in this article shall prevent the State from making any law, from time to time, prescribing the types of information which may need protection from disclosures."

[Translation]

He has kept full account of the fact that if any thing has to be kept secret in the interest of the nation and has made it clear in the statement of objects and Reasons-

[English]

"Information prejudicial to the security of the State, information concerning defence or security of the nation, foreign relations, Cabinet proceedings and documents, etc. State should be empowered to make laws in which official documents which are to be kept secret shall be closely defined."

[Translation]

What I mean to say, is that in regard to the information concerning security of the nation, foreign relations, cabinet proceedings etc. State should be empowered to make laws, in which documents which are to be kept secret shall be closely defined. But to say in every matter, that it is not in the public interest to give information, is not correct. A lot of conservative laws are still in implementation. There is a law regarding "No Photography allowed". Even on a simple bridge, it is written that no photography is allowed, as if a very important official secret is going to leak with the technique of the bridge being known to the outside world. Therefore, I would request the Government that in a democracy people have every right to get right information and while respecting it, the Government should itself bring such a Bill, which except the very important issues, accepts right to information as a fundamental right of the citizens.

With these words, support this Bill and hope that the Government will pay due attention in this regard.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Virtually every Member will get five minutes. There were 14 names in the list and now some more names have been added.

SHRI BHOGENDRAJHA (Madhubani): Sir, after this Bill, the Employment Guarantee Bill stands next in the List of Business. If it is not taken up today, it will lapse. It is the only Bill introduced in this House which actually seeks to guarantee employment and not the right to employment. So, I request you and all the hon. Members to kindly see that my Bill is taken up today itself.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: All the hon. Members will have their courteousness towards his Bill also.

16.47 hrs

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank Shri Chitta Basu for having moved such a bill which provides an opportunity to the House to discuss this matter in detail and to review our system of information. While appreciating the spirit behind this Bill, I do not understand whether there is any necessity to make an amendment to the Constitution itself for this purpose. I appreciate the spirit behind this Bill, but at the same time the circumstances that are prevailing in our country and the composition of our society are to be taken into consideration. Therefore, exemptions are to be provided and discretions will have to be there and our country being the largest democracy in the world, it is based on openness and not closeness. Openness is always welcome, but at the same time that openness need not be misused to the extent of endangering the security and integrity of the country. So, there has to be a balance between the two, the need for openness on the one hand and the requirement of the security restrictions on the other hand. This right to information, as such does not find a place in our Constitution. But, at the same time, I would like to bring to your kind notice that freedom of press, as such, also does not find a place in the Constitution in article 19 under the title of fundamental rights. But can anybody say that there is no freedom of Press in India? There is freedom of Press in India. Even I would say that there is a lot of freedom given here. It comes under the general category.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): I have just started.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Earlier, there were only 14 Members. Just make relevant points.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: One cannot do any justice. If you direct me, I will sit down we cannot do justice.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have no right to curtail your right. Right to speak is your fundamental right. I have no right to curtail that. Only, I can make an appeal to you. Be brief.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : We are debating about right to information Shri Chitta Basu, there is a tremendous amount of infringement of the right to information in this country when we are discussing and debating that, Naturally, these rights should accompany with responsibility also. As I told you earlier, freedom of Press is very much present in India. Although there is no such expression available in the Constitution, it comes under Article 19(1) (a) which says all citizens shall have the right to freedom of speech and expression. Accordingly, Article 19(2) provides for certain reasonable restrictions. I believe the Official Secrets Act, if it is properly amended, would serve the purpose. There is a lot of debate going on in this regard. As I said initially, openness is always welcome. But at the same time taking into account the circumstances prevailing in the country, there should be some restrictions. There is no dearth of people in this country who even while serving in the Army sell out secrets. There is no dearth of such people in this country are administered the oath of Secrecy also do such things. There is also instance of such people, who are in authority divulging so many things. So, naturally we have to be very cautious. I would say that even in England, in Sweden such restrictions are there. Sweden was the first country to bring forward this right to information

[Sh. Sriballay Panigrahi]

under their list of fundamental rights. There is a lot of *hallagull* in this House and outside the House also regarding Bofors.

Sir, you know information relating to security, solidarity, Defence, Foreign Affairs, Trade and Commerce is exempted from being leaked out or supplied. Here also, we have to be quite selective. There should be a study. Neither I vehemently oppose this Bill nor I wholeheartedly support it. At the same time I would like to make it very clear that without going in for an amendment to the Constitution itself, the purpose will be served by bringing in suitable amendment to the Official Secrets Act after such an indepth study. Various sections of that Act can be amended. I also say that ours, being a democracy, is prone to corruption. Corruption is very much spreading and expanding. It is having a cancerous growth. Unless that is arrested, the situation would become very serious. I am afraid about the future of democracy when I think of this prevailing corruption in India. How alarmingly it is growing up! The bureaucracy, the corrupt officials would always like as much of things as is possible to be kept secret, not to be revealed. We have to expose all such things. There should be a thorough discussion. There should be a thorough review. At the same time keeping the overall situation in mind, we have to act. The security environment is changing not only in India but all around our neighbouring countries as also in the world. Even in England some amount of freedom was given which was later on restricted by suitably amending their Act. Therefore, we should not be in a hurry and we should go about it quite continuously.

Now I am afraid to look at you because of the time factor (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am not against giving time to you Panigrahi. It is just only a matter of accommodating our own brothers who intend participating in it.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deog-

arh): With these words, I conclude.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Bill moved here by the hon. Member Shri Chitta Basu. Shri Basu had already given a detailed argument. Therefore, there is no need of new arguments. In 1963, an assembly of Martin Luther King was to be held in Houston in America, a civilized country from where the struggle for civil liberties had started. The Government there banned the assembly. The Public filed a petition at the high court that they wanted to hear Mr. Martin Luther King, as it was their right but the American Government was preventing them to do so, and therefore, they should be allowed to do so. The hon. Justice Sir John Marshall gave a very precise decision in this regard. He said that in the constitution of America, the freedom of speech has been provided, but there is no such thing as right to listen. Therefore, under the present Constitution, he is not empowered to provide them such a freedom, but the court will be happy if a widespread struggle is carried out in this regard. Such a decision was given by the court there and in the Human Right Declaration of United Nations General Assembly on 10th of December, 1948, it was said that:-

[*English*]

"Everyone has the right to Freedom of Opinion and expression. This Right includes freedom to hold opinion without interference and to see, receive and important information and ideas through any media regardless of frontiers."

[*Translation*]

By coincidence, it is given under section 19 then and under the section 19 of our constitution also, the same provision of freedom has been made in which a resolution for amendment has been brought in this House. I fully agree with hon. Member Shri Panigrahi that there should be some restrictions on it.

A restriction has already been made in the Constitution of India and under Article 19, it is written—

[English]

"All citizens shall have the right——

(a) to freedom of speech and expression;

(b) to assemble peaceably and without arms;

(c) to form associations or unions;

(d) To move freely throughout the territory of India;

(e) to reside and settle in any part of territory of India;

(f) to reside any profession or to carry on any occupation, trade or business.

[Translation]

But in the end, it has been written——

[English]

"Nothing in sub-clause (a) of Clause (1) shall affect the operation of any existing law, or prevent the State from making any law, in so far as such law imposes reasonable restrictions on the exercise of the right conferred by the said sub-clause in the interests of the sovereignty and integrity of India, the security of the State, friendly relations with foreign States, public order, decency or morality, or in relation to contempt of court, defamation or incitement to an offence."

[Translation]

Sir, a restriction has already been imposed. Another section regarding a citizen's right to collect the information, subject to the

condition, can be included in it, but if this right comes under the judicial scrutiny the Government will get a lot of excuses that they will not disclose it as it is not in the public interest.

I would like to submit about the Hindu-Sikh riots which took place in Uttar Pradesh during 1984-85. A judicial enquiry was conducted. But the State Government did not disclose the report of the said enquiry by giving the excuse it is not in the public interest. Pondicherry license scandal had also come before this House and Shri Morarji had to give a dharna here.

17.00 hrs.

The Government of India did not reveal the names of the people involved in the scandal nor did it allow the documents, in this connection, to be made public, on the ground of larger public interest. Sir, as you may be aware, one of our State Governments had to resign because of a telephone tapping scandal and a similar allegation regarding collection of secret information was levelled against another Government.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in his Address to the Joint Session of the Parliament, on December 20, 1989 the hon'ble President had stated that—

[English]

"A participative democracy requires an enlightened and informed electorate and open Government functioning in full public view, will minimise the possibility of wrong doings. The official Secrets Act will be suitably amended, so that people have increased access to information. Doordarshan and AIR will be given autonomy to ensure free flow of information."

[Translation]

Sir, I would like to say that the Government should implement the announcements made by the President, while addressing the

[Sh. Mohan Singh]

Joint Session of both the Houses of Parliament and the hon. Member in his Amendment Bill has suggested that the Government on its part can incorporate the Right to information in the list of Fundamental Rights, with some restrictions, it deems necessary. However, once it is brought within the judicial purview, the Government will not be able to suppress any information on the ground of larger public interest. This is the essence of democracy.

I extend my support to this Bill brought forward by the hon. Member, for it reflects the sentiments of every citizen who cherishes democratic values.

[English]

PROF. K.V. THOMAS(Ernakulam): Sir, the right to information should become a fundamental right in any democracy. I think, the present Constitution Amendment Bill moved by the senior Member, Shri Chitta Basu, is in this direction. In democracy, if information is not properly given to the people, people will slowly lose faith in democracy. There is a feeling in the public that the political parties and political leaders in our country are highly corrupt. There has been a proposal that the assets of the political leaders and the assets of the political parties should be known to the people. MLAs and Ministers in the State Governments should give details of their assets to the Chief Ministers and the MPs and the Ministers in the Central Cabinet should give the details of their assets to the Prime Minister. But, so far, this proposal has not been implemented and in some States, where the information was given to the Chief Ministers, it was kept in the files of the Chief Ministers. Once this has been published, one of the allegations against our political system will be over. If the people lose their faith in the political system, the entire structure will collapse. That is what we have seen in the Soviet Union. Whatever had happened in the Soviet Union, it is something that is pointing to the political system in the world. We are very unhappy

that Soviet Union is becoming weak because Soviet Russia was one of the forces which was balancing the political system in the world.

17.05 hrs.

[SHRI RAM NAIK *in the Chair*]

Now, of late, what we find is that even the secrets of the KGB, a very highly efficient secret service system and a professional body, are slowly leaking out. What do we find in our country? I have been a Member in this House from the Eighth Lok Sabha. Whenever there was an uproar in the House, it was only on Defence deals. Why should we attempt to make it a secret? I can understand if the functioning of a Defence equipment or a weapon is being kept a secret. Why should the deal be kept a secret? People should know how deals are taking place. I am not accusing any Government. There is an attempt by the Governments which come to power, in this Parliament, to try their best to keep the Defence deals as secret. My request is that all the major deals in the case of Defence should be known to the public. The way it should be made known can be discussed and thought about. There can be a Joint Parliamentary Committee to see how major defence deals are taking place. I am not suggesting that the functioning or the secrecy of the weaponry must be known to the public. I am only talking about how the Defence deals are taking place. Everybody should know what is happening. When we try to protect the secret in the House, the people become apprehensive. Let the people and the world know as to what is happening.

Similar is the case with small small documents. For example, there had been a number of inquiries conducted in this country. There were communal riots in 1984. There had been inquiries on telephone tapping, etc. Let them be known to the people and the world as to what had happened. My personal feeling is that those very highly secret documents should be released at least after a particular period, say, after 10 years or 15 years. We should know what is hap-

pening. This world is such that no secrets can be kept in a sealed wall for years and years. It will come out. And that is what we have seen now. Even the killing of Kennedy or the attempt to kill Pope Paul may be known in the newspapers once the secret files of the KGB will be out. So, the very secret services which have been functioning in different countries are collapsing. So, my request is that in a democratic country like ours, with such a big population and with various cultures and political parties, proper information must be given to the people. All political parties in this country are relevant at one point of time or the other. Political parties may come to power or go out of power. So, it is the duty of the political party to see that proper information is being given to the people. When we seek information, the reply of the Government is that the information is kept secret in public interest. What is public interest? Suppose we may ask tomorrow as to how many CRPF men have been sent to Punjab, they will say that it cannot be given. Why? It should be known. So, once we try to open our House, then people will know that these were the things which were happening. I think, this Bill, which has been brought forward by a senior Member of this House is an attempt to throw light into the functioning of our political system. I know that this Bill may not be passed. But it is discussed in the House so that people of this country will know as to what is happening in our political system.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRISUDHIR GIRI(Contai): Mr. Chairman Sir, I welcome the Bill introduced by Comrade Chitta Basu. He has introduced it at a very right time. The issue of maintaining secrecy and suppressing the truth from the eyes of the people has been going on for a long time. Sir, what should have been exposed and put before the people has been withheld from them and this has created many problems. Even the law of the land has been changed to facilitate the maintenance of official secrecy and to withhold truth from the people of our country. Here I would refer to the example of the Enquiry Committee

which probed the murder of Shrimati Indira Gandhi. It is still fresh in our memory. The Commission made a thorough investigation into the reasons, causes and various aspects of the murder but its report was not published. Subsequently, after a lot of pressure from the Opposition, the Government is compelled to bring out some information. All the required information has not yet been published. My question is this. By suppressing the findings of this probe committee, whose interests have been served? I think it was done only to serve the interests of certain corrupt politicians. Except this, it has not served any other purpose.

Two mutually exclusive and contradictory views as regards the functions of the State have predominance in our thought process. One view is that it is the State and State alone which is entrusted with the sacred tasks of administering people in their quest for preservation of peace and maintaining law and order. This view propounds that the barbaric nature of man can destroy and take away forcibly the wealthy acquisition of man and that this has been prevented by the State. It is the exponent opinion of some people starting from Aristotle to the modern day statesmen like George Bush.

The other view is that the State is the restraining instrument of exploitation of man by man. The laws and regulations of the State are directed to restrain people from going against organised exploitation. So, when the State power is seized by the people, having such faith and belief, it is likely that they withhold some information in the apprehension that such news may ignite them against the rulers. So, I am in favour of rather granting them the right to suppress some information. But it should be noted that they are not for suppressing the information. Rather, they disseminate the information and analyse the people's reaction. However, the school of these thinkers is not to be taken into consideration because our country is being ruled by the former school of thinkers and not by the latter.

Now, the protagonists of democracy

[Sh. Sudhir Giri]

who are at the helm of state administration must search their hearts whether they are really in favour of ensuring the right of knowing the information from the Government. If they really value the democratic principles and respect the people and their feelings, they must come forward to take measures to inform the people.

If the right to know and right to information is guaranteed to the people or at least to the people's representatives, then there would not have happened the unfortunate incidents of Bofors, German Submarines and other scandals. The ONGC scandal and the conditionalities of the IMF loan given to India have been kept secret from the people. Not only from the people, but even from their representatives also. What is the harm if the conditionalities of the IMF loan are to be made known to the people's representatives? They would never go against the interests of the country.

Another point that I would like to mention is, if the Government really value the democratic principles, they must allow the people to have information. For argument sake, if the Government thinks that the dissemination of the information would create a situation where people's movement will be organised against the Government's step, then I think the Government would be much more benefitted than the people.

The Government is now proceeding towards the outright rejection of the socialist principles. They have also taken measures in this regard by introducing the new Industrial Policy. Have they got the authority from the people to do so? They have been elected on the basis of the principles contained in our Constitution. In the Preamble of the Constitution there has been an indication that the socialist principles should be adopted. I think they have not got the authority from the people to turn the economy into capitalist path, and this should be made known to the people also.

There should be a balance between

what should be kept secret and what should be made known to the people. There should be a clear cut line in this regard. I think the information regarding the Army's position, security of a State or some action taken against the robbers or gangsters should be kept secret and other information be made known to the people.

Thank you, Sir.

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA
(Mandaur): Mr. Chairman, Sir

MR. CHAIRMAN : It was decided that every Member will speak for five minutes.

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA : The Bill, that has been brought before the House, draws our attention towards those basic rights under which we have a right to information. In this regard

SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH (Buxar):
Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to know whether my name is there in the list of Members who would speak on behalf of the C.P.I.?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your turn would come after two more speakers. I would also like to mention here that the hon. Deputy Speaker has prepared this list.

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I was submitting that the public is deprived of valuable information on the pretext that the Government would not reveal the same, in larger public interest. The existing Act was enacted in 1913 when India was still a colony and we were not free. But today, we are living in a free democratic society governed by a democratic system. It's high time, the Government reviews the old Act, which was enacted to safeguard the interests of the colonial masters.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, let us see how secret is the so-called 'secret' matter of the Government. The Government has suppressed many issues related to the Bofors issue in

the name of Secrecy, but that very Government has admitted, accepted and conceded many 'facts' regarding the Bofors issue, which came out in the newspapers. In my opinion, it is not proper to suppress information in the name of larger public interest. I do agree that there are some information, pertaining to the unity and integrity of the country, sovereignty and security of the country, foreign affairs etc, which can be certainly categorised as 'secret' and if the Government doesn't reveal these information on the ground of larger public interest, it is understandable. But it would be inappropriate if in the name of secrecy, the Government doesn't part with even those information which the common man gets to know through newspapers.

I would like to submit that we have guaranteed some fundamental, rights to the citizens, under the Constitution. The Constitution guarantees certain rights, under which the citizens are entitled to get such information. In the statement of objects and reasons of this Bill, it is mentioned that an inter-ministerial study group was constituted in this regard in 1977. When a demand was made to make the report of the study group public, the then hon. Home Minister told the House that 'The Report cannot be made public, as it is confidential.' I fail to understand as to what is secretive about this report. As I said earlier, one can digest this argument if the information pertains to the unity, integrity and sovereignty of the country or its foreign affairs but what is so secretive about the recommendations of a study group? Today, the situation demands a clear-cut definition of secret and non-secret information. As I said earlier, this law was enacted by the colonial rulers to safeguard their interests. While we have amended most of the laws enacted by our erstwhile rulers, this Act continues to be in force. I believe that there is a need to amend this Act a well and I am confident that the hon. Minister would look into it and bring about necessary amendments to safeguard the rights of the citizens. With these words, I once again extend my support to this Bill.

SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI

(Shimla): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am extremely grateful to you for providing me an opportunity to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I hope you know that you have to conclude within five minutes.

SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI: I support this Bill, because there is no such information which is not available with the common man of the country, but it won't be proper on the part of the Government to part with sensitive information pertaining to the troops stationed on our borders etc. which if passed on to the enemy can jeopardise the country's security. Even now, the country faces lots of problems and the officers are under oath not to disclose classified information and even this information is given, provided an application is made, as per the procedure. But, it is a Private Members Bill, I have stood up to support it. However, they have misunderstood the situation. If they feel that they can gain political mileage and electoral victories by ranking up issues like the Bofors and submarine scandals, through such Resolutions, such acts will lead them nowhere.

The submarine and Bofors issue was a subject of discussion in the House too during the ninth Lok Sabha and at that time also our leader Shri Rajiv Gandhi pointed out that if there is any proof in this regard it should be produced here and the elements who are trying to tarnish the image of the country should be named. But they failed to name anyone. The then Prime Minister to whom you have referred several times and pointed out that he has worked a lot for finding out the people involved in it. I understand that it is not so. I don't think that there is anyone in this country who is involved in treachery towards his country and indulges in collecting such confidential information which may ultimately disintegrate the country. I understand that our Government officers while performing their duty have made every efforts towards building our nation and to uphold the honour and dignity of the country. If we oppose them and cast allegations to this effect that they haven't concealed all the sources of informa-

[Sh. Krishan Dutt Sultanpuri]

tion and they are well informed of every event in every field it would be improper. I would like to know that when a F.I.R. is lodged in police against a culprit, whether it would be announced that now he is moving towards Lucknow or towards Shimla. As such I think that such allegations are not right. The cases in which secrecy is required to be maintained and the matters which can be publicised should be categorically stated. The Bill does not contain any such description. Reference to legislation and constitution has been made...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please speak on the Bill.

SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI: I am speaking on the Bill itself but let me answer his queries. There are people in this country who have collected money in the name of a temple and the House should be apprised of it. But who is going to highlight this aspect. The Home Minister should look into it. The Chief Minister of our State should look into this. He should know that how much money has been collected and the sources thereof.....(Interruptions)...I am asking about the money that was collected on the pretext of temple irrespective of the persons involved in it. The entire statistics should be presented before this House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now you conclude it.

SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, you are an experienced person. I want to point out that on 6th December, 1989 he has classified the subjects on which secrecy was to be maintained and also the matters which are not confidential. If all the aspects are brought before the public and every information is to be kept on the table of the House then the Statement of the Prime Minister is not correct. I want to mention that when the National Front was formed...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude in two or three sentences.

SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI: I would like to urge the mover of this Bill to withdraw the same since it is immaterial and the Members should refrain from making this type of comments so that the honour and dignity of the country is upheld. What are those information which you expect to get from the Government but think that you have been deprived of those. I understand that as per our Constitution and our laws there is no restriction on getting any information. You have not mentioned the section or the clause of the Constitution in which you want to make amendments. Therefore, I would request the hon. Member to withdraw his Bill. Whatever is required to be known to the people of this country is already mentioned in our Constitution. If we quote instances from foreign countries it is detrimental to our own interests. Whatever happens in their countries is their concern. I understand that if we take steps to control the wrong doings in our country, it is in our interest and our country will make progress in future. With these words I thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Tej Narayan Singh, you please wait for a while.

[English]

How much time will you take in replying to the debate? We have to complete this discussion by 5.30 p.m. Only then subsequent Bill can be taken up for a discussion.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): Ten minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: How much time will you take?

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): Five minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: So, two more hon. Members can speak.

[Translation]

SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH(Buxar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support this Bill. In the Constitution the Fundamental Rights have been mentioned in Article 12 to Article 35 but the objective with which Shri Basu has moved this Bill exists nowhere in Article 12 to Article 35. As such it is very necessary to incorporate a new Article in Article 19. If it is not incorporated then it implies that the citizens of this country have not been given this right which is necessary to safeguard democracy. Many rights have been given but the fundamental rights in the constitution do not mention the right to information, an important factor which affects the lives of the common man. As such it is very important and if this Bill is passed the common man will learn through Article 19 (a) of the constitution about the amount spent daily on district officers and officers deputed for land holding. The money invested by Government is public money. The common man is unaware of the monthly amount spent on providing body guards for M.P.s., M.L.A.s and Cabinet Ministers. The common man is ignorant of the amount of money spent on the security of a Member of Parliament who does not even hold any post in official capacity in the Government. The Ministers no doubt enjoy many facilities but there are so many people in the Government who avail these facilities without being a Minister. As such if an amendment is made in the Constitution it can be brought to the notice of common man that a person who is neither holding any post in Government nor is he a Member of Parliament, but a large amount of money is being spent on his security. Unless an amendment to this effect is brought this system cannot be streamlined. People say that then there will be no secrecy. But it is not so. The points which are confidential have been excluded from it. Shri Chitta Basu particularly has removed the confidential portions from the amendments moved by him and it has been categorically stated that the Government is free to amend anything which it considers controversial. The law framed earlier, also provides protection to the confidential aspect. As such I urge the Government to

accept these amendments. Because these amendments in the laws will be helpful to strengthen the country and with these words, I support this Bill.

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI(Kota): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Bill for amending the constitution as brought forward by Shri Chitta Basu in order to get the relevant informations, often suppressed in the name of the Inquiry Secrecy Act, is a very praiseworthy. I do not understand as to what is wrong if the proceedings of the Parliament is telecast. Nothing untoward happened when at the behest of Shri V.P. Singh the joint session of the Parliament addressed by the hon. President was once telecast? In the name of secrecy even today the proceedings of the Parliament is not permitted to be telecast. I think no secrecy is involved in it. Once some persons belonging to the Scheduled Caste accompanied me to the Parliament to meet Shri Ram Vilas Paswan. They desired to take a snap of Shri Paswan as a Souvenir which they wanted to show their villagers that their delegation had met the then Minister. They could not succeed to take his snap despite their best efforts. What sort of secrecy was involved in taking a snap in the Lok Sabha premises. I was very much surprised to see all this.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, in case the Budget proposals are leaked out the Government is taken to task. The Budget contains only certain tax proposals which we discuss later. Nothing untoward will happen if such proposals leak out. For lack of prior proper discussion on the tax proposals before the presentation of the Budget. We have to face the ill effects. This year (time) Shri Manmohan Singh presented the Budget. He being an economist has presented it in his own style. The way he was taken to task by the Congress Parliamentary Party is an example in itself. He had to withdraw certain tax proposals afterwards. I would like to request that it would give better results if the Budget prior to its presentation in the House is discussed publicly. The matters related to the public welfare must be considered seriously. However, if anything, in the country's

[Shri. Dau Dayal Joshi]

interest, is to be kept secret it must be kept secret.

It has been often observed here that in order to avoid answering our questions we put in the house, routine reply is given that it is not the interest of the country to give the information. To my question also a similar reply was given. The Bill brought forward by Shri Chitta Basu may be accepted so that we may get some relief and the country may get certain new directions I thank him very much for bringing forward this Bill before the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Many Hon. Members have expressed their desire to speak on this Bill. But there is time-limit. We have to finish discussion on it by 5.50 P.M.

AN. HON. MEMBER: I want to speak on it just now.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If any one of you is given permission to speak on this, others may not like it. So, excuse me for that. This is a good Bill. It would be better if the Hon. Minister as well as the Hon. Member who brought forward this Bill finish their replies. Only then we could dispose of this matter.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me this opportunity to reply to this Bill.

Shri Chitta Basu moved a Bill, which is really a very important one. It is not for the first time this Bill has been moved in this House. Even Shri Chitta Basu himself moved it in 1983 and in 1989. And I remember that he had asked questions in Rajya Sabha on the same Bill some years back. So, he is pursuing this Bill. I am very happy that he has not left his hope and he is still continuing his pursuit. The Government is in full agreement with many of the points he has raised.

When I was listening to him, I thought about a discussion in the famous book 'Liberty' by John Stewart Mill, where Mr. John Stewart Mill says about the freedom of an individual. He said: "You can stretch your hands to any extent you want but not beyond the nose of the man who stands nearby because it will hit his nose" You can stretch your hands but not hit him. So, we must have freedom. We must have freedom of information. But, it shall not jeopardise something else in the process of over anxiety or over zealousness shown to the freedom. At the same time, I am also aware of the position. If I may recall one instance of William Berkly, the Governor of Virginia in a Report to the Queen Majesty in London, wrote something very interesting which is not exactly the thing which I intended to say but the opposite of what I wanted to say. He said,

"I thank God that we have no free school or printing and I hope we will not have it for a 100 years; For learning has brought disobedience, heresy and sects into the world of Printing has divulged libels against the Government. Good keep us away from those"

So, that was his letter.

This Government do not believe that way. We want actually a freedom of expression. We want people to know things. we do not want to hide anything. But, at the same time, the security of the country and other interests are to be protected, privacy of the individual to a great extent. For that again, if you permit me to quote Mr. Thomas Jefferson. I quote:

"Were it left to me to decide whether we should have a Government without newspapers or news without a Government I should not hesitate a moment prefer the latter".

I would prefer a news without a Government. So, we have to strike a compromise, a

balance. So, in this process, the balance has to be found and this Government is very much aware of it. Previously Action Plan was drawn up in 1991 with a view to modifying the Official Secrets Act and to make more information available to the people. Now, the Inter-Ministerial study Group is working at it. Various Ministries are involved in it. so, the Inter-Ministerial Study Group while examining various aspects associated with it, is doing a very good job. I hope, taking advantage of the suggestions made by various Hon. Members of this august House, we have to give serious thought to stretch our hands as much as possible in the process of the information, as I mentioned earlier. With this spirit I have only one request to Shri Chitta Basu knowing fully well the manner in which he is pursuing it, I hope, we will be able to do it as fast as possible. I myself will see a faster movement to this from my side. I assure you that we will try our best to bring forth a comprehensive Bill in the process to achieve the objectives as fast as possible. In this spirit I request Shri Chitta Basu to withdraw this Bill at this time and bless us. I thank you very much. My colleague also wants to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has also to make some important observations.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM LAL RAHI) Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Bill put forward by Shri Chitta Basu is a good one.

So far as the issue of providing relevant informations to the Hon. Members in response to their questions regarding working of Government offices is concerned, it is receiving by them from the government offices whether there may be members of this House or the members of any Vidhan Sabha or District Council or Block Samiti. I feel even if this information is not received by them these issues are raised inside and outside this House with a little variation.

Shri Chitta Basu has put forth a very

important point as to why the members require information. They want it because they are supposed to shoulder their responsibilities. It is fact that they are to shoulder this responsibilities. But at the same time government has also to bear its responsibility. It is the liability of the Government to ensure security of the country and maintain law order. It is equally liable to manage resources to run the country properly. It is also supposed not to disclose certain things till it feels that the benefit of these things will reach the general public. It may divulge these at the opportune time. Hon. Member has also asked why the Budget is kept secret. Though I am not sure yet I can say that he himself might be knowing the opinion of the public regarding his own party. Excuse me, I am not levelling any allegation. The people say so. (Interruptions) When you go out of this House, where discussion takes place, the people say that this is the party of 'BANIYA'S. Now they want to do this (Interruptions)

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Sir, I have an objection over the word 'BANIYA'

SHRI RAM LAL RAHI: Please listen to me. I withdraw this word if has any objection. But the fact is fact. (Interruptions) I want to say (Interruptions) What would be the situation of the market if the Budget is leaked out before the House passes it. If the things we want to bring forward through Budget are leaked out the trader resorts to hoarding (Interruptions) So, I doubt the public will get any benefit if the Budget is leaked out. I may submit that our system of Government consists of the legislature, the executive and the judiciary. As far as the executive functioning is concerned the information can be sought by the legislative members of any level whether he is from the Vidhan Sabha or Zila Parishad or Municipality. But it is not proper to make available any information concerning security and safety of the country because that may endanger future of the country...that must be kept secret... (Interruptions) Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Hon. Member has mentioned in the Reasons and Objectives of this Bill that

[Sh. Ram Lal Rahi]

certain things have to be kept secret. I think by bringing forward this Bill he himself is not satisfied. But it is fact that too much security should not be resorted to. The Government itself is considering this and after consideration the government will decide the things of utmost importance to be kept secret. So I would request the Hon. Minister to withdraw this Bill, it would be better.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Before I call Shri Chitta Basu, I may say that time allotted for this Bill is over. With the permission of the House I want to extend the time by another five or seven minutes.

Is it the pleasure of the House to extend the time by another five or seven minutes?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Chitta Basuji, you must conclude within five minutes.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: Sir, I shall finish by 5.55 p.m.

I am quite thankful to the Hon. Members who have participated in the debate and extended their unstinted support for the objective of the Bill. I am also very much thankful to those who wanted to participate in the debate but could not, because of the time constraint. They have also extended their support to the cause of the Bill. I am thankful to them also.

I quite appreciate the position and the stand taken by the Hon. Minister of State for Home. He has also appreciated the objective which has inspired me to bring forward this Bill and he has also been pleased to note that I have been attempting to bring forward this kind of a Bill since the beginning of eighties. He has assured that the Government will take proper note of it and consider the report of the Inter-departmental Study

Group. It would have been better and I expected that the Minister would inform the House about the progress of the study of the Inter-departmental Study Group which could have enlightened the House in a better way so that we could have understood that the Government is really sincere in pursuing the matter.

Lastly, I only make one appeal to the Home Minister. I have quoted today about some instances of police atrocities on the working journalists. A big list is with me. I hope that the Government - as the Hon. Minister has promised - will kindly look into the cases which have been referred to, today and also referred to the Ministry earlier.

In view of the fact that the Hon. Minister has assured the House that the Government will bring forward a comprehensive Bill incorporating the objectives of this Bill, I seek the leave of the House to withdraw my bill and would appeal to the Government to bring forward such a Bill.

17.52 hrs

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Sir, I beg to move for leave to withdraw the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to withdraw the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

17.52 2/1 hrs.

HIGH COURT AT BOMBAY (ESTABLISHMENT OF A PERMANENT BENCH AT PUNE) BILL*

[English]

SHRI ANNA JOSHI (Pune) : I beg to

move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of a permanent Bench of the High Court at Bombay at Pune.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of a permanent Bench of the High Court at Bombay at Pune".

The motion was adopted.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI: I introduce the Bill.

17.53. hrs

HIGH COURT AT CALCUTTA (ESTABLISHMENT OF A PERMANENT BENCH AT SILIGURI) BILL*

[English]

SHRI PIUS TIRKEY (Ali purdwar): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of a permanent Bench of the High court at Calcutta at Siliguri.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of a permanent of the High Court at Calcutta at Siliguri".

The motion was adopted

SHRI PIUS TIRKEY: I introduce the Bill.

17.53 hrs

EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE BILL

By Shri Bhogendra Jha

MR. SPEAKER: Before I call upon Shri Bhogendra Jha to move the motion for con-

sideration of the Bill, we have to fix the time limit for discussion on this Bill. Will it be two hours?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Shri Bhogendra Jha may move.

1756 hrs.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill to provide for employment or for means and resources for self-employment to all adult citizens of the country, be taken into consideration".

Sir, we have been crying against unemployment and every one without any exception has been desiring that jobs be guaranteed to all. There have been movements outside and effort inside the Parliament also to make it a Fundamental Right. Throughout the world there has been a struggle for this. But, Sir, recently, in some parts of the world employment had been guaranteed to every one, both in theory and practice. This system has developed some cracks and I do also apprehend that unemployment also may begin in those countries. In such a situation, I think this Bill which I have moved is not a wishful thinking, it is not only the expression of a desire, but it is to guarantee employment to all the citizens of this country who want to do some jobs.

Sir, this is the fourth Parliament when this Bill had been introduced. It was introduced in the Fourth Lok Sabha, in the Seventh Lok Sabha, in the Ninth Lok Sabha and again in this Lok Sabha. That way it is the fourth time that this Bill was introduced and I do submit, through you, to all my Hon. Members of this House that they do study this problem.

The question of employment has two aspects, two sides. One side is that those who are able to do some jobs, willing to do some jobs, are not getting the jobs and they

[Sh. Bhogendra Jha]

are suffering, their families are suffering because of that, That is one aspect.

The other aspect and not less important, rather much more important, is that the nation is suffering, the country is suffering because the talent, the youth and the vigour and the abilities and qualities of scores of millions of people are not being used to the interest of this country, are not being utilised for the nation development to work in various aspects of life. That way the country is suffering. So, it is not a question of providing jobs for them or for their livelihood only. The question is to utilise their capacities, to utilise their talents to utilise their youth, which no law of the land can maintain permanently at the present stage. Every day the youth is turning into old and then they are passing into graves. Thus, a grim offence is being committed against the passing youth of this country, against the present and future generation. The question is how can we utilise the capacity, the talent, the vigour of every individual of this country for the good of the society, for the good of the country and whether it is possible or not. I do submit that it is not only desirable, but it is both possible and necessary also.

Sir, I apprehend that many of my friends here may not like some aspects of the Bill, but this Bill is meant to ensure employment or self-employment, which is not less important. In a country like India where 850 million people are living, so many heads and double of that number is the number of hands, self-employment is also a very important aspect for the development of the nation, for the development of the society and for guarding against the dangers which have occurred in socialist countries.

18.00 hrs.

There, only public sector undertakings have to perform certain jobs in a certain manner which resulted in self-defeating exercises. So, in respect, I want to emphasize certain aspects of this Bill, clause by

clause in detail later.

Sir, at present, there are about 20 millions of educated youth in the unemployment registers in our country and many more are there in the country, particularly in the countryside who have not registered their names anywhere. Besides that, there is a huge number of uneducated people and they do not know how to register their names in employment offices. So, this has become a part of our national life, social life, political life and family life. Due to this unemployment problem, thousands of families are in trouble today.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Bhogendra Jha, you can continue next time. since the time for Private Member's Business is over, we go to the next item.

18.00 hrs

FINANCE (NO.2) BILL, 1991¹ CONTD.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, we continue the discussion on the Finance Bill. Shri Chandulal Chandrakar can continue his speech.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was saying that our population would reach 100 crores by the year 2000. More than 25 crores tonnes of foodgrains would be required to feed this much of population. How would it be done ?

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Chandrakarji, please sit down for a minute. Hon. Members, it has been decided that the discussion on Finance Bill should be completed today and the hon. Finance minister would reply to it tomorrow. Today, all members who want to speak will be allowed to do so for as long as they want to and needed we shall sit late for it. There will be no speech not even speeches on amendment on the Finance Bill tomorrow.

row. There would be only reply and voting on the Bill.

MR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have given amendments on it, you have to provide time for it.

MR. SPEAKER: Time would be allowed to move the amendment but no time will be given to make a speech at the time of moving the amendment.

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we will not deliver a speech. But whatever we want to speak on the amendment, should be allowed.

MR. SPEAKER: Whatever you want to speak on amendment, you may speak to-day itself. Important points should be made at the consideration stage. That is why we have extended the sitting of the House by one day. The business of the House will also be conducted on the 17th instant. Keeping in view all these matters, we have to work like good parliamentarians. You may sit late today to discuss the Finance Bill. We have to complete it today. The Minister will reply to it tomorrow.

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDAYA: Sir, my submission is that we should be given some time to speak on our amendments.

MR. SPEAKER: You are not to move on the amendment, but if you want to speak, you can ...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You please sit down, I am placing everything before you. We are quite experienced now. There are some important Bills. The Bill on Punjab has to be passed. The budgets of Punjab and Kashmir have to be passed and other legislative business has to be put through. It is inevitable to pass them. Therefore, in the meeting of B.A.C. in which all leaders were present, it was decided that we would take up such and such item. There is no restriction on

speaking. You may sit late for as long as you wish. Shri Kumaramangalam has arranged dinner for us and all other officials. They will take dinner here and also sit late.

[English]

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM: Sir, my name is always found omitted from the list of speakers.

MR. SPEAKER: It will not be omitted.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR: Sir, I was saying that the farmers of our country will have to produce 25 crore tonnes of foodgrains by the year 2001. The farmers and agricultural labours of our country can definitely do this job. All kinds of subsidy is granted to the farmers of EEC countries as also to the farmers of America, Canada, Japan and China. These countries do so while presenting the budget of their respective countries. But here, our Government has been reducing the subsidy. I want to say that 50-60 per cent subsidy is granted to the farmers of countries of the EEC, as also of America and China. Within five-six years the countries of European Economic Community will increase cooperation with U.S.A. in the matter of agricultural production because there is no more competition from the USSR. Hence, the changed situation will provide more chances to the E.E.C. countries. As regard the facilities being provided to raise agricultural production in the country, I want to say that marketing facility should also be provided along with facilities of seeds, insecticides, fertilisers, water, electricity, etc. More facilities should be provided to increase industrial production. The hon. Finance Minister has made a provision for it. I am sure that the farmers will also get subsidy in fertilisers and insecticides to increase their production. Today, our hon. Finance Minister is faced with two problems. One problem relates to earning maximum foreign exchange and the other is to contain the prices of essential commodities. How can it be done? I think that the Central Government should

[Sh. Chandulal Chandrakar]

initiate action against hoarders. The State Governments too are doing this job. Since the budget session is going to be concluded, the Central Government should take stern action against hoarders and punish them if necessary. Not only that, no loan from our banks should be sanctioned to these people who indulge in hoarding. Hoarding is done due to black money in our economy. Our hon. Finance Minister has given many suggestions to check generation of black money. Many of our hon. Members have given some good suggestions. To check generation of black money at any cost is the need of the hour. Practical action is required to be taken. Without being highly ideological, we should think how to finish our black money. It has been said that black money worth Rs. 90 thousand crores is there in circulation in our country and a parallel economy is being run. The hon. Finance minister has made a provision to donate 40 per cent of the remittances of black money to the Government and deposit 60 per cent in the banks so that the money could be disbursed to the poor for the purpose of constructing houses. Undoubtedly, it is a good proposal. Everybody is realising that an international trader having one crore rupees as black money is liable not to pay more than Rs. 40 lakhs as income tax. It means that this provision of 40 per cent will not mobilise more than Rs. 300-400 crores. Why? As you know, NRIs abroad have to pay only 20 per cent through 'Hawala' and therefore, they will prefer this money to be converted through 'Hawala' transactions. Thus, the hon. Finance Minister would be able to collect very little money. That is why, I say that he should ponder over the suggestions given by us in connection with mobilisation of the black money. If possible, 60 per cent of the 40 per cent earmarked for making available to the Government, is deposited in the National Housing Bank. If we keep the exemption limit at 40 per cent. We would not be able to mobilise the money. Hence, there is a need to reduce it to 25 per cent. Some experts say that by reducing it to 25 per cent, we would be able to mobilise Rs. 60-70

thousand crores out of Rs. 90 thousand crores of black money.

Secondly, Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister of Finance will face another problem. Why will they take risk by not having much black money with them when you are changing 56% income tax? This fact needs due consideration and it is not easy to take 56% from those who are earning and it is this matter where a lot of irregularities take place. All of you know that black money lies with big industries, traders, rich people and some other kinds of people. Now you should reduce the deduction from 40% to 25% to recover it and reduction should also be made in the rate of 56% of income tax by the Finance Minister so that maximum amount of income tax could be recovered. In future it has to take place ultimately. You will have to do away with income tax and it should be replaced by more and more than over tax. The share holder whether he may be Mr. Ambani or anybody else should not declare their turn over less because that can cause a decline in the prices. Therefore, turn over tax may be imposed and the hon. Minister should seriously think about reducing the 56% rate of income tax. If such measures are not taken, the black money cannot be unearthed. We have to see whether many suggestions will find any concrete shapes. Also, I want to submit that if it is not possible to do all this in the current session, the annual budget may please be presented in November. Kindly present it in this very year. It will be better to present the Annual Budget in November or December instead of 28th February and you will be able to implement all these things. You will think about the annual rate fall in the country, the quality of crops, the quantity of oilseeds, pulses and the water bearing rivers. I submit that the hon. Finance Minister should discuss these matters in the Cabinet. The suggestion given by me and my colleagues should be duly considered in this very session and if it is not possible it should be done by presenting a budget in the November Session and these problems should be solved for ever. With these words, I conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI INDERJIT (Darjeeling): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to raise today a matter of grave and basic importance in regard to the functioning of our Parliament and the future of our democracy. On the evening of Thursday, September, 5 the Lok Sabha largely abdicated its principal responsibility of keeping a close and purposeful watch over the Treasury, namely Government spending. In one fell stroke of the guillotine, we voted without any discussion over Rs. 25,824 crores of the peoples money for expenditure during the current financial year. In the process, the Lok Sabha made history. But this was history, Sir, of which no parliamentary democracy can be proud.

Parliament's greatest strength and utility lies in its power over the Treasury. Not many today remember that the first major battle of democracy was fought in Britain on the question of the right of a King to impose taxes at will.

Happily, the people of Britain won at the end of a long and hard struggle. Our world then saw the birth of a fundamental cannon of democracy: No taxation without representation. The American war of Independence was also sparked by the same basic issue: the right to impose taxes.

The principle is strictly enforced in all parliamentary democracies. In fact, Britain and other democracies have over the past many years even taken new initiatives to strengthen Parliament's control over the purse. In sharp and distressing contrast, our Parliament's control over the national Budget has slipped, step by step, year by year.

Who is to blame? All of us, Mr. Speaker. I know that in the present year, the Prime Minister, the Leader of the House and the Ministers of Parliamentary Affairs were keen to get most of the Ministries and Departments discussed. But this could not happen as most of the time of the House was taken up by extraneous matters.

A question arises. Can something be done to mend the matters? The answer is a positive yes. We can have a solution over the long haul and in the short term. Over the long haul, Sir, we should take a page out of the British experience. We should seriously consider the question of switching over to the Committee system.

Specifically, I plead that our Parliament should take a fresh look at its procedures and adopt them to changing demands, as was wisely done by Britain in 1976. I further propose that the hon. Speaker should, as was done by the House of Commons, set up a Select committee on Procedure to make recommendations for the more effective performance of its functions.

Today, in Britain, Parliamentary control over the Treasury and Government as a whole is presently exercised through 14 Committee in addition to eleven earlier Committees, such as the Public Accounts Committee.

Happily, Shri Rajiv Gandhi as the Prime Minister showed the required enlightenment and initiative. In mid-1989, three standing committees on Agriculture, Environment and Forests and Technology were set up at his direction. All of us were delighted at the major reform introduced in Parliament at long last. Shri Balram Jakhra, the then speaker, appropriately said that these committees would and I quote:

"ensure greater administrative accountability to Parliament—as also better parliamentary scrutiny of the working of the Ministries".

The Chairman of the three Committees were equally excited and thrilled. They described the appointment of the three Committees as a milestone in the evolution of Parliamentary institutions in India. But they had little time to put the committees on their feet. Early in October, the Government decided to go in for a fresh general election.

[Sh. Inderjit]

The work of the Committees virtually ended with their inauguration. No Report could be submitted.

The last Lok Sabha took to the three Committees equally enthusiastically. In fact, I, as my friend Nirmal da reminds me, had opted for the membership of the Rules Committee in a bid to enlarge the Committee system. The appointment of merely three Committees was just not enough for me. Eventually, we succeeded in getting the Rules committee to decide on the establishment of seven other standing committees, including one on Home, a second on defence and a third on Foreign Affairs.

But, before long the powers that be reacted and reacted unfortunately. Amendments were moved by several Minister opposing the establishment of the new Committee. Outwardly, the reason advanced was the need to first see how the three Committees worked and the extent to which they served the best national interest. Inwardly, however, few among the Ministers were prepared to decentralise authority and share power. Some of us thereupon, readied ourselves for a battle royal. But, before this could happen, the Lok Sabha itself came to be dissolved.

Now, what can we in India do in the short run, namely, immediately to deal with the guillotined Ministries? Briefly we can adopt what I would describe as the Nehru model. India's first Prime Minister and Leader of the House, Jawahar Lal Nehru, was greatly upset when a few departments, including the department of Atomic Energy that was under him, could not be discussed and the guillotine had to be applied. Nehru then proposed that all the guillotined Ministries and Departments be discussed by *Ad hoc* Committee of the House on the basis of their annual reports presented to the House.

We should likewise set up *ad hoc* Committees or let the guillotined Ministries

and Departments be discussed by Informal Consultative Committees attached to various Ministries on the basis of their annual reports presented to the House. I am conscious of the fact that these consultative Committees are rather small in size. Their membership could easily be enlarged on an ad hoc basis to accommodate all those actively interested in the respective discussions.

The Hon. Speaker could, therefore, finalise the modalities in consultation with the Treasury benches and the Opposition leaders. The entire exercise could, in my view, be completed in a week to ten days after the session. Five to six Committees could meet each day to discuss the undiscussed Departments and Union Territories.

Now to conclude, I appeal to you, Mr. Speaker, to accede to my request and implement the Nehru model in regard to the guillotined Ministries and Departments. In fact, we should go one step further and implement another healthy innovation introduced by Nehru for strengthening ways and means of ensuring Parliamentary Surveillance over the Executive. In 1956, the Business Advisory committee decided to set up ad hoc Parliamentary Committees to scrutinize the five year plan documents. Accordingly, these Committees were set up for consideration of the draft Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth Plans. Unfortunately and regrettably, these committees were given up thereafter. We could surely think of reviving them.

Finally, I also request you to go into the larger issue of taking a fresh look at the present practices and procedures of Parliament, of our House, and for this purpose, set up a Select Committee on Procedures as was done in the United Kingdom, to make recommendations for the effective performance of its functions. In this context I may add that there are various other procedural problem areas such as the Zero Hour, scrutiny of Bills, questions, Expunctions, powers of the Speaker and the need to ensure his uncontested election which all need to be looked at afresh.

The House of Commons, Mr. Speaker continues to grow even after 300 years. Let us not stop growing at 40. Let us not make a mockery of Parliamentary democracy.

SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA (Hassan): Mr. Speaker, Sir, first of all, I want to congratulate my friend, Mr. Inderjit, who has made some valuable suggestions in a very healthy manner about the performance of Parliament. In one word I would like to request you that whatever suggestions Mr. Inderjit has made, are worth consideration by the Hon. Speaker and by this House.

When participating in this Finance Bill No. 2, I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Finance Minister here to the speech on the day when he moved this Bill for consideration of this House. He had said:

"Hon. Members, with regard to some of the proposals contained in the Bill, I have also received a large number of representations from the Members of the Public, trade unions, voluntary organisations, professional bodies and Chambers of Commerce on the proposals in the Bill. I express my sincere gratitude to all of them for giving us valuable suggestions."

Just now, one of the senior Members, Mr. Chandulal Chandrakar took much of his time to deliberate on the Agricultural Department where he tried to highlight about the need of encouragement that should be given to the agricultural development as we have to produce nearly 250 million tonnes by 2000 AD to meet our demand. When such is the case, I would like only to deliberate for a few minutes about Agriculture. We tried to convince the Hon. Finance Minister about the fertiliser subsidy or the price like, the whole House, irrespective of the party affiliations, tried its best to convince the Hon. Finance Minister at least to give some concessions about the So-called farmer.

This report was published in 1987. The

Committee was constituted by late Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. In the beginning itself in your budget speech, you said that the budget is going to be dedicated to the late Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. You have got so much loyalty and sincerity about the party and your past leader. This committee was constituted by Shri Rajiv Gandhi's regime and the report was given in 1987. When the whole House tried to persuade you, your goodself was not yielding to the pressure or whatever arguments we have advanced to convince you. You have yielded to the organised sector whereas you have yielded to the so-called farmers because they are in the unorganised sector.

I would like to quote one or two points which are very relevant in the present context. I do not know whether I would be able to succeed in convincing you by putting all these things. Anyway, it is my responsibility as a Member who comes from the rural area. I would like to draw your attention to the recommendations of this committee. The Chairman is not a farmer. He has quoted various other recommendations and while giving these recommendations, he has cited the examples of various other countries to substantiate his arguments or recommendations.

Regarding the dual pricing policy, he has said that it is not at all going to help the farmers if it is going to be introduced. This is also one of the areas where he has tried to argue. Paragraph 9.15 of page 72 says:

"It has been argued that a dual pricing policy involving concessional prices for small and marginal farmers and higher prices for the medium and larger farmers may help to reduce the subsidy burden. Once again, this is impossible to administer."

This is his argument. It is not proper on the part of the Government to think of dual pricing policy and also hike in prices of fertilisers which will ultimately destroy the farming community and so far as the produc-

[Sh. H.D. Devegowda]

tion is concerned, they will be discouraged and this should not be done. This is the recommendation made by him. I will send you this Report and let the Hon. Minister go through the Report. It is the question of every year. It is not so. He has totally discouraged the farmers. He should not go to the extent of any hike in fertiliser prices.

I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Finance Minister to the rate of naphtha. In Saudi Arabia, the price of naphtha is as low as 30 US cents whereas in our country, the price of naphtha has increased to about twelve times more than it was in 1978-79. In this connection, I would also like to refer to the performance of the ONGC. He is one of the senior IAS officers. I would like to draw your attention to the point that some people may try to say that kulaks always try to argue in their favour. But at this point of time, I will place my arguments not to continue such section of the people. I would like to request them to re-think before making such remarks

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH) : What is that report which you are referring to?

SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA: It is the Report of the High Powered Committee on fertiliser consumer prices headed by Dr. G.V.K. Rao who had been appointed by the late Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi. I am prepared to send this Report for your consideration. It is said there that even in case if the Government is going to think over to raise the prices of fertilisers, it should not be more than 5-7 per cent.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: It says that every year, it should be raised by 5-7 per cent.

SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA: No like that. If it is going to be helpful to the Government to go on increasing it every year, I have no objection. You take that stand. But, sir, do

not understand the impression of the Hon Finance Minister that he has given clear blanket recommendation for increasing the prices every year. It is not so. He has tried to convince, in his report, that the question of price hike of fertilisers will ultimately lead to the fall of production which should not be done. This is what he say. Further, Sir he also said how other countries USA, Japan EEC have tried to help the farmers by giving them subsidy.

I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Finance Minister to the import duty which has been reduced from 300 to 150 per cent. Is it not going to be one of the contributing factors for the reduction of fertiliser prices? I would like to put this question to the Hon. Minister. All sections of the House tried to persuade him but he has not yielded. In Your speech you have said that you have considered some concessions and you have also cited some organisation which represented to you. I do not want to say that it is a decision influenced by some other means. I know that we are having a honest, sincere and dedicated Finance Minister. I have no grudge against him. But the only thing is that he should pay proper attention to the unorganised sector also. And that is where I where I would like to draw his attention to.

Sir, I would like to point out one more thing about resource mobilisation. You have become the Finance Minister at a time when the country is passing through one of its worst economic crises. there are innumerable problems and it is not an easy task for a Finance Minister at this critical juncture to get the appreciation of all sections of society. I can understand that. But there are ways and means to raise our resources. When I spoke on Budget, I did mention one or two points. I do not want to repeat them because I know the value of time. But Today the Finance Minister is here and so at the cost of repetition, let me mention those points for his consideration. I request that I may be excused for repeating the points. I would like to draw his attention to these points so that he can keep them in mind and consider them at

least in future. I say this because he has made a reference in his speech about restructuring the whole thing. He has stated that since the time was very short at the time of Budget preparations, he could not look into all the aspects and after considering all these things in detail, he was going to restructure the tax system.

Today we all talk about the so called black money. You have also introduced a Bill in this very House for its consideration. Which section of our society has got the black money? Shri Vajpayee, one of the senior most leaders for whom I have got the highest regards, has stated in a press conference somewhere in Luknow that nearly 10,000 tonnes of gold is hoarded by our own people. He even went to the extent of saying that nearly 5,000 tonnes of gold is not even in the form of jewellery or ornaments. It is in the form of gold biscuits. He also talked about issuing gold bonds and use the same to improve the economy. He said all these things but I do not want to go into details. I ask only one question. About this Rs. 80,000 crore or Rs. 1,00,000 crores of black money, may I know in whose hands this money is lying? Is it in the hands of the farmers or the poor rural masses? It is not the question of Devegowda alone. Today, every section in this House is very much concerned about our farming community and their problems. But unfortunately, our hon. Finance Minister has taken a very rigid stand for which I feel very sorry. He had not budged even an inch. I wonder why he is so angry with the poor unorganised sector?

I have given one or two instances when I spoke on the Budget. You have mentioned in the Finance Bill also about the so called charitable trusts. How many charitable trusts are there? You see the Bombay Charitable Trust Act or the Indian Trust Act 1856. Whatever money or income is earned, if that is transferred to the trusts, they will totally escape income tax or wealth tax. With your background, Mr. Finance Minister, you have got so much of experience. Can you not think of some ways and means by which these thousands and thousands of trusts which

are making a lot of money and at the same time avoiding income tax and wealth tax totally, are made more accountable? I request the hon. Finance Minister to look into this matter.

Now I come to the corporate wealth tax. Earlier, general wealth tax used to be levied for sometime in 1957 or so and later on, it was withdrawn. In 1983, it was reintroduced during Madam Gandhi's period. I would like to request you to reexamine the whole issue and see whether this tax can be further enlarged to various other items like jewellery, cars and other luxury items, which are owned by closely held companies or whatever nomenclature with which they are known. Sir, for division of tax, several types of laws are there in the country. Even though our officers and bureaucrats try to do their best, these people escape from all these laws and that is the reason why such a strong parallel economy flourishes in our country. We are unable to control this. I will not take much time on this. I can send some of my views to the hon. Finance Minister because he asked for suggestions. He has stated that an expert committee is set up to go into all proposals and it will prepare its report within three months. On the basis of that report, the hon. Finance Minister may try to plug all the loopholes and come back to this House with all these measures in his 1992 Budget proposals.

So, far as the relief given in the current Finance Bill is concerned, in my opinion it may be helpful to middle class people and the smaller section of the society who were unnecessarily harassed.

The maximum rate of income tax is 50 per cent. This is higher than the Corporate Tax for a domestic company, which is 45 per cent. The corporate tax is lower than the income tax for an individual. So, I request you to see that this matter is re-examined, and so far as the variation in tax is concerned, you please try to give relief to the individuals also. Tax levied on interest in deposits in Banks exceeding Rs. 2500/- per year.

[Sh. H.D. Devegowda]

Now, I would like to ask a straight question. A person can have accounts in various banks. I can have an account in Delhi, Madras or in any other State. How can the bank authority identify the source of my income? Is it possible for a bank to identify or locate the number of accounts that I may be having in various banks? It is a cumbersome issue and I would like to say that it is not at all going to help you. I request you to kindly drop that idea. It is my suggestion and you can think over this.

To the LIC policy holders you are giving 50 per cent concession. Why can't you give hundred per cent concession to them? After 25 or 30 years when a policy gets matured, whatever dividend a policy holder gets, why only 50 per cent concession is given to him? Why can't you give hundred per cent concessions? That is what I would like to ask.

Clause 13 of the Bill seeks to insert a new Section 35 AC relating to expenditure of eligible projects or schemes. Under the new section, the assessee is required to furnish a certificate from a public sector company or a local authority or an association or institution, or, as the case may be, from a Chartered Accountant in such form, manner and containing such particulars as may be prescribed. I would like to caution you that this is going to lead to corruption. This is my own opinion. The question of obtaining a certificate is not a major issue. Anybody can get a certificate. This is definitely going to increase the corruption which will ultimately lead to further approval of black money.

The Finance Minister should re-introduce Section 115 (J), to levy corporate tax declared by companies to attach subscription to their shares.

There are a number of other suggestions also which I will send you for your consideration.

Lastly, Sir, I would like to raise a very important issue pertaining to the State of

Karnataka. The Finance Minister said: "Permit the flow of Central Plan assistance to State."

[SHRI RAM NAIK *in the Chair*]

Sir, because of the modified Gadgil formula we are losing about Rs. 300 crores. I do not know how Karnataka has been classified as a developed State. It is unfortunate. I do not want to enter into this controversy. But, there is nearly Rs. 300 crores financial loss to our State. The State Government of Karnataka has tried to persuade the Government of India to make good the loss that has been there to the State.

Former Finance Minister, Prof. Madhu Dandavate in the very same House assured that the whole matter will be reexamined and that he will see that something is done in this regard. He agreed that a total injustice has been done to the State of Karnataka on account of the new modified Gadgil Formula.

I know the present Finance Minister is fair enough to look into all these aspects. I have got full confidence in him. I know that he will definitely look to this issue.

Lastly, I would like to raise something specific to my State. This may be a small issue for the country. We are going to spend nearly Rs. 1,67,000 crores for the whole country and out of it I am asking only a few chips for the State of Karnataka. As an Irrigation Minister, I had send some projects for the sanction of Government of India. We have got nearly 350 Kms of coastal line. Coastal erosion in my State is very high. I think our Kerala friends will agree with me in this regard. I had submitted a project worth Rs. 130 crores. Unfortunately, I personally met every Minister, represented by it a State Minister, Cabinet Minister or whosoever he may be, without looking to the State of Karnataka. But nobody from the centre help Karnataka. I was unable to get even one rupee help from the Central Government. Karnataka has got nothing from the Central Government. Let my Kerala friends not

mistake me, and think that we got more than them. From 1985-86 onwards Kerala has always got up to Rs. 12 to Rs. 18 crores and on the other side the State of Karnataka got zero. What sin have we committed? I have got the highest regard for you, Sir. Please, kindly look into this matter and see that injustice should not be done again to the State of Karnataka.

We are peace loving people; facile people. But do not be under the impression that we are always facile. We may take a wide vow on these petty things and we may combine to fight the battle.

About IRDP, I would like to say that money is going to be distributed on the basis of population or on the basis of the area. Karnataka stands at the 10th place.

Under IRDP, the amount released to Karnataka is Rs. 3444 lakh, Uttar Pradesh Rs. 1428 lakh, Bihar Rs. 1102 lakh, Madhya Pradesh Rs. 7297 lakh and so on. Under the TRYSEM Scheme, the amount sanctioned for Karnataka is Rs. 37 lakhs, for Uttar Pradesh Rs. 117 lakh and so on.

That is why I have only drawn the attention about the Central Assistance to the States. You are the only fair Finance Minister who is going to set right the injustice that was done to Karnataka. Please look into this matter and correct the injustices done to us.

With these few words, I would like to thank you for allowing me to speak for some time.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWLE (Bombay South Central): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the budget of this year, presented by the Minister of Finance Shri Manmohan Singh on behalf of the ruling party, is a bureaucratic one. It has no pleasant thing. We could consider the demands of five Ministries only in this session of two months duration and the demands of remaining 35 Ministries have been guillotined. It is shameful and unfortu-

nate for the largest democracy of the world. There are some Ministeries demands of which have not been considered even once during these 44 years of independence.

Today, pulses, rice, flour, edible oils are so costly that it has become difficult for poor and common men to make two ends meet. The Congress Government which had promised in their election manifesto to reduce hike in prices within 100 days has increased the prices of several necessities of life by increasing the rates of petrol, railway freight within 90 days. This Government can only raise the slogans and is not capable of implementing them. This Government is ignorant about the sufferings of the poor, the common people and the labourers but knows well how to exploit them. This Government can only provide facilities to the rich and to overburden the poor with new taxes and hike in price.

I read today in the newspaper that I.M.F. has sanctioned a loan to the Government. This Government takes loan from foreign and claims to run the country proudly. Our debt has risen to rupees Ninety thousands crore due to the unnecessary expenditure by the Government. The Government has spent 764.36 million dollars for Maruti Industries Limited till now and we have received 103.50 million dollars from it. Maruti 1000, which is used by one out of ten thousand people in India, we have spent more than 1200 crores of rupees as foreign currency on that Maruti Motor. We have not received even 50 crore rupees from that. Our Government has spent foreign currency of crores of rupees on several items of luxury. There is an estimate of expenditure of rupees 41 crores for the construction of the building of Industrial Development Bank of India in Bombay. Out of which Rs. 34.85 crores have already been spent. How can we stay in the international market with costly articles due to the hike in the prices of petrol and railway freight by the Government? Has the hon. Minister of Finance who wants to liberalise the import policy got the answer for it? I want to tell the Minister of Finance that the interest should be less and uniform which is charged from

[Sh. Mohan Rawle]

the small scale industries from where we get 50% production of our country. Our Minister of Finance cites examples of Italy, Korea etc. where the rate of interest is 9% and 11% respectively whereas in Maharashtra it ranges from 19.5% to 30%. Due to this more than 50% small scale industries are near closing. The dearness allowance, is given to the employees, to face the price hike but Government imposes tax on dearness allowance also which is not the income of an employee. Thus, whatever government gives from one hand takes away from the other. In foreign countries whenever there is price hike, the income tax limit also increases along with it.

So, I urge upon the Government to increase the income tax limit upto 36,000 and to add 50% of dearness allowance in the basic pay of the employee. So that he may get benefit at the time of retirement such as ir'pension etc. Tax is also imposed on the interest received by the employees on the amount deposited in the Bank after paying the income tax on their earnings. It is condemnable. Thus tax payers have to pay tax several times. In the same way Government is discouraging those who save money. The Government should pay attention to it so that saving habit may be encouraged.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, 2% p.m. interest was paid earlier on the refund amount of those who fill return. Now it has been reduced to 1.5% per month. It should be increased to 2% per month again. In the same way earlier 6 months period was fixed to dispose of the cases after having filed the return but it has been increased to 12 month now. It seems that Government has submitted before the bureaucracy. Is this the way of Government to increase the efficiency? It will encourage corruption.

[English]

Confucius said, "Make but a few laws so that you can govern well."

[Translation]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, co-operative banks are very popular in rural areas because they impose less and easy conditions. Reserve Bank permits to open its branches after 5 years. This period should be reduced to one year. This is very necessary to encourage the banks which are efficient, and doing good business. In the same way government has imposed 3% charges on the profits of co-operative banks. My request is to do away with these charges to encourage co-operative banks. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to draw your attention towards one more point. Central Government receive revenue of more than 3000 crores annually from Bombay but it is doing nothing to provide more facilities to it. Government is not spending any amount for solving the problems of hospitals, slums, roads, schools and other problems of Bombay. Every year many people come there from other places and Government is unable to give them facilities. We get Rs. 8000 crores as revenue from Bombay. I request that atleast 10% of it i.e. Rs. 800 crore should be spent on the development of Bombay city.

Congress manifesto stated that employment would be provided to one crore people but I would like to tell that in Bombay many mills have been closed down since 1982. The N.T.C. does not want to run these mills, as a result of which thousands of labourers have been rendered unemployed. My submission is that the Government should allow to run these mills on co-operative basis and provide financial assistance.

Bombay branch of BCCI was started on the licence of Reserve Bank and till now R.B.I. has been stating in its reports that the bank is functioning well. Now since when the bungling in the bank in London has come to light this branch has been stopped to transact any business. Therefore, Reserve Bank should arrange to refund the money of those people who have deposited it in the Bombay branch of B.C.C.I. Similarly, in this Bank hundreds of Indian are working. Has Government thought about their families? How

are they upbringing their families? As there are no chances of re-opening of this branch, the Government should post these people in other banks.

The Government propose to handover dairying to foreign companies. We are already facing shortage of milk and by handing over this work to foreign companies. There is every possibility of deepening the milk crisis. Then we will have to import. Hindustan Lever, Ponds India, Proctor & Gamble, these companies are producing different things and exporting different things. By making such business these companies get business boosting. Attention should be given to all these things. Our Finance Minister wants to allow Japanese to establish township for 2 billion dollar. They may live here the way they like. They can open school, restaurant and cultural centres. Indeed, this type of step is like selling our own Motherland to the foreigners. After selling gold, now we are selling land to foreigners. Millions of people sacrificed their lives for liberating this land from the yoke of the English slavery. The Government should seriously ponder over it.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Government has recently announced new export policy and also announced many incentives in this regard. I request that the Government should bring a bill to amend MRTP, FERA, CCI (Control and capital issue) to make them more effective.

19.00 hrs.

Hon. Chairman, Sir, I will not take much time. I have to speak on one or two points. Today, the situation of inviting foreign capital has arisen because domestic saving is not enough to meet the country's requirement. Policies responsible for increasing inflation are the main cause of insufficient saving. Real value of saving declines due to inflation and instead of saving, a tendency to spend money grows in the public.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please Conclude, other members also have to speak.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dum Dum): Why curtail, since you have decided to sit through, if necessary, the whole night in order to complete this subject?

MR. CHAIRMAN: We have decided that we will try to accommodate many more Members but the time factor has to be there.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: The time constraint is, tomorrow morning the Finance Minister will reply.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Everyone would like to listen to the speeches of others. So, there has to be a time constraint for all members.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: I will finish within two minutes. There are many problems of income tax. Due to these problems, Government revenue from taxes declines. If rate of Income Tax is brought down then there will be no tax evasion. A large amount of Income Tax is outstanding against the big industrialists and every year it is increasing. Every year a big amount of taxes is put in bad debt account. In this connection, the Government should take concrete steps so that the outstanding amount of Income Tax and other taxes can be recovered. If Government bring down the rate of income tax from 45% to 35% like Pakistan, then perhaps the tax-payer will come forward to pay it. I am obliged to you for giving me time to speak and on the behalf of Shiv Sena I oppose this Budget.

[English]

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour): Sir, speaking on a Budget and the Finance Bill which is the main instrument of the Budget, is very difficult, as much difficult as it has been for the Finance Minister to frame the Budget and the Finance Bill.

Even in earlier days it was a difficult

[Sh. Amal Datta]

thing to balance the Budget and not to leave any gap, either budgetary or revenue, fiscal, whatever, but I do not know which was the object of the Indian Budget framers. But now the yawning gaps are becoming so wide and added to that has been the problem of balance of payments, of the foreign exchange crisis which has sharply affected the economy of the country. For, what used to be thought about something like a right-rope walking has become almost like the old Indian rope-trick as to how to get into somewhere without having any resources at all.

In this country which is so diverse not only in its ethnicity, in its language and culture, but also in its social philosophy, its economic attitudes, what goes by the name of its political philosophy, it is impossible to satisfy the people. And first of all, it is impossible to know what is to be done and to do it and to satisfy the people. First of all, we must serve the needs of social justice and equity. Secondly, we must grow and once we start doing one thing seriously and sincerely, namely, serving the needs of social justice, you have no money left to grow industrially or otherwise. So it has to be balanced. So, we try to drop the imports and we try to encourage exports. But what happens in the process? The Government has been trying to do that for some time. But in the process, according to a report, which funnily enough has been sponsored by IMF itself. Twenty-eight billion U.S. dollars has been stashed away by Indian businessmen in the course of 8 years from 1980-81 to 1988-89. The figure is really mind boggling. They have taken away by way of the usual tactics of under invoicing of exports and over invoicing of imports. By this method, the people have accumulated money abroad. Why did they go abroad? Is it only for the purpose of avoiding income-tax or for some other purpose? If it is for some other purpose, then giving them the concessions which the Finance Minister has offered in this Budget, will not be enough to motivate them to bring the money back to this country. That must be understood. That is a policy decision which has been taken to bring back

the money, which has been accumulated by Indians abroad. But, if it is for the purpose of taking advantage of the appreciating dollar and getting out of the depreciating rupee, then they will not easily bring that money back. The only thing can be by way of credit, by way of bank deposits in India, NRIs. I do not know to what extent the financial measures, the banking measures, encourage them to bring the money back and take it out. Where will they take it out when they are not actually residing abroad but actually residing in India? The door becomes closed to them.

Sir, there are lot of difficulties which the Finance Minister has obviously faced. It is very easy to be critical, taking out one measure and saying that it is here he has gone wrong. But what he has to do, it is very difficult to say. For instance, he has put a tax - it has more puzzled us rather than anything else - imposed an expenditure tax of 15 per cent on people eating in restaurants, which have two toilets, one television and things like that, without air-conditioned (*Interruptions*)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dum Dum): He has amended to say that only Air-conditioned restaurants are put under tax. He has simplified it...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI AMAL DATTA: Sir, since the foreign exchange has become such a critical ingredient of the whole country's economy, it is necessary that we get the foreign exchange budget also. How has it happened that this country has got into a position, where the debt, I think, even in last year or a year before last, it has accumulated to 60 billion dollars? It has come to that figure in the course of a short period of five years. Compared to the earlier period, twenty to thirty years before, it has suddenly grown. Is it still growing? To what extent it is growing? What are the factors that are responsible for the foreign exchange crisis? There are many opinions. Many people are trying to take advantage of the fact that the crisis happened now or crisis happened one year ago when there was a National Front Government and when the crisis was building up. It

must be known. The country must be able to judge as to what are the policies which have taken them into the dire straits. I would request the Finance Minister to make a promise here that he would, in course of his reply, give us a foreign exchange budget and also a white paper as to how foreign exchange crisis has come about. We are entitled to that. Obviously, the first crunch of foreign exchange, I think, came in October last year. In October what had happened? Just prior to that Iraq crisis had started leading to hike in petroleum prices. We knew at that time that the remittances of Indian workers in Middle East which was to the tune of Rs. 3,000 crores annually were going to stop. I do not know whether this figure is correct or not. But, it was not possible for the Government to immediately take any measures. We must know to what extent it was the Iraq crisis and its effect on the petroleum prices and stoppage of remittances was responsible for the foreign exchange crisis. Now, we have to approach for loan to International Monetary Fund and we have to accept their conditions. We have to submit to their conditionalities in advance. People objected to the conditionalities. But, beggars cannot be choosers... (*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Amal Datta, please conclude.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have already exceeded five minutes. Kindly try to wind up.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: In this connection, it is very difficult to raise revenue particularly by way of direct taxes and that is why the pressure is always on indirect taxes. We know that. Does the Government try to explain why people are so reluctant to pay taxes? Is it that the people will not pay taxes? If the Government takes care to help the businessmen and professional people, they will be less reluctant to pay taxes. Government is not responding to the needs of businessmen and professional people. On the other hand the Government puts all kinds of obstructions not only in the way of business,

trade and industry growing but also even to their day-to-day operations. It does not even take care of the inflation in prices while imposing capital gain tax. It takes a base year far back like 1974 or 1984 instead of taking a recent previous year without taking into account the fall in the value of money. ... (*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: So, the Government is not taking care how a particular tax is going to affect the people. The Government's own machinery is not geared up to tackle the situation like this.

I have the pleasure of conducting an enquiry in the PAC on the basis of CAG Report to the fact that there have been loss of collection of direct taxes to the tune of Rs. 1200 crores, for the financial year 1985-86 falling due in the next assessment year. At that time the scope of summary assessment was only to the extent of Rs. 1 lakh.

This caused Rs. 1,200 crores of loss of revenue in collection of income-tax in one year alone when the summary assessment's scope was much less. Even then in the first of second year of the introduction of summary assessment, this was the amount of loss. The PAC had given a Report against summary assessment and yet the Government unheeding has gone on summary assessments, and not only gone on but has increased the scope of summary assessment. So, perhaps the loss in revenue today has gone up by fifty per cent or hundred per cent than what it was earlier. The total exercise of the Finance Minister in increasing revenue collection is adding to Rs. 3,000 crores total and Rs. 2,000 crores of the Central Government.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kindly wind up now. You should kindly cooperate with the Chair. There is a list of about nineteen persons.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: I have not spoken for more than eight or nine minutes, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have spoken for fifteen minutes and there are others also who have to speak.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: I have not, sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do not argue with the Chair. The watch is with me also. Kindly wind up. Otherwise, how can I accommodate others?

SHRI AMAL DATTA: I will complete in two sentences-long sentences. Sir, in spite of the fact that this has been pointed out repeatedly to the Government, they have not taken care to do away with summary assessment which was the recommendation of the PAC in the year 1989-90. Although the Report was actually drafted by the PAC when I was the Chairman, it was, in fact, presented next year by a PAC which was entirely dominated by the Congress, and there was no opposition. Even then they had recommended that summary assessment be totally abolished. If that is taken care of, then this Rs. 2,000 crores extra money would come to the Government anyhow. The Finance Ministry does not have to go through all this drill the increase the tax—here Rs. 20 crores, there Rs. 90 crores and like that, what they have been doing now.

Another reason why Indians do not pay tax is because really there is no punishment. The businessmen who get away with evasion of Rs. one crore, Rs. 2 crores, they only have to pay the penalty years after. But what happens in other countries? In other countries people are just put into the jail. Why does that not happen here? If at all it happens, the prosecution starts 12 to 14 years the evasion comes to notice .. (*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN: You said you will conclude in two sentences.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: All right, Sir, I will not speak any more. So, you are not interested in collection of taxes.

DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR

(Nasik): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise here to support the Finance Bill.

Our friend Inderjitji, has mentioned that many of the Ministries, because of the Guillotine on the 5th of September, were left without discussion. So, I have decided to speak about the HRD Ministry. The total expenditure on the HRD Ministry is only 4.9 per cent. In the First Five Year Plan, it was six per cent of the national revenue. It should be raised in due course.

The status of education in India is that only about fifty-one per cent women are literate and the rest of them are illiterate. There are about 85 per cent primary students but the expenditure is forty per cent on the primary education. As against that, there are only 15 per cent higher education students but the expenditure on them is about 60 per cent. About fifty per cent of the primary schools have no buildings and no equipment. There are 64 per cent one-teacher schools. I suggest that the recommendations of the Chattopadhyaya Committee should be implemented fast so that we can fulfil the promise given in the Constitution to give primary education to all the people.

The accountability of the primary teachers is in jeopardy and no primary teacher is interested in education. It is because he is not ready to enter the educational field and that is not his primary intention. Because that he does not have any other choice, he is entering the field of education and because of that the education is suffering a lot. Primary education is managed by the Municipality, Corporation or the Zilla Parishad. The standard of education is going down. There is a strong demand from the educational institutions that the privatisation of primary education should be made so that the standard of the primary education will improve. The provision for the 'Operation Blackboard' has also been reduced. There is a provision that the State Governments to provide..

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Pawar, you have to speak on the Finance Bill.

(Interruptions)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzafarpur): In the Finance Bill, anything under the sun can be discussed.

DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR: Sir, this is a most important ministry. I just now said that this should have been discussed. As it had been guillotined, I have just started on this. If we have to talk on the Finance Bill, then we have to say that the educational fees which is being collected from the students should be increased because they were planned along back. Even the fees which are collected in a medical college, which is to the tune of only Rs. 500 - Rs. 600 is very low and if this continues the Government is going to suffer a big loss. I suggest that the fees structure of primary education, Secondary education, medical education and all other vocational and other types of education in the Government colleges must be increased, if not on the exact cost to cost basis.

At the same time I will also suggest that the exemption limit of Income-tax should be increased. I request the hon. Finance Minister to increase the present slab because there is a devaluation of rupee and there is already an increase of tax. I will request him to give the benefit of Income-tax to the people.

On the point of fertiliser subsidy, I would request the hon. Finance Minister to reconsider it. There should not be a dual policy on the fertiliser subsidy. There should be only one policy. Otherwise the black marketing is going to increase. The problem with the farmer right now is that there is a demand for the manure and now the cost of the fertiliser has gone up very high. It has been promised by the Agriculture Minister while declaring the policy that he will consider it, so that the minor and small farmers will get the benefit. But nothing has come out from the Ministry.

I request the hon. Finance Minister to look into that aspect and give the benefit to the large community of farmers, who are not united. If the farmers are united, they can shake the entire nation. But it is our misfor-

tune that the farmers are not getting united. I will request the hon. Finance Minister to look into this matter.

As I said earlier, the same is the problem in the field of health. The fees which is collected in the general hospitals is also less as compared to the cost incurred. Every hospital is running at loss. I think you should try to introduce some sort of registration fee. Let the medicines and other cost of treatment be made free. But the registration fee should be more so that there should be some sort of a balance between the income and expenditure of the hospitals.

In conclusion, I support the Finance Bill. I had many other things to say. But, on the directions of the Chair, I have changed the topic. I support the Finance Bill. I thank the Chair for giving me the opportunity.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Kashiram Rana may speak. Before he starts, there is an announcement for the benefit of Members as well as for the press. After Eight o'clock dinner will be provided in Room No. 70. So, these who want to take advantage can go there according to their convenience and have dinner.

AS HON. MEMBER: Is it a free dinner?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, it has been arranged by the Parliamentary Affairs Minister for the benefit of Members.

(Interruptions).

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM (Inner Manipur): Sir, I was made to understand that I shall be called earlier. But I was not called. That is why I appealed to the hon. Speaker also and he assured me. Still I have not got my chance.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will just check up because I do not know whatever has happened earlier, and I will call you accordingly.

(Interruptions).

[Translation]

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA (Surat): Hon. Chairman, Sir, I rise to oppose the Finance Bill presented by the hon. Finance Minister. Sir, I am opposing it because I knew that there was discontent throughout the country over this Bill and the people had expressed their views against it. Keeping all this in view our Finance Minister would try to give many concessions. Sir when he announced it in the House, I presumed that he had given concessions to the tune of Rs. 29 crore but these included concessions of Rs. 20 crore given to the film industry alone. I have no objection over the concession being given to the film industry, it is good. But he has played a joks with the 85 crore population of the country by giving them concessions amounting to Rs. 9 crore only. Therefore, I would urge the Finance Minister to re-consider it and try to give the concessions, because it has become a regular feature that whenever there is a deficit budget, we out of our own thinking say that the prices of petroleum products and kerosene be increased, and every Finance Minister tries to increase the prices of items of daily use. I am of this opinion that we should mobilise such resources which don't cause heavy tax burden on the people. The taxation has reached the saturated point rather it has crossed that line. Therefore, I would request the hon. Finance Minister to find out some new sources it may be done by increasing the production or by encouraging agriculture or industries. But stop the practice of collection of taxes by increasing the prices of petroleum and items of daily use. But the position at present is that the taxes that are imposed on us neither help in increasing the agricultural production not the industrial production.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to give the figures relating to the increasing production for 1990-91.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Rana ji, you have got total 7 minutes to speak.

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Mr. Chair-

man, Sir, according to our economic survey, our industrial production in 1988-89 was 8.7% and in 1990-91 it was 8.4%. Our agricultural production 1988-89 was 21 percent and in 1990-91 it has come down to 4.5% and our G.N.P. has come down to 5% from 10.6%. Sir, since our economic policy is taking the country back therefore, I wanted to cite this example. That is why crores of people of this country are in distress.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am recollecting a couplet, which as under:-

"Aei Zindagi Khuda Ke Liye Maaf
Karde
Baithi Hui Yeh Maut Hai Mere Intzar
Mein".

It means "Oh life, for Gods sake excuse me, the death is waiting for me".

The circumstances at present are such that most of the people don't get anything to eat. What an economic condition of the country is today? An hon. Member yesterday apprised us of the rate of inflation. Inflation has been going up since the devaluation of rupee. He feared that by the end of this year rate of inflation will reach 16 per cent and it may lead to further devaluation. What is our wholesale price index today? It was also asserted in the Congress election manifesto that prices would be brought under control within 100 days and when they form the Government the prices would be brought back to the previous position. But the prices continued to rise even after presentation of the budget. In the year 1990-91, the consumer price index went up from 6.6% to 13.6% and wholesale price index which was 9.1% went up to 12.1%. What I mean to say is that whenever there is deficit in budget, it should be diversified in some other ways. The burden of taxes, which is becoming unbearable should of reduced.

The Finance Minister first of all spoke about concessions. The biggest blunder was the criteria adopted in case of restaurant. I do not believe that the Minister of Finance himself has done so, perhaps some officer

has prompted him to do so 20% tax has been imposed in the restaurant having an air-conditioner. The criteria fixed by the Government will encourage corruption. One can term his air-conditioner as air-cooler. If the Finance Minister requires money, he should reduce the concessions from 25.30 per cent given to the foreigners. This way net Rs. 1.5 - 2 crore. Tax has been levied on restaurants. Similar tax need not be levied on air-conditioners. The Finance Minister Shri Dandavate, during the 9th Lok Sabha had assured that tax will be on the yarn itself instead of imposing 20 per cent plus Rs. 5 per sq. metre tax on the man made fibre. Abid Hussain Committee had also recommended it. If additional excise duty is levied on the yarn manufactures instead of on the cloth it would be easier to recover it. Sufficient pilferage takes place in the excise duty of Rs. 500 crore that we get and taxes amount to Rs. 6-7 hundred crores instead of Rs. five hundred crores can be collected from that source. I submit that if we want to improve the quality of cloth, to root out corruption, and to compete with other countries of the world we will have to impose excise duty on yarn instead on cloth. So keeping in view all this concessions in taxes should be given which would generate more employment opportunities, curb corruption and provide more facilities to the people.

I want to raise one more point. The Government has declared 30% cut in the subsidy on fertilizers. There are 5.6 types of fertilizers like ammonium, sulphate, calcium ammonia nitrate etc. Which have been de-controlled. As a result the people have to pay 60 per cent more. The bag which was once costing Rs. 86 is now available for Rs. 140. No agriculturist is ready to purchase it. The hon. Finance Minister must think over it. Besides, no discrimination between a small farmer and a big agriculturist should be made otherwise it will encourage corruption. The manufacturers also are going to stop the production of Fertilizers which would result in loss to the Government. I request the hon. Minister to give some relief to our agriculturists very soon.

I know that our hon. Finance Minister

has full sympathy and feelings for lakhs of poor people of this country. I urge the hon. Minister to do consider the views I have expressed regarding shifting of duty, fertilizers and restaurants. With this submission I conclude my speech. Sir, I thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Some of the hon. Members do not like it when I ring the bell, but the names of 17 persons are still with me who have to speak.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Please extend the sitting upto 12.00 O'Clock.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Time schedule must be observed it may be of 10 minutes.

[English]

SHRI K.P. REDDAIAH YADAV: Many Demands for Grants were not discussed and debated. At least, the Finance Bill be discussed to the satisfaction of the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I agree that 10 minutes are more than sufficient for making a particular point.

[Translation]

SHRI S.P. YADAV (Sambhal): There is so much of partiality and that will ruin the country. Sir, I gave you my name first of all duly recommended by the whip of our party. (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is no good to argue with the Chairman in this manner.

SHRI S.P. YADAV: The hon. Chairman should also take care of us.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Justice will be done to you. Your name will remain where it is.

19.38 hrs.

[English]

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM (Inner Manipur): Mr. Chairman, I rise to oppose the

[Sh. Yaima Singh Yumnam]

Finance Bill introduced by the hon. Finance Minister. I would like to state the justification for opposing this Bill.

I am very much inspired by the advocacy by some of the Leaders of this House for conferring more autonomy to the States. I have seen it in almost all the manifestoes published by the National Front and the Left Parties. I am very much inspired by them. So, I rise to advocate in support of them. While advocating for more autonomy to the States, I also imply for granting more fiscal autonomy for the States. I have seen and I have read in the newspapers that Shri Biju Patnaik, the Chief Minister of Orissa is urging upon the Central Government for giving the States more autonomy, more fiscal autonomy. I am inclined to join him even when an agitation for it is launched.

Sir, there are some small States like Manipur, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim. Of course, some other States may be there. They are very small States. They have no domestic income at all. They have to depend on the entire grants, contributions or any aid given as even the loans by the Central Government. At the same time, the States have been maintaining all the paraphernalia of a State. They have been maintaining the State Assembly, the Governor's establishment, the High Courts including even the Permanent Benches of the High Courts etc. Their maintenance is very costly. So, I would like to propose to the Government that while making the formula for distribution of the State Governments income raised by the Central Government through the Central taxes like the Income-tax, Sales-tax etc.—which are actually raised in the States must be reviewed - the proportion must be reviewed, the formula must be reviewed to suite the needs of the States. Only a token proportion must be laid down for the Centre and almost the entire taxes raised by the Central Government must be left to the States so that the States can run their own affairs. Otherwise, what happens is that all the aids

which the States get, the domestic taxes which they collect, the Grants-in-Aid which they get from the Central Government have to be spent on running the establishment of the State Governments like payment of salaries etc. So, a very little fund is available for the development works. Therefore, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Finance Minister to consider all these matters.

Now, I would like to say something on the law and order situation in the States. Here, I mean not only the law and order situation existing in Manipur but also the situation prevailing in Nagaland and Assam also. The hon. Home Minister announced in this House that there have been disturbances in the three States of Assam, Nagaland and Manipur due to the activities of the insurgents and extremists. Therefore, Manipur, Nagaland and some parts of Assam have been declared as disturbed areas. Please imagine how much suffering the people have been undergoing there. For meeting the activities of the insurgents, I would like to propose that there must be a coordinated effort of all these three States at least. The Chief Ministers must constitute a Coordinating Committee. I feel that a single State like Assam will not be able to meet the situation. Shri Hiteshwar Saikia has announced the general amnesty to ULFA without even consulting the Chief Ministers of Manipur and Nagaland. What would be the reaction of this on the other States? He does not look into that aspect. Since the time is very short at my disposal I will make only points. So, I would like to propose to the Finance Minister that the Government should think of constituting or forming a Coordinating Committee comprising the Chief Ministers of the States or the Ministers who are looking after the Home Ministry. A coordinated approach will meet the situation there.

The extremists and the insurgents are using sophisticated weapons whereas our police or para-military forces are not provided with sophisticated weapons. I would like to propose that the weapons to be provided to our police must be of superior quality to meet the weapons used by these

extremists. There is also one thing, that the Central Government withdrew certain paramilitary forces from Manipur without even consulting the Chief Minister. How will the Government face the situation created by the insurgents there? It is brought to the notice of the House as also to the notice of the Finance Minister. This is the present position in the state of Manipur. I would like to propose that instead of imposing the draconian law, that is imposing of the Special Powers to the Armed Forces Act, 1958, the Government would better withdraw it. And the amounts to be spent on deploying the army in that area will be made available there for the development of the area. This will solve much of the problems.

In Manipur, youngsters feel betrayed because their language Manipuri—I had raised this matter in this House also—has not been recognised or has not been included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution of the country. They feel very much offended. That is why, they are not happy. If we can include the Manipuri language in the Eighth Schedule, I think, fifty per cent of the problems in respect of the activities of the insurgents will be solved.

Now I come to education. Under education, there is a scheme for the development of education in the border States. At the moment, it is meant for Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab only. And it excluded Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland and Assam. Why is it so? This scheme is meant for the development of education in the border States. Manipur, Nagaland and some parts of Assam also deserve consideration on account of their backwardness. It is on account of their backwardness that they resort to this method which we do not want. If we educate them, they will come to the mainstream and they will promote the interest of the country. I would like to propose strongly that in taking up the programmes for the development of education in the border States, these areas—Manipur, Nagaland, Assam, Mizoram, Meghalaya—Must be included.

Manipur has experimented about the

total prohibition in the State. The Government have promulgated the prohibition. There is total prohibition in the State. But it incurs a loss of about three crores of rupees. I may be wrong in this and stand subject to correction also. It is a good measure which is appreciated by all the people. It is for the welfare of the people. But the loss must be compensated by giving more grants to the State by the Central Government.

The time given to me is very short. There are so many things to say about this region. There are so many points. But, I shall raise one last point.

In this House, so many discussions have taken place about the atrocities against the Scheduled Caste people. But, Manipur is free from it. Manipur is an ideal State on this account. There is no such incident or anything like that, that had occurred elsewhere in the country. We are proud of it. The people there do respect the sentiments of the Scheduled Castes and they have a high regard for them. So, it may be taken as an ideal State, in our country.

Lastly, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Finance Minister, for providing more funds to the smaller States, so that they can be put up on par with other developed States in the country.

Thank you.

19.51 hrs.

[SHRI P.M. SAYEED *in the chair*]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): Mr. Chairman, Sir,... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do you know how much time is allotted for you? You have been given seven minutes.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: That is always flexible and particularly, when a generous man like you is in the Chair, we are encouraged to speak (*Interruptions*).

[Translation]

SHRI K.P. YADAV (Sambhal) I am boycotting the House as well as dinner also.

19.52 hrs.

[Thereafter Shri S.P. Yadav left the House]

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: I am afraid, that this time will be adjusted against mine: (*Interruptions*):

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please continue.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Sir, I rise to support the Finance Bill No. 2 of 1991. If you look at the Budget of 1951-52 and this year's budget of 1990-91, you will find that over the last four decades, there has been a manifold increase, which is fantastic. The increase is about 300 times. But, I am pained to observe that the time allotted in the Lok Sabha to discuss the Demands, to scrutinize the expenditure proposals is gradually decreasing. This is really a contradiction. The expenditure is increasing manifold but the time before the House is getting reduced, to discuss the Demands. Even during the session, the number of days and the number of sittings are getting reduced. I am afraid that I cannot suggest to increase the number of sittings, because, as you know, while moving among the people, there is a tremendous pressure from the people and they feel that their Members of Parliament should be by their side in the rural areas. Therefore, I am not suggesting to increase the number of sittings of the House but at the same time, a way has to be found out, so that all these expenditure proposals are properly scrutinized. That could very well be done through Committees, to be formed. The Parliamentary Committees should be formed and there should be no escape from that. Otherwise, it does not add to the credibility of our Parliamentary System and there will be no accountability and no surveillance. I am not going to elaborate it further because of constraints of time. So, the minimum that I

would suggest is that before long let us not delay further the formation of these committees to effectively monitor, to discuss all the expenditure proposals, etc. (*Interruptions*) There should be pressure from all sides. There should be unanimity about it.

As you know, ours is, by and large, an agricultural country. Agriculture is the mainstay of our economy. Our agriculture is, by and large, dependent on the behaviour of monsoons. Therefore, from the British days, it is rightly called that Indian budget is a gamble on monsoons. I think, that still continues.

Regarding the proposal of Shri Chandulal Chandrakar about the change of financial year, I also made a forceful plea in this house 3-4 years earlier while participating in the debate on Finance Bill for the change of financial year. With the present financial year, what happens is that by the middle of summer season, our budgetary process is over. Budgets are passed. By the time that is communicated to the field level, monsoon comes in. Therefore, real development in the new financial year commences from November and not before that. What is the effective working period that we get for developmental work to be carried on, to be implemented in the field? It is five to six months. Is it a good practice? Is it a healthy practice? Is it to the advantage of our economy? Therefore, with all the emphasis at my disposal, I say that from the British days, we are having April 1. Why should we have it? We should judge our own situation. Therefore, it should be fixed in such a way that budget is prepared looking at the crops. You know what is going to happen, how are the crop prospects. Accordingly, you can go ahead. Right from November, developmental work starts and goes on uninterrupted up to the end of June, before onset of monsoon. Thereby you get about nine-month working period instead of the present brief period of five to six months. Kindly take it into consideration.

There are several good measures in our budget. I am not going to deal with them.

Even some concessions have been announced by the Hon. Finance Minister while moving the Finance Bill two days before.

To promote exports, etc., naturally, our problem is two-fold. We are passing through economic crisis in our country. Our problem is of balance of payment and again how to improve our export position to earn more foreign exchange and how to curtail our internal expenditure, how to economise things inside India and how to promote our exports and, at the same time, to contain the price rise. All those things are there. We have gone for IMF loan in a big way. The situation was so pressing that however humiliating it might be, we had to send shipment of gold out of our country. These are very humiliating things. At the same time, there is no escape from it. The situation was so grave. Therefore, in our policy, etc., the remedy is very much there. They are taking action to correct the situation. But I am constrained to observe with a heavy heart that required seriousness is not there in our conduct, in our practices. It is not finding expression at different levels of administration. (*Interruptions*).

20.00 hrs.

All that is happening clearly creates an impression, and that is so also, that there is a condition of economic emergency in the country. But is it reflected in our action? Is there any considerable curtailment in Government expenditure? Is there any car being reduced in any Ministry? Have any Government dinners been curtailed after the Presentation of the Budget? What signals are we giving to the common man and to our officers who are working at different levels? Is there any reduction of foreign visits by officers and even by Parliamentary Parties? So, when there is an economic emergency, we also should act accordingly. I am not finding fault for this. But the situation is really very grave and it calls for drastic measures. I earnestly appeal to the hon. Finance Minister to take such measures. Our system is such that different political parties are in power in different States. Unless there is a close

coordination and good understanding among all of them, the Union Finance Minister cannot help the situation. What can the poor Union Finance Minister do? He can only formulate policies here. But, by and large, their implementation depends on the State machinery. He has gone in for dual pricing in fertilisers. Who will implement it? The State machinery will have to implement it.

Again, we have come across a very disturbing news item in the Press that several Chief Ministers had expressed their helplessness to implement such a policy. It came in the newspapers. Dual pricing in the case of sugar is a bitter experience.

Our public distribution system, is, by and large, meant for the poorer and weaker sections but the way the sugar distribution policy is implemented through the public distribution system does not really help the poor people. It helps the affluent people in the towns and urban areas. Therefore, it calls for some re-thinking.

On the one hand, we have got the difficulty in producing fertilisers but on the other hand, several factories run by the Government of India undertakings are going to be closed. This includes the one in Takher in Orissa. About Rs. 126 crores which the F.C.I. is entitled to as subsidy is being held up. Although the earlier Finance Minister took this decision, some other officers want to adjust it for some other purposes like arrears, etc. and so, that will not go for production of urea, etc. which is very much in demand. Therefore, all these mischiefs which are being played here and there should be looked into. This is a very vast country with numerous problems. We have a new Economic Policy and a new Industrial Policy with revolutionary changes. We should not expect that it will be very easily implemented. It needs close monitoring. There should be a mid-term appraisal regarding our financial position. As you know, inflation has already touched a double digit figure. So, naturally, the prices of fertilisers and procurement prices have increased. But the peasantry is discontented. They have genuine grievances.

[Sh. Sriballay Panigrahi]

The increase in procurement prices will increase the issue prices which will again be reflected in the price index and that would again mean an additional dearness allowance, which will have to be paid. So, this is a vicious circle. All these things are very complicated and we have to be very alert. An atmosphere of urgency has to be created and this should involve all the concerned people, State Governments, Members of Parliament, social workers and so on. To create such an atmosphere Government of India should take the initiative. I request the hon. Finance Minister to take the necessary measures without any loss of time.

Now I would like to mention certain points about tax collection. There should be bank loans for farmers. But the waiver scheme of the Janata Dal Government has landed this country into a difficult situation. Many cooperatives ceased to exist. Loans are to be provided to farmers. In many areas there are no banks. Shri N.D. Tewari when he was the Finance Minister, came out with a proposal that every village would be cashed by Bank. That is a very good idea and it should be implemented.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please conclude. There are other to speak.

SHRI SRIKANT JENA: The time is extended upto 12 o'clock Sir.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM: Sir let me clarify. All those Members who want to speak will finish today. The Finance Minister will reply tomorrow and the voting also will take place tomorrow morning. Dinner is available in Room No. 70. It is a very special dinner.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Panigrahi why don't you conclude and go and have your dinner?

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Now I come to Jawahar Rojgar Yojana. Sir this project is having a very limited scope in

many States including Orissa. In Orissa, MLAs happen to be the Chairmen of the Block Level Committees. The other members are one BDO and two engineering overseers. They are exercising powers overriding the recommendations of the Village committees. They do merrily whatever they feel like doing. In several Blocks, there are serious departures from established practices. I would like to draw the attention of the Finance Minister and request him to look into it. It should not be used for political purposes.

Now I would like to mention one or two points about family planning. The Demands for Health Ministry are not discussed in the House. We all know that by the turn of this century, our population will touch the figure of one hundred crores. I would urge upon the Government to convene a large scale conference to be attended by not only political leaders and social workers but also leaders of different religions. It would greatly help to build public opinion in favour of family planning. While visiting many countries including Islamic countries and also when parliamentary delegations visited India, we had an opportunity to come into their contact. In Islamic countries also this programme is vigorously implemented. I had suggested that their religious leaders should be invited here. Family Planning Programme should be given the highest priority. I agree that a little bit of compulsion is necessary in order to be effective. It has to be decided by consensus in a larger conference to be attended among others by all these religious leaders also.

In Eastern India the main problem that the agricultural field is facing today is to increase the productivity. Unless we improve the productivity the lot of the farmers working in West Bengal, Orissa, Assam will not improve.

I would say that the recommendation of the 9th Finance Commission will not hold good so far as floods in the State of Orissa are concerned. Orissa Government alone cannot meet this challenge, without special

consideration shown by the Government of India to meet this calamity.

States like Orissa, which have the income less than the average national income, should be given some special consideration.

There are many welcome features in the Finance Bill. I wish it all well. Still there are some loopholes. They are not the products of today. I request the hon. Finance Minister, who is labouring very hard, to set to look into these matters.

Thank you, Sir.

[Translation]

SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD (Salem-pur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, in my view the bill introduced by the Finance Minister and on which discussion is going on, is an attempt at enslaving the country once again. I hold the view that persons like Mahatma Gandhi, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, Jai Prakash Narayan and Jawaharlal Nehru drove the Britishers out of India and gave us Independence. But today hon. Finance Minister has yielded to the pressure of big industrialists through multinational companies and has introduced this bill. This is a black bill and it aims at promoting the interests of multinational and big companies and big industries by ruining the people who are living in the village streets and huts who may be agricultural labourers, small weavers, small craftsmen, and those running small industries.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Finance Minister stated that he would curb the price rise within 100 days. Prices are continuously rising, there is no looking back and I am afraid this is the biggest failure on the part of the ruling party. They have betrayed the people of the country because they promised to contain price rise within 100 days, but during their rule the rate of inflation has registered an increase of 7 per cent, i.e. from 13 per cent it has crossed 20 per cent. According to my information. The Finance

Minister is going to enslave the country by devaluating the rupee once more after the current session comes to a close. You did not impose tax on wine, but you did levy additional duty on bidi-smokers. Who smokes bidis after all? During the preparation of the budget you might have noted that the rickshaw pullers, the rural People living in huts only smoke bidis and all the big industrialists of the country drink wine. They offer wine to get their cases cleared is also to get soft decisions in their favour. You have freed them from tax but you have imposed tax on bidi-smokers and tobacco chewers. You think for a while that out of 14 crore lakh hectares of the total cultivable land in this country, you have not been able to provide irrigation facility for even 30 per cent of the land. You do not have any water - policy, by which you could manage to provide irrigation facility for the peasant's fields. The situation has deteriorated and the Public distribution system is also sick. Under Your Government, a farmer living in the huts in villages gets one liter of kerosene per unit through Fair Price Shops whereas an urbanite get 5 liters in the city where electricity is also available. A person living in rural area gets 250 gms. of sugar per unit whereas an urbanite gets one kilogram. All that I want to ask is as to what programme the Government propose to formulate for the people living in the countryside? When the population of our country was 34 crore we used to import food-grains from abroad, today we are 85 crore and yet we import rice and sugar and wander for begging debts and apply doubtful standards for those very farmers who produce rice and wheat. You applied dual policy for fertilizers as was in the case of sugar. Let me remind you once again that it was the Congress Party who promised in their election manifesto that prices would be rolled back within 100 days. Now, then many of our colleagues from this party take the floor for making a speech, they state that the Janata Dal Government has put a burden on the country by waiving the loans upto Rs. 10,000. I would like to ask you to go through the history of 44 years you have waived the loan of many big industrialists and when the Janata Dal waived the loan of farmers upto Rs. 10,000, you are worried

[Sh. Hari Kewal Prasad]

because you are used to exploiting the farmers. You are used to torturing them. The Janata Dal provided relief to them and that is why you were worried. Replying to a question in this very House during the rule of the last Janata Dal Government, the hon. Minister had stated that the 555 firms in this country owed income tax arrears amounting to Rs. 4500 crores as on July 31, 1990. You are not able to realise it. You could not initiate action to realise it. You will provide concession to them but you have oppressed the farmers by applying double standard in the case of fertilizer.

I would like to tell the hon. Minister that I happened to listen to his budget speech also, but I am of the view that the bill introduced at the instructions of the multinational companies and some foreign countries will ruin the small industries, whereas the big ones will prosper in this country. We know that the farmers are scared of the dual price policy of fertilizers, and hence I request that it should be done away with with immediate effect in order to remove the discrimination between big and small farmers. Why are you going to discriminate between the farmers? Today, who gets the benefit of the facilities to loan for buying buffaloes and other things in villages? The poor Harijan and small farmers are deprived of these benefits whereas the big ones take advantage of it. Therefore, I demand that the existing dual price policy of fertilizers should be done away with and discrimination between small and big farmers in villages be stopped forthwith.

You told that you would treat all farmers at par. I feel that the benefit of giving subsidy on fertilizers to the small farmers of this country will be cornered by the big farmers. So, why do you want to encourage corruption in this country? If a poor farmer goes to any of the banks of the country, none of them is prepared to provide him loan without taking commission from him. I want that you should arrange to provide loans without a commission at least through the banks.

Sir, so far as the question of small industries in this country is concerned, their condition has become very miserable during your rule. In order to improve its condition, you will have to adopt a policy, which may prove to be a guiding factor to each and every person. What has happened in the recent past is that you provided Rs. 100 crore in the budget for the Rajiv Gandhi Foundation and that move was opposed from every quarter. You do not have shortage of funds for such things. The country is in the grip of unemployment, as 11 crore people are unemployed in the country. Just now one of the members stated that we were passing through economic crisis and the country was going through a period of crisis, the economy of the country was almost shattered, but no cut has been effected in the daily expenditure being incurred by our Ministers including the Prime Minister. There has been no cut in the luxuries of a Minister. In such a situation, how can you say that the country is passing through economic crisis, what sort of crisis is this? On the contrary, we find that our luxuries and salaries are going on increasing.

Your conduct is just contrary to the promises made, dreams shown and assurances given to the country. I want that there should not be a gap between what you preach and what you actually practise. The fact remains that even after 44 years of the nation's independence electricity could not be provided to the huts in villages of the country. Today the rural poor is migrating to cities. Nowhere he gets a place to live. He is in a sorry plight, he is helpless whereas the urbanites are progressing uninterruptedly in the direction of procuring the means of comforts and luxuries.

In such a situation, every educated person whether he is from a village or a city, is worried about the Money Bill that has been introduced by you. This House is the mirror of this country. Through this House, I want to file a suit against you and call upon the people of the country to show you the reality. All the people of this country should forge unity and burn this Money Bill because it is

detrimental to the interests of the poor, backward, downtrodden people of the nation. Opposing this bill strongly, I would request you to withdraw the dual price policy of fertilizers. Just have a fresh look on this policy so that every citizen of this country could enjoy his right of living peacefully. At the same time, I demand that a ban be imposed on inviting the multi-national companies to the country.

PROF. PREMDHUMAL (Hamirpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to oppose Finance Bill No.2, 1991. peimarily, I am opposing it because the Hon. Finance Minister has not raised the income tax exemption limit. The excuse is that there is financial crisis in the country and all the classes will have to make some sacrifice. Then I would say that 'charity begins at home'. As some of my friends have pointed out here, how many Cabinet Ministers have cut on their cars. A few days back there was a report in the Newspapers that 6 to 7 cars at the disposal of each Minister. The curtains at their house.... (*Interruptions*)

The Indian Express has published the name of those Ministers who have 6 to 7 cars at their disposal. Besides, it has also appeared in the report that some Minister spend lavishly for matching upholstery. The Hon. Minister should find out how much is being spent on furnishing and renovation even when there is financial crisis. The Cabinet is becoming unweildy and there is a lot of wasteful expenditure.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, on the one hand the Government appeals to the salaried class to cut expenditure and does not give them any relief, whereas on the other hand there is no cut in the Government expenditure. Why are the salaried employees being harassed and over burdened for the sins of 3 per cent population in the country who are enjoying. Today even a person drawing Rs.2500/- per month is finding it difficult to make his both ends meet where the Hon. Minister is adamant that he will not raise the income tax exemption limit. I would, therefore, urge the Home. Finance Minister to raise the income

tax exemption limit upto Rs. 48,000.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the second point is about the Central Excise Duty. The small industries are employment oriented but in spite of increased cost of raw material and the cost of production no relief has been given in the Central Excise Duty. Neither there is any change in the slab nor in the rate of Excise duty. I would like to suggest that the existing exemption limit of Rs. 15 lakhs should be raised to Rs. 30 lakhs. Beside 5 percent basic central Excise duty should be imposed on units having sale of Rs. 1 crore. If this is done multiplication of units would be less and there would be remarkable improvement in quality and quantity. 10 per cent Central Excise duty should be levied on industries having sale between Rs. 1 to 5 crores and 15 percent should be levied on units having sale over Rs. 5 crore.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to cite the example of glass industry here. 44 percent Central Excise duty has been levied on glass industry and inclusive of sales tax and other taxes the total tax percentage is 58.4. The excise duty should be reduced. Thailand is a small country. There one factory produces 35,000 tonnes of glass whereas our total production is 600, 000 tonnes. This means that only one factory there is producing half the total production of glass in our country. Its production cost is much less than tin. Therefore, I urge that the Excise duty on glass should be reduced and the slab as well as rate of tax should be reduced.

Mr. Chairman, sir, I would like to submit to the Hon. Finance Minister that he has committed another atrocity. It seems as if he has gird up his lions to attack the salaried class. To evade the dragnet of taxes people used to buy National Saving Certificates and all their savings was per force but now even if their money is in a bank the deduction would be made at source if the amount of interest is taxable. Those whose source is known, you can deduct from the source but why no attention is being paid to those who earn from unknown sources.

[Prof. Premdhuma]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, a strange thing is happening I do not know whether you are aware of it though the banks are under your Department. Now nobody wants to deposit money in banks. On the one hand, rising prices have already cut the savings of people whereas on the other hand, income tax deduction is being made on the interest amount of the deposits in the banks. As a result, development work would stop and the banks would have no more deposits. Therefore, I would like that the law of deducting income tax from the interest amount may be withdrawn.

While concluding I would like to submit why you are not paying any attention to the class of people who keep track of the happenings around us. The recommendations made by Bachhawat Wage Board about working journalists have not so far been implemented and these have been challenged in the court of law as well. Many Newspapers have not implemented it. I, therefore, demand that a statutory body, similar to the Pay Commission for those working in the Newspapers should be set up and they too should get Dearness allowance, Medical allowance and other facilities like the Central Government employees so that they could discharge their duties honestly. With these words, I conclude and thank you.

*SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES (Udupi): Mr. Chairman Sir, congratulate the Hon'ble Finance Minister for his efforts to prepare this well balanced Finance Bill despite various constraints. Infact, he has awakened the people of this country to understand their duties and responsibilities. The people of the country are able to understand the situation prevailing in the country and they are ready to face it. State Governments and the Centre should have suitable programmes for the people. Some times I doubt whether we are hesitating to prepare such programmes. Sir you have been able to fix the tail of the devil but you must take the devil head on. Catch

the devil by its horns. Then only you can find the solution to the prevailing problems.

Poor people take loans and to return the loan instalments they get loans again. It is not enough if we have programmes to adjust the international balance of credit. We have to increase the production and the wealth of country should go up. Only this would help us to solve the financial crisis and sanction of loan after loan would not help the poor masses of this country. I, therefore, urge upon the hon'ble Finance Minister to call a meeting of Finance Ministers of all states in Delhi to discuss various aspects and to prepare a plan to save money. Mobilisation of funds in the rural area must be taken up vigorously. The funds collected can be utilised for the development of the country. Savings through National Savings Certificates should be encouraged. Various organisations like youth clubs, Mahila Mandals etc. and school students can also render good service in the mobilization of funds.

I appeal to the Hon'ble Finance Minister to take appropriate steps to mobilise funds particularly in the rural areas. Here in Parliament we make speeches and it may not help the people to a large extent. Hence it is very essential to set up an Informal Committee of this House to go into the details of the various programmes that we propose to plan for the people. The people have understood the realities and they are prepared for any sacrifice. If we give them the good programmes then the people will definitely achieve success and the financial crisis can be solved easily. The financial crisis of the country took a new turn because of war in the middle east region. Several thousands of people working in Kuwait and other neighbouring countries returned to India. Now the situation has improved after the war. Many employees have returned to those countries and negotiations are going on to send more Indians there. This step would enable our country to earn more foreign exchange. Our Hon'ble Minister visited those countries and due to his best efforts the present conditions is favourable to us.

We have achieved considerable progress in the production of foodgrains. We are also exporting several foodgrains. This is not enough. We have to convert these foodgrains before exporting. They can be converted into eggs, milk, meat, fish etc. For example there is a great demand for Indian fish in the international market. We have a very vast coastal area. Unfortunately we are not exploiting these natural resources to the expected level. It is inevitable to increase the production and export. This would enable us to fetch valuable foreign exchange.

I do not want to go into more details as there is constraint of time. However, briefly I would like to deal with some special problems of my State Karnataka.

The fishermen, especially, in the coastal areas are in great trouble. The soil erosion is taking place continuously in the coastal areas and we have not taken steps to check this. Sea walls have to be erected immediately if we are interested in protecting the lives of fishermen. Otherwise their life would be ruined. I, therefore, urge upon the Hon'ble Minister to take up relief programmes. Financial assistance is as must to Karnataka for constructing sea walls. The construction of Sea walls should be taken up without any further delay as sufficient damage has already been caused.

Mangalore Oil refinery and petro chemical complex have to be set up soon. I hope the Hon'ble Minister would set up these projects in the early 8th plan period. Vijayanagar steel Plant is also a long pending project in my State. This project should also be cleared as early as possible during the 8th plan.

Karnataka is facing acute shortage of power. The Centre, therefore, should expedite setting up of Mangalore Super Thermal Power station. Russian assistance is expected for the completion of this project. The political scenario in that country is changing but I hope that the work of this vital project does not suffer.

Huge quantity of gas is being flared up unnecessarily in the Bombay High. The gas from Bombay High can be channelised to the Southern states through pipes. This step would enable the Southern States to generate more energy and set up more industries.

The second stage of Malpe port has to be completed at the earliest. The progress of fishing industry in the entire state largely depends upon the completion of this port. More Landing Sites have to be provided and they should have all modern facilities to boost production.

I am sure that the Hon'ble Minister is quite capable of tackling all these problems. I hope he would come to the rescue of fishermen and provide facilities to them including immediate construction of Sea Walls across coastal Karnataka.

Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Finance Bill and with these words, I conclude my speech.

[*Translation*]

SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH (Buxar):
Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to oppose this Bill. Many people have been ruined because of the policies of the previous Government. The people were expecting that after the elections the country would have a good Government which would roll back the prices. Lot of promises were made during the elections and people believed them. People generally work on trust. They thought that as great leaders were making promises, the Government which would be set up would certainly ameliorate their sufferings. These leaders did not merely make promises but gave them in writing too. Ours is a religious country and we have full faith in religion. So strong is our faith that we believe there is God in stone also. Even if one fall on way, one believes that God has done it. We are fatalists and that is why we allow these men to occupy these positions. As soon as the Congress Party took over the reins of power the Hon. Prime Minister appealed to the people that the country is passing through a

[Sh. Tej Narayan Singh]

financial crisis and unless everybody - whether one is in opposition or in the ruling party - work together we would not be able to solve the problems of the country. Some people were surprised as to how was it possible that the country's coffers were empty after 42 years of Independence. But even then majority of people believed that the coffers were empty.

People had high expectations from this Budget and they were hopeful that this year the hon. Finance Minister would provide relief but as against it the prices shot up tremendously. The increase was double in many items and the people living below the poverty line were ruined. I think this was the first time when prices touched all time high ruining the people below poverty line to such an extent. Those who do not get even two square meals a day are said to be living below the poverty line. Out of 80 crore population, 40 crore are living below the poverty line and the price rise is affecting them so much that their condition is going from bad to worse.

Not only this, 70 percent of the farmers are also getting ruined. Earlier the price of one bag of fertiliser was Rs.122 and the farmer was somehow affording it. They were feeling the pinch of price rise and were hopeful that the new Government would roll back the prices of fertilisers but as soon as this party came to power the price of fertilisers rose upto Rs.170 to Rs. 180. When a lot of hue and cry was raised by all the parties and people resorted to agitation the hon. Finance Minister announced that old rates would be charged. He divided the farmers in two categories viz., small farmers and big farmers. Again the people believed it and thought that they would have to pay Rs.122 for a bag of fertilisers. But I regret to say that in no corner of the country a bag of fertiliser is available for less than Rs. 180. What to talk of benefiting the farmers such a policy would bring them to the brink of ruin. Therefore, I would like to urge the hon. Finance Minister to fulfil his promise of not raising the price of

fertilisers. He should at least ensure that a bag of fertiliser is made available to the farmers at Rs.122, which was the existing price before the Budget. This would strengthen the position of farmers. Loans of farmers upto Rs.10,000 were written off during the Janata Dal regime to strengthen their position. But now it seems the farmers will be ruined. Many people say that writing off loans upto Rs.10,000 has brought the situation to such a pass. How is that possible when 70 percent of the farmers were benefited through this measure. The country's situation will worsen when benefits would be given to those who do not work. That will not do any harm to the country. If loans given to farmers, labourers and rickshaw-pullers are waived, I think the people living below the poverty line will stand to gain. But this Government will criticise the Government which waived loans of Rs.10,000. at the same time it is not prepared to waive loans given to poor people. This Government believes only in making criticism. So I would ask the members of the Congress Party to support the move to waive the loan of people living below the poverty line, if they are critical of the loan waiver of Rs.10,000 in case of farmer. I know that the Congress Party will not take such a step because the funds available with the Government are just enough, to meet the current expenditure. The Prime Minister and the Finance Minister say that the country's economy is in jeopardy. But from 1952 till now there has been no cut in the facilities being given to Ministers. There is no sign of reduction in the number of cars they are using. You preach the poor farmers about the merits of austerity but in case of facilities being provided to Ministers the Principles of austerity are not followed. There should be no difference between word and deed of the hon. Finance Minister. If he tells the people regarding the economic crisis then he should also be prepared to make sacrifices. His words do not have any effect on the public because there is no element of truth in them.

I have had many discussions with the hon. Finance Minister regarding corruption in the country. A poor man who gets a loan of Rs.5,000 has to pay Rs. 1,000 as commis-

sion. If the commission is not paid, the bank manager rejects his application. This is not done in just one bank but in all the banks. In fact, corruption is rampant in all Government Offices. This Budget has dealt a blow to the public. The Government must take steps to bring down prices. Otherwise, farmers, labours and youth will be constrained to retaliate. They may start an agitation which will make politicians complain that the law and order situation in the country has deteriorated. But at that time, it cannot be termed as an agitation, because it is a people's struggle for getting essential commodities. The Government does not pay attention to these things.

The price of petrol has been increased. This led to an increase in the prices of all commodities. Bus fares have been doubled causing severe hardship to the common man. The poor constitute the major part of country's population. Such people are helpless in the wake of the hike in rail and bus fares. So the Government must take steps to bring down prices.

With these words, I oppose the Bill. I would like to say that this budget is anti-people. This Budget must be withdrawn and a new Budget should be presented. Let that Budget be anti-Tata or anti-Birla but it must be pro-people.

[English]

SHRI PETER G. MARBANIANG (Shillong): Mr. Chairman, Sir, we had waited to speak during the cut motions on different Demands, but could not get a chance. Therefore, thank you for giving me this opportunity.

Sir, I rise to support the Finance Bill and I must congratulate the hon. Finance Minister for bringing a very very pragmatic Budget this time in Parliament.

Sir, there are certain observations which I would like to make. Firstly, I want to bring to the notice of the hon. Finance Minister about the spiraling rise in prices of different commodities, essential commodities or construc-

tion materials or other commodities that we find in India today. It is very very strange. I should not pass any judgment on that because I know it takes time for both monetary and fiscal measures to operate in the economy which have been left haywire for a long time during the previous two governments. However, time has come that something effective should be done to bring down the rising prices. We find that even here, in Delhi, prices have gone up very much and we could see in the press that the inflation may move up to 20 per cent. The rise in prices may even go up to 20 per cent and it is very very harmful especially to the image of all of us from the Congress Party because we have promised to the people that we should bring back the price situation of July 1990. But it seems that the prices have gone beyond control. Sir, I find that though a few measures, fiscal measures and monetary measures, are operating in the economy, yet there are some extra measures which are needed very much. One is regarding hoarding. We have to stop hoarding. We should be able to find out our own agency to see that businessmen and Black market, do not hoard goods. We find in the market now that the availability of many commodities is not there. It is very unfortunate. Even in Delhi we don't find those commodities in the market and it has been done intentionally in order to raise the prices of these commodities.

Coming from the North-Eastern India especially Shillong, I can say that Shillong has the highest price index for any commodity in India. Now all prices have gone up in Shillong; not only in Shillong, in Aizawl in Mizoram, in Agartala in Tripura, in Kohima and Dimapur in Nagaland everywhere, in all the Headquarters of the seven States, there, in Guwahati, Jorhat and Dibrugarh, prices of all essential commodities, construction materials and everything have gone up. We should try to be more effective in bringing down the prices so that we can bring them to the level of July 1990 which we have promised to the people and the time has come now and I appeal to the Finance Minister that something should be done in this respect. Secondly, for the growth of any economy

[Sh. Peter G. Marganiang]

anywhere in the world we want that there should be a balanced growth. Imbalanced growth of the economy will bring in many problems which may neutralise the good effects. The whole North Eastern region is very very backward. Assam and Meghalaya hardly have any industry or public sector undertaking; the other hill states also do not have any industry. So, the Government of India should open up its eyes and try to identify the industries which can be located in these areas so that they will also be able to contribute to the balanced growth of the Indian economy. We also find that in most of the States in the North Eastern region and especially in Meghalaya, 70 per cent of the people are agriculturists. Our State Government had submitted many Medium Irrigation projects to the Central Government for clearance. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Finance Minister to take some steps to clear these projects which are lying either with the Finance Ministry or the Agriculture Ministry.

The projects are, Rongai Valley Irrigation Project in West Garo hills costing about Rs.16 crores with an irrigation capacity of about 3,400 hectares of land, Pynthorwah Irrigation Project in Jaintia hills costing about Rs. 500 crores with an irrigation capacity of about 6,000 hectares of land, Pynthorrim Irrigation Project in Jaintia hills costing about Rs. 400 crores with an irrigation capacity of about 2,500 hectares of land and Macoramah Irrigation Project in West Khani hills costing about Rs.12.30 crores with an irrigation capacity of about 3,000 hectares of land. The State Government has submitted all these projects, but till today nothing has been done. Now, we find that irrigation cannot be done in Meghalaya and this causes obstruction to the growth of the State.

Then, another thing in which I would request the hon. Finance Minister to pay special attention is the tourism industry. Meghalaya has a beautiful and charming green hills. We do not have snow-capped peaks as in Kashmir, but the scenario is

really beautiful and it will attract so many foreign tourists to the State. But, because of the Restricted Area Permit, it has created a big problem for the tourists. Therefore, I would request the Finance Minister to impress upon the Home Ministry to do away with the Restricted Area Permit system. Meghalaya is a peaceful State and the foreign tourists who come there will be spending only 10 or 15 days there. We have handicrafts and other things to offer to them on sale. This will create additional employment to the people of Meghalaya. We have promised to create 2 million job opportunities. But, I am afraid that unless the States also contribute the Government of India will not be able to fulfil the promise made in the election manifesto. The tourism industry is one industry that can help to develop Meghalaya and offer employment opportunities to the local people there in thousands. The Govt. of India should trust the State Govt. and allow R.A.F. to be issued by the State Government.

21.00 hrs.

The Government of India should help us in this.

Again talking to tourism, till today we find that Shillong Airport has been on the aviation map for a long time. But the Indian Airlines have not touched the Shillong Airport. It is high time that something should be done to extend the flights of Indian Airlines to Shillong Airport also. We have Delhi-Guwahati-Imphal; Delhi-Guwahati-Agartala; Delhi-Guwahati-Dimapur. But Shillong has been avoided. It is very very unfortunate that such a situation is existing. Shillong is the capital of Meghalaya State. In fact, at one time Shillong was the capital of Composite Assam State. Therefore, the time has come that Indian Airlines should open up its branch there and operate from the Shillong Airport.

Before I sit down, I would like to touch one very important point, namely Northerly Hill University. I find that much of the money which has been given to this University has not been properly utilised. It is high

time that something should be done. Most of the University buildings have not been completed. It is very very unfortunate that lakhs of rupees are being spent only on rent. Whereas we have given vast stretch of land when I was the Education Minister and the construction was started in 1977. But till today we do not have the lecture hall, the library staff quarters. We do not have anything. Nothing has been done to develop the University. All buildings, lecture halls etc. have been taken on hire. Lakhs of rupees have been spent only on rent in this University. I hope the Finance Minister will tell the concerned Ministers on all these issues.

Thank you.

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): Sir, while presenting the Finance Bill, the hon. Finance Minister claims that the state of the economy can be improved even if it requires devaluation of the rupee, mortgaging gold or putting a heavy tax burden on the middle and lower classes. The Finance Minister will not hesitate to take any steps. If need be, India will also accept all terms and conditions laid down by the I.M.F. for giving aid to India.

Sir, whatever, little concession was being given to farmers has been withdrawn by withdrawing subsidy from fertilizers. Although small farmers have been exempted from this increase in price of fertilizer, the dual policy adopted by the Government has been the cause of discontentment among the farmers. The amendments presented in the Finance Bill by the hon. Finance Minister himself are not few in number. The amendments have been moved because the Finance Bill in its present form proposed many taxes which would have caused more problems for the people.

I want to draw the attention of the august House towards certain points. Earlier tax exemption was being given to all the assets, whether it was a car or any other article, acquired upto the end of the financial year

i.e. 31st March but now that facility is to be withdrawn by laying a condition that the article must, at least, be 180 days old. This is what has been proposed by the hon. Finance Minister. Similarly, taxes have been imposed on usage of A.Cs by small hotels. Even the selling of handicrafts through emporia and the resultant earnings in foreign exchange has not been exempted from taxation and it has been brought within the purview of income tax. I feel there is no objective behind withdrawing this concession. This concession should not be withdrawn. So far as co-operative banks functioning in urban areas is concerned, only small societies of farmers have been given exemption under the proposed amendment. The Co-operative Banks also function in urban areas. Then how work out as to how much they earned from farmers and how much from the transaction of deposits they received from traders. So how can we make a distinction and exempt some Co-operative Bank from taxation. That is why I say that all the Co-operative Banks should be fully exempted from taxation. If this will be the case, it would hardly matter whether the work is done on Co-operative basis or through any other means. The annual turn over of these banks is hardly Rs. 5 crores or Rs. 10 crores. In exceptional cases the total turn over of some banks reach Rs. 20 crores. But their income is also not substantial. All these banks should be exempted from taxation. Certain people earn a living by taking commission for their service. It is proposed to levy tax from them also. I propose that they should be given some concession by way of enhancing the exemption limit. I have given a notice of amendment in this regard. I shall make my point at the time of moving the said amendment. Now I would like to submit that the exemption limit of income tax should be increased. The Government has already put a heavy tax burden on people by raising the prices of petrol, rail fares and LPG cylinders. That is why the exemption limit of income tax should be raised to Rs. 48,000. Different slabs should be fixed for different categories of Government servants. The hon. Minister of Finance has admitted that rupee has been devalued and its value has taken a nosedive.

[Dr. Laxminarayan Pandeyya]

The rate of inflation is also increasing. The price index has gone up during this period. The Government increased taxes, but it is not going to increase the exemption limit of income tax from Rs. 22,000. In fact, it should be Rs. 48,000. In the same way they have not spared the biscuit industry from taxation. In Gujarat, diamond industry is going to be closed down. They have not spared it also. My hon. Friend, Shri Ram Naik would elaborate it in his turn. They have also not spared the glass industry. They have tried to collect funds by way of heavy taxation on them. By and large, it is not so that they are going to give any major relief. They are only increasing people's hardship by putting the tax burden.

I would like to say only this much that exemption limit of income tax should be increased upto Rs. 48,000. The case of hotel industry should be reconsidered. Consideration should also be made in respect of the biscuit, the diamond and the glass industries. The co-operative banks should totally be exempted from taxation. Dual policy in respect of farmers on fertilizer should be done away with. I hope that the Government would accept all the amendments that have been presented here. They admit that the people are in hardship. On the one hand, they say that expenditure should be curtailed. They also propose a similar reduction in Government expenditure. But on the other hand, I have read in an article of a newspaper that an individual minister has 7-8 vehicles at his personal disposal. I will give you a copy of that article. The article gives an account of the total expenditure on them. If the Ministers can reduce their Ministerial as well as personal expenses, they will set an example for the public. Though, they say, it is not so in practice. I would like to point out that the concessions announced by the Government are not major. These are just a drop in the ocean because people will not get any benefit out of these concessions. So I wish that the hon. Minister of Finance will accept the points put before him by me.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri George Fernandes.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzaffarpur) Mr. Chairman, Sir, its quite but natural that...

SHRI NARAIN SINGH CHAUDHRI (Hissar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to speak for one or two minutes because I have to attend a dinner at the Prime Minister's residence. If you kindly permit me.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. George, you speak later on. Should we permit him to speak first?

SHRIGEORGE FERNANDES: All right, let him speak. I will speak later on.

SHRI NARAIN SINGH CHAUDHRI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I was thinking of congratulating the hon. Minister of Finance and dealing with his liberalized industrial policy. Certainly it will ensure growth in the industrial field. But it will not way be beneficial to the farmers whose life is connected with their land. They have began to think of getting rid of their land as a result of this policy. I also asked my son to divide 20 acres of our land and take 5 acres each so that we would get concession in fertilizer. They advised me not to run after the patwari for dividing land. Instead, they said let us keep 5 acres with us and sell the rest for Rs. 15 lakhs. The black money holders pay Rs. 1 lakh per acre and there is no income tax on agriculture. If we deposited Rs. 15 lakhs in a bank, we would get Rs. 15,000 as monthly interest which is far above the income to be accrued from 100 acres of land. This is the situation now.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the rate of wheat was Rs. 12 per maund when we were students. Hotel charges for a month were Rs. 12/- only. It means that sale proceeds of one maund of wheat was enough to meet the monthly hostel expenses. Today, the cost is Rs. 100 per maund of wheat. If I admit my son in a hostel, I will have to pay not less than Rs. 600 per month. The farmer will be able to face on slaughts of pricerise only when the price of wheat is fixed at Rs. 600 per maund

or for that matter Rs. 1500 per quintal. What a situation has come? The farmer made us self-reliant in foodgrains. We should take pity on them. We have begun to neglect the villages. Such a situation has arisen. Our hon. Chief Minister has assured to supply fertilizers at old rates upto December, 1991. Only due to this we can go to villages. Mr. Chairman, Sir, there should be a provision for self employment of educated unemployed. Manufacturing of consumer good by big companies like the Tatas, Birlas etc. should be banned and their work should be done by the small scale industries. Big industries should produce only export quality goods and small consumer items should be left for the small scale industries. It should be Government's responsibility to see that it is done. So that the poor unemployed youth could get loan and take up work with courage and repay the loan for this. The small producers should be provided marketing security. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I congratulate the hon. Minister of Finance for reducing the price of kerosene. 70% of kerosene meant for consumers used to go to petrol pumps who indulged in adulteration. Due to this farmer's equipments suffered heavy damages. Now adulteration will be on the rise because of the high differences between the prices of diesel and kerosene. The real consumers get only 20-25% kerosene. I am speaking the truth. At least, please make a provision to colour it so that it could be differentiated from diesel oil and adulteration would not take place. With that, equipments of farmers could be saved. The Government of Haryana has waived seven years interest on loan taken by the farmers for agricultural purposes from State Co-operative Banks and made a provision for the repayment of the remaining amount of loan in easy instalments. Due to this loan waiving scheme a situation has arisen when recovery has come to a standstill and banks have stopped functioning. Now, farmers cannot be advanced any further loan. In the same way nationalised banks should also waive seven years interest if they can not waive the loan taken by the farmers all over the country, as has been done by the Haryana Government. They should also make provision for recov-

ering the principal amount in easy instalments. Nationalised banks have stopped granting loans because of non-payment of loan by farmers. The banks know that they will not get their money back because farmers are not in a position to repay it. I want to warn the Government for future that if this trend continues, the country can no longer remain self-reliant in foodgrains.

Sir, I would like to submit as to how the black money worth crores of rupees is generated. Prices of Petrol have been revised upwards. As soon as the petrol dealers got the information of revision in petrol prices, they started selling their petrol stocks, on the increased rates and every petrol pump has a usual stock of petrol varying from 2,000 to 15,000 litres at all time. Thus they earn a lot. Similar is the case of fertilisers. So, if the Government is aware of the stock position and at least the old stocks are sold at the old rates, the growth of black money can be regulated. Many hon. Members have stated in the House that thousands of crores of rupees are due against the capitalists, big traders and business houses, but the Government not realizing this amount. But in case of farmers, who are unable to repay the loan of the Cooperative Banks in time, are sentenced to imprisonment for 40 days because ARs have been conferred with the judicial powers. Loans are recovered on the lines of recovery of land revenue. This is the condition of the farmers who do not repay the loan amount of Rs. 2000/- but the Government is unable to take any action against those big persons, who are not repaying the Government dues amounting to crores of rupees because they can go to the courts by spending money. I therefore, urge the Government to pay attention towards the plight of farmers.

Standard of education is also deteriorating in the country. Its main reason is that the children of farmers and small shopkeepers adopt the profession of teachers and the children of big persons do not come to this field; and adopt some other profession for their livelihood. Nobody has paid attention towards the fixed income groups. Who are

[Sh. Narain Singh Chaudhri]

directly under the trap of income tax. All the teachers fall under the category of class III and are trapped in the net of income tax. One of the hon. Member of other side has suggested to raise the income tax limit to Rs. 43,000; but I would suggest that this limit should be raised to Rs. 36,000, so that some relief may be given to the fixed income groups. Sir, besides this, I would like to request that an Indian Education Service may be initiated on the lines of IAS, IFS and Indian Forest Service. If you want to raise the standard of education in the country you will have to start I.E.S. I would also like to suggest that the expenditure may be curtailed and a ceiling should be imposed that maximum 20% of the members of the ruling party whether in the state in the Center, can be the Ministers. I would like to submit that the erstwhile West Punjab now Pakistan, included Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Punjab also. There used to be only 10-12 ministers in erstwhile West Punjab. So, similar ceiling needs to be imposed on the size of ministries. But the situation is entirely different today. Upto 60 to 70 per cent MLAs and MP are appointed as Ministers and the rest are appointed as Chairman of Boards and Corporations and are provided the rank of Ministers with similar perks and facilities. Therefore, I urge upon the Government that it should think in terms of reduction in the expenditure.

I am saying all these things honestly because I have been a teacher. So whatever I feel, I say. Being the member of the ruling party I have to support the Government bills etc. but honestly speaking I have to think a number of times before supporting the Government frankly speaking. If these things go on like this we will never win the coming election. With these words I thank you for giving me the time to speak.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzaffarpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to oppose the Finance Bill. I oppose the Bill in the first instance as my constituency is not going to get any benefit from this Bill. I am elected

from Muzaffarpur and I am sure that neither the present Bill moved in the House, nor the Budget will be of any use for my constituency.

Sir, though I receive several letters, but this one is from my constituency. The hon. state Minister of Finance is present in the House. He hails from North Bihar, so he can understand and appreciate my feelings and sentiments. This letter has been received from Meenapur block of my constituency.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please tell only the gist of letter to the House.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Yes, I will only tell the gist of the letter. The letter has been drafted by Mr. Yogendra Rai and signed by 25 others. Their demand is that there should be a tubewell and a handpump in the village. Even 44 years after independence my constituency still needs a tubewell but no provision has been made in this Budget also for installing a tubewell in my constituency. I will send a photocopy of the letter to the hon. Minister of Finance. He will definitely understand and realise what type of.....

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): Don't worry tubewell will be installed.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: No, we donot need only one. We need at least one thousand tubewells for my constituency. If the hon. Minister gives an assurance that this will be done during the next month. On this work an amount of Rs. 25-30 lakh will be spent.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Then you will support the Bill.?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Then only I will agree that a problem of my constituency has been solved. There is no provision of constructing roads or bridges in my constituency. No provision has been made to open even a single school in my constitu-

ency. So I oppose the Bill because I am confident that this Budget will not even meet the minimum development needs of my constituency.

If the Budget does not contain any provision for development of Muzaffarpur, then how it can be beneficial to my whole state. Though my place of birth is in Karnataka, but most of the time Bombay has been my place of activity. I am sorry that when I speak Hindi, I call it Bombay but when I speak Marathi, I call it as Mumbai. (*Interruptions*) No, not that, Shiv Sena Members are my friends too. I have got no foes in the House. My constituency is located in Bihar and that's why I consider myself as a representative of the Bihar State. Sir, I am not prepared to accept that the Budget will be of any use to my state for two-three reasons. Sir, it is not clear what kind of image flashes in the minds when the name of Bihar is referred to. Of course, Bihar is backward, chaotic and casteist state. If we use the English expression we can term it as a 'not Chaotic' state and we finish the topic with expression.

Sir, Bihar is the richest state of India, because 1/4 iron ore of India, 1/2 copper of India and 1/3 coal of India are found in the state. Besides this limestone and bauxite are also found in the state, and the most important point is that the land of Bihar is most fertile in the country. It is a prevalent saying in Bihar that seeds sown in the night can be harvested in the next morning. Though it is just a saying and in reality nothing such happens. But it has a specific meaning that the land of Bihar is so fertile that there is no need to care for the crop after sowing the seeds. Land is very fertile. No land in the country is so fertile as is the land of Bihar. I can say with a certain degree of confidence that there is plenty of water in Bihar and the rivers flowing from Himachal Pradesh and Nepal bring a lot of water in Bihar but this water instead of proving to be a boon causes much destruction in North Bihar and in some parts of South Bihar because we are unable to use the water properly. People of Bihar are so zealous and industrious that there is no match for them.

Generally Bihar is depicted as a State having various problems, like the problem of casteism, labour, backwardness etc. but the reality is that the people of that State are extremely hard working not to be found anywhere else in the country. Young people from Bihar are engaged in rickshaw pulling in Delhi; they work 18 hours out of the total 24 hours and can be seen doing this work at places like Delhi Railway Station, New Delhi Railway station and in the markets of Delhi. Wherefrom these rickshaw pullers - young or old - come? 70 percent of them come from Bihar. The most exploited labourers from Bihar work in the industrial areas and industrial estates adjoining the borders of Delhi to get merely an amount of Rs.500 and Rs.600/- per month. I would like to make a mention about the Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance who belongs to Bihar itself, he must be aware of the number of the youth who come to meet him everyday to get employment. Today, before coming to the House to attend Private Members' Business, I went to my house and found that not less than 25 persons were sitting at my door overwhelmed with the feelings of disappointment and anguish; it is a daily routine. Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is the State of Bihar where hard working people live.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, we discuss Punjab killings. But in spite of all these killings Punjab grows maximum foodgrains. Who does hard work in the fields of Punjab? They are the labourers from Bihar. Who does hard work in the fields of Haryana? They are the labourers from Bihar. Therefore, we should not take the matters relating to them in casual manner, there is certainly a reason when they demand facilities on the basis of caste. There is no other way left for them. Nothing has been left for them; Bihar was not in the situation it is at present. The Congress government ruled the country for forty years and brought Bihar to this condition. I will substantiate it as to how this state has been brought to this condition. Hon. Minister of Finance funds for the development were neither sanctioned nor are being sanctioned because under the system of the country, Bihar is being treated as a colony only because

[Sh. George Fernandes]

splendour of Delhi and Bombay can be maintained and Bihar is being exploited just to develop the metropolitan culture in the cities like Bangalore, Ahmedabad, Calcutta and Madras. It is being exploited in several ways. What wrong was done by Bihar that its development has been completely neglected in almost all the schemes implemented since the First Five Year Plan to the Budget of the current year. I would like to quote figures. Right from the First Five Year Plan to the Seventh Five Year Plan, Eighth Plan is being implemented, lowest financial aid was given to Bihar. Is the House aware that average per capita aid to Bihar is less than 1/3 of the financial aid provided to other state for the purpose of development? In the first plan per capita amount of Rs. 175 was provided to Punjab, Rs. 38 in other states of the country and the lowest per capita amount of Rs. 25 provided to Bihar. In the second plan per capita amount of Rs. 146 was provided to Punjab Rs. 51 to other states and Rs. 40 to Bihar. In the Third Plan Rs. 212 was given to Punjab Rs. 92 to other States and 67 to Bihar. Annual Plans were implemented from 1966 to 1969. Rs. 91 was provided to Haryana, Rs. 61 to other States and Rs. 40 to Bihar. From that year onwards West Bengal was continued to be neglected because non-Congress Government was there in West Bengal when Annual Plans were being implemented between 1966 and 1969. Then Fourth Five Year Plan was implemented. Average spending on Haryana was Rs. 358 and in other States it was Rs. 142 and in Bihar it was only Rs. 85, less than even one fourth. In the Fifth Plan average per capita spending in Haryana was Rs. 48, in the rest of the country it was Rs. 262 and in Bihar it was Rs. 155 in Bihar. Similarly Sixth Five Year Plan was also implemented. I would not read out the figures of all the plans. But as per the latest figures of Seventh Plan, average per capita spending in Haryana was Rs. 1871, Rs. 1026 in the rest of the country and Rs. 626 in Bihar. The Government did not grant aid the state required for the development nor are they ready to grant now nor will it be granted. Injustice has been done to

Bihar. I am not talking in terms of mineral wealth: coal or steel. Rather, the Government is utilising the savings of the poor people of Bihar to develop metropolitan culture. The hon. Minister of Finance is present in the House, none other than he would be having more knowledge in this regard. I would like him to speak a few words today.

So far as the issue of deposit credit ratio in Bihar in comparison to all India deposit credit ratio is concerned, the share of Bihar is the lowest, i.e. Rs.35-36 out of Rs.100 and all the remaining amount is being spent to develop metropolitan culture. I have got the figures as on March, 1990 and the hon. Minister of Finance must be having the figures of the rest of the period. The savings deposited by the poor and others in banks in Bihar in 1980 was Rs. 7644 crore out of which a very nominal amount of Rs. 2897 crores was granted as a credit to Bihar for development purpose. The rest of the amount was utilised for other states. On the contrary, the total bank deposits in Bombay was Rs. 24,000/- crore out of which Rs. 20,000 crores were granted as loan to Bombay. So far as Bihar is concerned, out of the total deposits of Rs.7664 crore, a meagre amount of Rs.2897 crore has been granted to it. Orissa is in a slightly better condition. But my submission is that (*Interruptions*)

SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI:
Kindly provide the information with regard to Himachal Pradesh.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: You should search for it yourself. I would not search for all. I am ready to agree with you but it is a fact that not only the poorest State is being granted the lowest financial aid but the deposits in the State are being drawn to take it to other states. Deposits in Postal Saving is being drawn. LIC invest the premium deposited by Bihar in large scale industries set up by the capitalists like Ambanis, Tatas, Birlas and so on; but these industries are being set up either in the metropolitan cities or in the adjoining areas but are not being set up in Bihar. Be it LIC premium, be it deposits in Unit Trust of India,

be it postal savings, be it bank deposits or savings in any other Government Scheme. Bihar always contributed its full share with responsibility but the Government is utilising the money of Bihar for metropolitan culture and capitalism. The result is that Bihar continues to become poor.

Everyone talks of development. The hon. Ministers invite the members from Bihar to discuss the steps to be taken for the development in Bihar. What would be done in Bihar where even power supply is not satisfactory. It produces one third of the country's total coal production. That coal has been proving a major source of electricity generation to meet the requirements of the rest of the country but Bihar is not getting it. It is because this State does not get adequate financial aid. It has not been given any aid for housing purpose. You have created this helplessness since the last 30-32 years. I am submitting an evidence and I want the Minister of State for Finance particularly to pay attention to it.

21.37 hrs.

[SHRI RAM NAIK *in the Chair*]

The installed capacity of Power in Bihar in 1960-61 was 351 M.W. Uttar Pradesh 397 M.W. Maharashtra 760 M.W. Madhya Pradesh 268 M.W. and Andhra Pradesh 270 M.W.. In 1990-91, that is after 30 years, the installed capacity of power has gone up in Andhra Pradesh from 270 M.W. to 5994 m.W. Madhya Pradesh from 268 M.W. 6138 M.W. in Maharashtra from 760 M.W. to 8573 M.W. in Uttar Pradesh from 397 M.W. to 9227 M.W. and in Bihar from 351 M.W. to 1450 M.W. You have not allocated funds to Bihar and thereby Bihar has been subjected to excesses. From where would Bihar get power and scarcity of power has hampered the growth of agriculture industrial and other sector in Bihar. Bihar is very much in distress and it is getting per capita meagre supply of power of 12 KWH as compared to Punjab which is getting power per capita 190 K.W.H. What would Bihar do without power? Gujarat is getting power for industries 180 KWH

whereas Bihar is getting only 54 KHW and that too only for industries owned by Tatas for one or two major steel plants of Government of India.

Now, I come to domestic consumption of power electricity. In Bihar the consumption of electricity is 718 MW per lakh population while in Punjab it is 11371. Why do we not understand that the condition of Bihar has deteriorated in this way. Bihar only five per cent of the Harijan women are literate and the rest are illiterate. Among Harijan 80 per cent men are uneducated and hardly 20 percent are educated. This is how you have treated Bihar. The allocation in this Budget for Bihar will not do much good to Bihar. How can I support this Budget when I know that Bihar will not be benefitted by this allocation and such excesses will continue to be committed against it.

A few days back the Chief Minister of Orissa, Shri Biju Patnaik, pointed out that an agitation will be launched and many would like to give statements against this move and some people must have done so and same may do so but I was the Minister of Railways for about one and a half years. At the time of 1989 elections I had spoken to the people about power problem in Bihar and there was a reason behind it. Mr. Speaker, Sir, in 1977 I was elected from Muzzafarpur constituency while I was in jail. When I went to my constituency at that time the population of North Bihar was in between three crore twenty lakhs and three crores forty lakhs. This figure has today touched four crore and fifty lakhs. I saw that only 20 M.W. of power was being supplied to this huge population and that too after having been declared surplus in Baranni. Apart from this there was no other arrangement. When I became the Minister of Industries I initiated a plan for construction of Kanti Power Project. This project was to generate 220 M.W. of power very soon and total 660 M.W. after its completion. When our Government was voted out of power the scheme was going to be dropped. We had struggle for it and thrice I had to go to jail. As such... (*Interruptions*) Mr. Chairman, Sir have some mercy on us. We

[Sh. George Fernandes]

waited for a long time and we must get some reward for it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Still you try to be brief.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: I will not take much of your time. We succeeded in our efforts after seven years but for it thousands of people including Karpoori Thakur, our friends and party workers had to go to jails several times. But the next phase of construction for generation of 440 M.W. was not taken up. At the time of 1989 elections we told the people that since we were forming our Government at the centre we would take up this project. I became the Railway Minister and I urged upon the minister of Energy to help me to fulfil my commitments given to the people. He said that there were financial constraints. Dr. Sharad Desai of Bombay who used to teach Economics in Bombay university was personally known to me and perhaps you too know him. I came to know that he himself was looking after the Energy Department of Asian Development Bank. Through an employee of that department I sent a message to Shri Sharad Desai asking him to help us in completing that project within seven days. Sharad Desai informed me on telephone that the Asian Development Bank had not spent a single paisa on power generation in Bihar and the Asian Development Bank was ready to extent assistance, but as per rules the proposal must come either through planning commission or the Central Government. He further said that the Bank was ready to extend help for the generation of 500 MW power instead of 440 MW provided the Central Government arranges its share of 100/150 crores of rupee for the execution of this project which would take three to four years. The officers of the Planning Commission and the high ranking officials of the power Department were called in. They were apprised of the fact and views put forward by the Asian Development Bank. They consulted the documents papers and expressed their inability to make available 100/150 crore of rupee during these three years of the Eighth Five Year Plan.

They further said that it could however, be considered during the Ninth Plan. I got infuriated to hear this and asked them to go away. While they were leaving I told them.

[English]

"Gentlemen, in the Ninth Five Year Plan you will not have the money to put up a power station in North Bihar. Because you will need that money for the military and para-military to take care of the insurgency in Bihar".

[Translation]

These were the words uttered by me in my office to the officers of the Planning Commission. As such the Minister of Finance very well knows that when Shri Biju Patnaik says this thing it does not exhibit only his feelings. Yesterday morning a friend from Bihar who does not belong to our party and who has been in politics for a long time perhaps it will not be proper to call him a friend, came to meet me. We had a discussion about Bihar. He told me that Bihar was going to become another Assam within next two years. I want to tell this august House that if the position is not improved and the structure of development is not changed the apprehension of Biju Patnaik will come true. Biju was prepared to sacrifice his life for the cause of the country and today also he is ready to do so. Perhaps you are not aware that he was about to be hanged during freedom struggle. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru had sent Biju Patnaik for rescuing Mohd Hata and Sukarno. While firing was going on in Kutch on both the sides Biju Patnaik landed the aircraft there and rescued both of them to India. Biju Patnaik a man who can stake his life for the sake of country, had been compelled to say that if such indifferent attitude towards them continues they will have to resort to some other course. I want to say the same in the case of Bihar.

There is a question of regional disparity which the Hon. Finance Minister has not touched in the Budget. He has refused to do so. Governments come and go but central-

sation of this system is linked with the metropolitan culture, capitalists and the national companies. What can we expect for Bihar? As he has not mentioned anything about Bihar similar is the case as far as the country is concerned.

Similarly, it applies to the prices also. I always carry your manifesto in my brief case. I devote more time on reading your manifesto than on the manifesto of my own party. I do not do this with the intention of laughing at or expressing our resentment but simply to remind you that the problems are not being solved.

[English]

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum): Our manifesto is worth reading.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Yes, yes. That is why I am studying it. I am studying it. If you need any study classes I am ready to take those study-classes. I am sure you will need it.

SHRI A. CHARLES: We are already aware of it.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: I am prepared to take study-classes so that you will know what is written in it.

[Translation]

Please don't get so infuriated. Mr. Chairman, Sir the issue of prices automatically subsided when the Finance Minister has one day said that their government had not yet completed its 100 days in power. The Prime Minister also gave a similar reply when I raised a question during the course of discussion on confidence Motion or while speaking on the President's Address about the continuous rise in prices or about something else, I do not remember exactly that his Government had not yet completed 100 days. At that time I had said that we are prepared to wait for 100 days and that only a few days are left to complete 100 days. Sharad Digheji is not present in this House. He is my con-

temporary. He was the Chairman of the socialist party of Bombay in 1967. and I was the Minister. Sharadji also expressed his views the other day that never in the history of India the prices have risen so high as have risen during the last eleven months. He neither has any knowledge of the history of the country nor about the economic system. He is not aware of the tremendous hike in prices that took place in India during 1973-74.

What is happening today, to what limit the Government will allow the prices to go up? It is said that inflation can go up upto 30 percent. Once it becomes out of control, then the problem arises where to check it? It is not a question of price rise only but the devastating effect it left on the people of the country. Whenever, I raise a question during mutual discussions regarding creation of one crore jobs the same reply comes as the Prime Minister gave in the House that the creation of one crore jobs is not one day's business, rather it is a process for that. We know what process it is. I have already apprised this House of as to how there have been a reduction of 10 lakhs jobs in the Private Sector of India during the last 7 years i.e. from 1983 to 1989 inspite of investment of one crore rupees. These are the Government documents and economic review which may be read in this context. The main thing is how the Government will generate employment and what planning they have for that. Will it be done through the multi-nationals? Eight days before the Chairman of the FICCI, I do not remember exactly the name of that person, who was last year the Chairman of Birla and Shri Sidharth Birla sought permission and came to see me. They invited me to the Meetings on the policy of FICCI. It struck my mind that they might have not come only to invite me but to have a discussion with me on some other matter. So I raised the issue of the multinationals before them. I asked them if the multinational companies would affect them too. They replied in the negative. In another seminar in which the hon. Finance Minister who is present here in the House had also participated, I raised the same question with the industri-

[Sh. George Fernandes]

alist. Mr. Chairman, Sir, the reply they gave was surprising and somewhat ludicrous. They replied that they were in a position to meet such situation and what we had thought about them was not so but they were worried about the Mazdoors. It means they indirectly admitted that their industries were liable to be closed. They did not think it proper to say this in clear words. They told me that they themselves were concerned about it but also feared about the fate of Mazdoors. Sir, you know that I am a man who work among Mazdoors. Wherever I live a live among them. It is an admitted fact that since you have invited the multinational companies to come forward and invest upto 24% of the capital in heavy, small and even in cottage industries, they may have the know-how or not, that will hamper the growth of employment. This Budget will further aggravate the employment problem. We want the Government to formulate such a policy which could solve the employment problem.

Both the Railway Minister and the Finance Minister are sitting here. I urge them to announce the increase in charges for air conditioned restaurant and increase/decrease in the fare and freight charges and so on. These annual features bring forth no remarkable change in the country. Government should do something concrete. The Government should annually construct 1000 km railway track. The construction of 1000 km. rail-line in itself will provide permanent employment in the Railways to 30,000 persons. And this infra-structure of absorbing 30,000 permanent employment, will create more employment opportunities in the different fields including the service sector both ways, upstream and downstream. Thus the construction of 1000 km. rail-line may provide employment to 10 lakh people in a year in India. This work will cost Government 1500 crore rupees — 1000 crores in laying the track and 500 crores in Rolling Stock — and this investment of 1500 crore rupees will generate employment for 10 lakh people. Government should construct roads, set up cement factories and construct the Express

High Ways from East to West and North to South in the country. They will provide jobs to millions of people. The villagers will get employment and from doing all this a new structure of development will come up. The practice of unnecessary expenditure on the luxury of only 30 percent people of the country must be done away with. Please put the country on the path of development. Leave aside the Tehri-Geerhwal Project and Narmada Project. Government knows that this is the matter concerning contractors and nothing else. These big projects will ruin the country, so please confine that expenditure to the small irrigation projects only.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Mahatma Gandhi's philosophy was not restricted to the freedom struggle only. Had it been so, Albert Einstein would never have said like this about him.

[English]

that "thousands years from now, people will really wonder and ask is it really true that a man like him walked on the face of this earth".

[Translation]

Einstein was a genius, he did not fight for India's freedom but he expressed his views about Mahatma Gandhi because Mahatma Gandhi had propounded a complete Philosophy for the all round development of this world. Today, we have gone away from his philosophy.

Now, I would concluded after making my last submission which is related to the International Monetary Fund. Right from the beginning we are opposing the Finance Minister, making approach to it. Today, we are protesting more vehemently because we have collected more information about it and today I cannot go into details for lack of time. We have got the information as to how the World Bank and the I.M.F. are going to ruin us. The Government need not to approach these agencies if it does only two things. First is to under invoicing and over invoicing the Finance Minister himself had admitted

day before yesterday that these are certainly practised but not to that extent as it is said. Government should check whatever it is. India imports/exports good worth Rs. 70-75 crores. If someone commits fraud in invoicing to the extent of 10%, he would be saving seven or seven and half crore rupees. Check the 'Hawala' system which is very prevalent. This will save the foreign exchange. Steps should be taken to curb the corruption in the country also. The Government is enacting such a law, some provision of which will help in institutionalising the corruption.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, here I have a document which I was reading while the hon. Members were delivering their speeches. This is the Annual Report of the Central Vigilance Commission for the period from 1.1.1989 to 31.12.1989. I would like the hon. Finance Minister himself to go through it. I cannot read out its contents due to shortage of time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You told that the last point was related to the I.M.F.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Sir, the last point is related to the I.M.F. There is no need to approach it. According to this report, some employees of Reserve Bank, State Bank, Indian Bank, Overseas Bank, Indian Airlines, Railways etc. have been apprehended but it appears that it is tip of the iceberg or tip of the tip.

Sir, you please read the report yourself. All these apprehended cases show that big officers of these Public Sector Undertakings have misappropriated from 20 to 50 per cent of the total amount earmarked for development. Though their names are not there but every detail regarding where and how these frauds were committed have been shown in the Report. The Indian Bank Purchased the flat worth Rs. 3 lakhs for Rs. 13 lakhs. In such transactions, the Indian Bank has invested Rs. 13 crores. Whereas in the vicinity of that flat, another Bank has purchased a flat just for Rs. 3 lakhs. In this way, they have looted the money. Similar things

are happening in the Reserve Bank also. Again the Indian Bank spend Rs. 1.5 crores on the centralised air-conditioning in Madras, which was not required at all. Besides, the bank also permitted its officers to install separate air-conditioner for their use. If 20 percent of the money is wasted in this way, Government itself can see the consequences.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Rajiv Gandhi to whom the Budget has been dedicated, said one thing and members of the Ruling Party must keep it in mind. That thing is that only 15% of the amount earmarked for developmental works in India is spent on these works and the rest 85% of the total money goes in the pockets of the middlemen. This is what Shri Rajiv Gandhi said while delivering speech which was published by the News papers. They should not mind it, at that time, I had said that that was hundred percent correct. It is true that only Rs. 15 out of Rs. 100 is spent on the developmental works in the country.

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMBAR (Chimur): He said the same in Rajasthan also.

SHRIGEORGE FERNANDES: He said this at several places. I think if the position is reversed and 85% is spent on developmental works instead of 15% and this 15% is pocketed and if the Government further succeeds in saving 10% out of this 15% then Government can easily save the plan expenditure by 3-4 crore rupees this year and will not feel it necessary approach the IMF and World Bank for the developmental works of the country they want to undertake.

I admit that hundred percent honesty is not possible but if the Government applies its full power for maintaining the possible honesty, I am sure, Mr. Chairman, Sir, that it would become possible to give somewhat new direction to the country. We will extend our support to you if such type of Budget is presented. Today, I strongly oppose this Bill and conclude my speech.

*SHRI K.P. REDDAIAH YADAV (Machilipatnam): Mr. Chairman, Sir, while participat-

*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Telugu.

[Sh. K.P. Reddaiah Yadav]

ing in the debate on Motion of Thanks to the President and the Demands for grants pertaining to the Ministry of Industry, we, the Members belonging to our party, were emphasising that the Hon. Members elected to this august House by 80 crores of the people, serve only one per cent of the population.

[HON'BLE SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

All our energies and our valuable time are being directed towards serving one per cent population. We had been stressing this point time and again. For the past two or three months we had been discussing all other issues except the problems of the vast majority of the people who are living a miserable life. Neither the discussion on General Budget, nor various other discussions that have taken place reflect any concern for the poor and their emancipation. This august House and the Government appear to have been dedicated to serve the needs of a mere one per cent of the population. The entire budget appears to have been formulated only to serve the needs of this exclusive, privileged class. This class of people are being permitted to exploit the poor masses in the country. They are the source and fountain head of corruption. Senior and eminent parliamentarians like Shri George Fernandes and Shri Deve Gowda and others who enriched this discussion by their contribution, have already thrown light on the plight of the poor in the country. Shri Deve Gowda and others have pleaded forcefully not to do away the subsidy of Rs.4,000 crores on Fertilizers which affects the farmers, who constitute 80% of the population. But unfortunately, all their pleadings have fallen on deaf ears. The Hon. Finance Minister stood his ground and refused to continue the subsidy, neglecting the interests of farming community. I am not opposing the various concessions offered to other sections of the society. I don't grudge it. The 90% Excise Duty which was imposed on raw films has been brought down to 40%, on the basis of the representation from the influential circles

from that profession. Similarly duty imposed on air conditioners also had been reduced. All these steps confirm that the Government is interested only in the one per cent elite population. The Government is concentrating its efforts to appease this exclusive section of the society. There is no concern whatsoever for the rest of 60 to 70 crores of people in the country. Their poverty and suffering is no concern of the Government. The poor farmers working day and night, round the year, are producing nearly 180 to 200 M. tonnes of foodgrains. Not only that. They are producing enough cane to keep the wheels of sugar industry moving on. Molasses are supplied to the alcohol industry. It is clear that even for the survival of the industrial sector, the contribution of farmers is a must. Much of the Revenue of the Government flows out of the sweat of the poor and neglected farming community. This poor vast majority is subjected to exploitation to serve the needs of just one per cent population. It is already 44 years since we achieved our independence. Dishonesty or corruption did not creep into this majority population even to this day. Leave alone buildings, they don't have even thatched huts to live in. They do not have toilet facilities in our villages. Womenfolk are still being subjected to the humiliation of going to open fields to ease themselves. There are no common bathrooms in the villages even to this day. The rural India has not witnessed any planned development or progress. The farmers in Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh are paying 90 paise per unit of electricity supply. But, here, in Delhi, which has all the facilities, the electricity is being supplied at the rate of 40 paise per unit. Ever since the independence, the Government has been concentrating on development of urban areas. Every effort is being made to make their life more comfortable and luxurious. 80% of the people who live in the rural areas, have been totally forgotten. They are leading a miserable life. The people who contribute to the wealth of the nation are struggling hard for their survival. Even the basic minimum needs have not been provided to the people in rural areas. The progress and development of the country as a whole is again, not

at all satisfactory. Even today, if the I.M.F. refuses to give loan, or if the N.R.Is withdraw their deposits, we will face a crisis. Our survival is at their mercy. This is the net result of 44 years of planned development. Sir, except seeking I.M.F. loans and disposing off our gold reserves, we have not made any worthwhile attempt to improve our economy. We were importing to the tune of Rs. 42,000 crores while our exports stood at Rs. 32,000 crores during 1990-91. The trade gap is Rs. 10,000 crores. This gap is largely due to the import of capital goods. Yet, ignoring this simple and plain truth, Rs. 11,000 crores have been allocated for the import of capital goods. Goods which cost just Rs. 60 lakhs outside, are being shown as costing Rs. one crore. Remaining Rs. 40 lakhs are thus being deposited in banks in Switzerland. The same deposits are ploughed back to India through N.R.Is. This over invoicing of imports and under invoicing of exports have totally ruined our economy. During 1984, when Smt. Indira Gandhi was alive, our external debts stood at Rs. 18,400 crores. During the tenure of Late Shri Rajiv Gandhi debt piled upto Rs. 1,00,000 crores. With a mere stroke of pen, Dr. Man Mohan Singh, the present Finance Minister, shot up the figure to Rs. 1,40,000 crores. India is a great country. There is no dearth of the expertise. But the talent available in the country was not made use of. People have love and affection for their mother-land. They could have been happy to forego a meal a day to save the nation from the crisis. Yet no effort whatsoever was made by the Government in this direction. Had the country been saved from the bureaucrats and politicians perhaps the nation would not have been faced such a crisis today. Bureaucrats and politicians have contributed to the worsening situation in the country today. Sir, a new industrial policy has been enunciated during this year keeping the present Finance Minister who is able and efficient, honest and hardworking as cover. Had some one else from the congress party done it, there would have been an unprecedented adverse reaction from the people. The economy would have touched the lowest level. The people are keeping quiet, because of the respect they have for

Dr. Man Mohan Singh, who is well known for his integrity. They hope that something good will come out of the new policy. They are eagerly awaiting the results of the new policy. Sir, many Hon'ble members dealt at length about the functioning of Public Undertakings. All these units are running into losses. How is that we are incurring losses year after year in these units. This is the main problem which the country and this House is facing today. Two parallel administrations are being carried on in the country today. All the big officials like Managing Director, Chief Engineer, Superintending Engineer, and Finance Secretary are operating under their own system like officer-cum-contractor system, officer-cum-agency system, officer-cum-raw-material supplier system. Thus everybody has got his own parallel organisation within that Public Undertaking. This is the real tragedy. Contractors say that the top officials have a lion's share out of their earnings. Lakhs and lakhs of honest, efficient and sincere workers are a mute witness to all that transpires between the big boss and crafty and cunning contractors. They feel sorry, for, while they work day and night for the progress and prosperity of the nation, the men who matter mint money through corrupt practices. This rampant corruption prevailing in the top echelons, is leading to inefficiency and lethargy at lower levels. Hence I take this opportunity to request the Hon. Finance Minister to set up an intelligence cell to check corruption in public Sector units. The Government should keep an eye on the growing assets of top officials, and their kith and kin. Keep an eye on these men who are looting the public money. Let me assure you that you will get wholehearted cooperation from every section of the society in this matter. Let me also tell you, Mr. Finance Minister, that if the present policy flops people will not forgive the Govt. Please liberate the economy from the cobwebs of bureaucrats and politicians. Collect the Bio-data of all the top officials, Members of Parliament and all those who matter. Collect the bio-data of their dependents too. You screen the data thoroughly. Keep an eye on their growing assets. Sir, when the President, Prime Minister and Chief Ministers function honestly

[Sh. K.P. Reddaiah Yadav]

and efficiently all the problems will disappear automatically, the nation will progress and prosper.

Sir, I conclude my speech thanking you for the opportunity you have provided me to speak.

[*English*]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dum Dum): Sir, it has become customary in this House not to distinguish between discussion on the Budget and discussion on the Finance Bill. I am tempted to follow that custom, but I shall try to restrain myself.

MR. SPEAKER: You follow your conscience and the rules.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: There is no doubt that so many questions have been raised. One test of the Finance Bill certainly will be which kind of an impact it has on the price front. There is no denying about that. It is true, the expenditure pattern matters, but the Finance Bill also matters.

About collection, despite all that statement, the figures indicate that in the Budget the collection from excise duties and customs would be very much more than the collection from direct taxes. About 83 per cent of the resources would be mobilised from indirect taxes and only 17 per cent would be mobilised from direct taxes. This will create pressure on prices. We have heard about emergency situations. We have been told that the situation is very bad. At least, it is bad on the balance of payments front. I will give you certain figures. The collection from the baggages are anticipated to rise from Rs. 550 crores to nearly Rs. 900 crores. When we say we are in a debt trap, can you imagine that our collection from incoming tourists will rise upto Rs. 900 crores? Is this what you mean by emergency situation on the Bop front? Let the Finance Minister answer this question. Of all the collections from customs, the collections are

expected to go up by about Rs. 5,000 crores, from nearly Rs. 21,000 crores to Rs. 26,000 crores. Despite all that statement that we are collecting more from direct taxes and despite all that statement that we are giving concessions to excise duties, simultaneously we are told that they are trying to compress our imports. Where lies the truth? If we take into account the devaluation which is of the order of 22 per cent, to that extent, I am prepared to agree that the import value would rise. This rise borders around 25 per cent in the context of the statement that the imports are being compressed.

Now, I do not know what to believe. It is this failure to convey the sense of emergency to the country that has led to the desire expressed by many hon. Members on both sides repeatedly that the direct tax payers be exempted paying tax, not at the level of Rs. 22,000/-, but at the level of Rs. 48,000/-. I understand that in the course of two years, the cumulative price rise would be nearly about 35 per cent to 40 per cent. If this is a situation of emergency, then we have to remind ourselves of the other side. The other side tells us that our tax payers consist of only one per cent of the population. If we assume that every family has one tax payer and if we take that our per family income today stands at Rs. 22,000/-, then what kind of a situation we have in our country where only 5 per cent of the families is above the average level and 95 per cent of the families is below average level? What kind of income distribution have we given to this country in the course of the last 40 years? This is what has manifested in the asset-holding of large-houses and the people below the poverty line in terms of 50 per cent. But to all those who are asking for a raise in the exemption limit, I want them to ponder. Even if the Government and the Finance Minister are utterly irresponsible, can we afford to be so? Can we say that not even 5 per cent of the families would pay income-tax? There is a very strong case in terms of dearness allowance. I am aware of that. Let nobody try to convince me about it. But this is the other side which has to be remembered. It is not remembered because the Finance Bill has

failed to convey the sense of emergency. It has failed to convey that the Government is determined to hit the rich. Within that two per cent also, there is an enormous inequality in income distribution. Are we going to yield to their pressure? We are pondering into that as we indicated in the baggage receipts as assumed in the receipts budget. One can ponder over this and perhaps there is a case of reduction of rate at the lower level. Perhaps there is a case of introducing more slabs in the income-tax. But more importantly it is necessary that those who can pay are made to pay.

It is not that there is no welcome feature in the Finance Bill. I will not say that. I do know that the world is not painted either in black or in white. There is a mixture. There are one or two good elements in the Finance Bill. But over-shadowing everything it does seem to be that once again it is an instrument satisfying the International Monetary Fund. This is an inescapable conclusion.

Look at the Income-tax. Is it necessary that the situation is so emergency that we have to relate charity to tax? Is it not an insult at this hour to state that the people cannot be charitable unless there are tax concessions given to them? Why do you insult the charity-minded persons? Look at the Income-tax Act. He has said that a committee is there. It can make it a very simple document. Withdraw all deductions, whether it is charitable trust or anything excepting perhaps your savings, incentives. You make it a simple document. Will that permit you, as I said in my speech during the Budget debate, to adhere to that 48 per cent civilisation?

I do not want to take much time. I will not make a full-fledged speech.

MR. SPEAKER: You can take as much time as you like. It is better than allowing time in Zero hour. He is making good points.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Thank you, Sir. But we are approaching another Zero Hour!

There is another aspect and let me draw the attention of the House and the Finance Minister, through you, to that. I am not as powerful orator as Shri George Fernandes is. I will not be able to make the points so brilliantly. But are there States in the country which are also in trouble with their Budgetary matters? Is it not true that while the ills at the Centre are the creation of the Centre itself, all the ills facing the States are not the creation of the States? Let him contradict this in his reply. A good part of the share of the ills of the States belongs to the Centre. If the prices rise because of the Finance Bill, the States have to suffer. The hon. Finance Minister did not bother at all to think that he has, within his powers, to do everything to strengthen the finances of the States. What prevented him from promising to the House that the Consignment Tax Bill will be placed in this House? They say that Rs. 200 crores annually can be added via this Consignment Tax for each of the major States. They say this is an estimate. I know the state of the finances of the Government of West Bengal. That Government is an ambitious Government which tries to stick to the zero deficit Budget. Therefore, they are unable to pay for so many urgently required items of expenditure. It did not occur to the Finance Minister that instead of devastating the States finances, he can help the States in this manner.

Earlier also I have made a suggestion. This is not for the first time I am making this suggestion in this House. There was stealing, some four years back, from the States' resources by the Centre. All the Provident Funds were collected via Small Savings. Some four or five years ago it did strike to some genius at the Centre that if the Centre create a special deposit scheme where the Provident Funds of GIC and LIC can be deposited, then it need not be shared with the States because Small Savings are shared with the States. Do you know how much is assumed in the Budget for that? It is Rs. 8000 crores, more than that assumed on account of Small Savings. Can't that be transferred to the States? If it is done then each of the states can benefit itself.

[Sh. Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee]

The third aspect is this: The Finance Minister assumes that he has been able to satisfy some of the cries arising from the states by introducing Concessions under Section 80L for Small-Savings. Look at the cynical assumption behind it. Who are the small-savers? The assumption is that the small-savers are those who are the tax-prayers. Two per cent of the families 5 per cent of the families are the small-savers. They say there is no agricultural income-tax worth the name in this country. I do not blame the Centre for that. Mistaken statements have been made here. I know about it. The point is agricultural income-tax is basically a matter for the States. They take into account a notional figure for collection of agricultural income. I do not know how much is the real amount. But if we have to collect funds from those who are not tax-prayers, is it enough to offer them a 12 per cent rate of interest. While every other instrument of savings is giving much more than that? It does not strike him. I know about West Bengal - it must be true for other States also - that their Small-Savings collections are zeroing this year. Of course, tax-prayers are there. How above others? This is another way of depriving the States from enlarging their resources. I want the Finance Minister to give a positive response about this also. I am not restricting myself strictly on the Finance Bill obviously. But I am strictly on the receipt side. Another instrument which has been mentioned in term of liberalisation is the floating interest rate. He has very kindly considered the problems of the cooperatives. As has been pointed out from that side, there is still a lacuna in this. Maybe he will be able to accommodate that in his reply that the urban cooperatives also should be given the same kind of treatment as the rural cooperatives are. For one reason, in the urban cooperatives also, it is stipulated that the sixty per cent of their lending operation must be in the priority sectors. To that I draw his attention for consideration.

But what is this interest rate tax, and who are the people and what is the floating

interest rate? I am all for interest rate tax. Though it is not exactly a direct tax, yet it is a tax. He himself has said about allowing floating of interest rates while referring to IMF. Are there IMF conditionalities? The session is ending, we do not know if there are any? If there are, what they are? He says no one lends us without conditionalities. What are those conditionalities? Conditionalities are that, you will be able to pay. Within this cover, so many other things are there. If that be so that IMF is only lending securities, then if the interest rates are hiked because of this interest tax, on whom will they pass it? The richer borrowers are Tatas and so on to whom lending seems to be a pleasure for the banking sector manager; lending to whom is a matter of eternal divine satisfaction for a bank manager and he will be charged the lowest rate of interest and those lowly people who go to the bank will be charged the higher rate of interest because of the interest rate tax. Can he not, if he is a wizard with these loans, devise all means by which he will say that this amount of borrowing cannot be charged a rate of interest higher than that and only that cost of payment of interest tax would be levied on lendings to such big amount? This is another suggestion that I am making to him.

Coming back to income-tax...

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North):
Sparking with income-tax or coming back to income tax?

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE:
Coming back to income-tax, this kind of formula has said so many things. He can investigate. He has appointed a committee. Why is it impossible for him immediately to announce that every tax assessee shall give a comprehensive return? This is what Dr. Kaldor has said. How much is the income, how much is the expenditure, that was the kind of proposal. Why are we shying away from that? I raised two questions on this gamut of tax. Why have you shied away from what Prof. Madhu Dandavate tried to do in terms of gift tax? He tried to make it a donee tax. That Bill lapsed. Why did you reject that?

That is more equity than in other cases.

I would also like to raise the question as to why is that our statute do not include the inheritance tax? I am more in favour of inheritance tax rather than estate duty. The inheritance tax is levied taking into account the persons who have inherited that. It is much better than the estate duty in that sense. All these really indicate that if this is an emergency, all these things should have been attempted in order to ensure that we are not into the debt trap. This could have been avoided. Despite all my respects and my non-questioning of his integrity, I do believe that he has become, given the parameters, helpless tool of the International Monetary Fund. He will be a laughing stock after some months. What has he offered? He has offered to the holders of black wealth saying that you come and deposit your money in a particular bank and only 40 per cent of the deposit will be taken out. Why have you not levied 40 per cent tax? That is what they were avoiding up till now. The effective rate of tax is not even 40 per cent today. Why will they come? I have a story which somebody has written to me telling that the purpose for which this 40 per cent has been taken is very laudable, which is for housing the poor. He further says that why can you not them more laudable by bringing in other things also like old age pension etc? I had to write back to him very politely asking him whether he would pay more, if that is included, and whether he would devote more of his black wealth. These are unrelated things. There could be other way. There is the stick. Your warnings are useless warnings, as useless as the paper. He bemoaned before the House that he cannot force his exporters to deposit legally earned foreign exchange within the country. He issues a threat to those who are really in power in our economy. You have given them three more months saying that will be the last chance. But, they have seen so many last chances in their life. Therefore, the other things has to be there and that other things is not a carrot but the stick. It has been very correctly raised in this House.

Shri Ram Naik and other Bombayites

may be offended when I say that when Kirloskar was caught, there was a furore saying that he was a citizen supposed to be more equal than others. Why? Because he was Kirloskar. Unless you have this kind of sticks, nothing will come. In order that these sticks are well utilised, I repeatedly tell them to save on other heads but not to save under the revenue department. It is very easy. Anybody, even if that person is not 100 per cent honest, ask them to survey. You add your fleet strength to survey and then follow it up with search and seizure and then hold the carrot. I differed with Shri V.P. Singh when he was Finance Minister and also when he was the Prime Minister on some of the foreign policies. But on this point, he was right. You make it difficult for all those who tried to escape. There is nothing in that.

Let me conclude instead of disturbing so many colleagues of mine. There is a report in the Press - I do not know if their figures are correct - that because of the break-up value calculations, the collection would be not what has been postulated by the Finance Minister but some Rs. 800 crore. That was the estimate. If that is so, I will be one of the happiest persons. My fear is, he may retreat from that when that is the figure because that will be hard on the rich.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH): What is this Rs. 800 crore?

SHRI NIRMAL KANT CHATTERJEE: That break-up value.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: When the tax collection is much less, how can it be Rs. 800 crore?

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: That figure has been given to us. They say that all your collection is a tip of the iceberg.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: I am sorry.....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: You are sorry! We permit you to be sorry. But

[Sh. Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee]

why make us sorry? Why make the country sorry? If he cannot do that, if he cannot hit at wealth accumulated legally and illegally, if he cannot hit at income generated legally and illegally, and if he talks of emergency, that can only come from the voice of International Monetary Fund and not an honest voice. Thank you.

SHRI BHERU LAL MEENA (Salumber): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

I am not going into the details of the suggestions given by our hon. Members. They have proposed so many good things, and given several suggestions according to their political affiliations. But, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards poors of this country. Whatever has just been said by a Telugu Desham Member, was completely correct and I am eye to eye agree with his point of view. I have come from poor workers' class. It is correct that the situation of the country has been worsened. Why did it happen so? Why has it been allowed to go on like this? Why does the crisis develop? Why the poors are not allowed to march ahead. It has never been thought. We merely discuss these things here but never realise sincerely as to why it is so. I would like to submit if our hon. Members and Ministers would work honestly and keenly and keep the interest of the country above all, no power on earth can worsen the situation of the country.

As a representative of the people, whatever I did, I did it sincerely and properly and I got success in and the people also felt happy. Therefore, first of all, I would like to point out that for getting political benefit everybody utters that the situation of the country has been deteriorated, the Budget has increased the prices, etc. It is always said by all of us many a time. But we have to think over the reasons as to why this situation has been created. The ruling party has ruled the country as long as 40 years whereas

the opposition party ruled for one and a half years. Merely levelling allegations against each other can't serve the poor people. It will not help them. I would like to request that we should have a check on the expenditure being incurred on us. We have been elected to Lok Sabha and are getting a salary of Rs. 5000/- per month. But the farmer, who works in the field hardly gets Rs. 300/-. The daily expenditure being incurred on us amounts to Rs. 100/-. Similarly, the Ministers and other people spend the Government money extravagantly. I want to suggest to contain this expenditure. My submission is that whosoever does wrong he can be set right through social or legal measures. One who is a thief, an official who does not work properly, a representative who does not perform his duties efficiently are all residents of India. But we always level allegations and counter-allegations against each other. If somebody commits a crime and is apprehended he comes to us for recommendation. The people have an opinion if we recommend his case, he would be released. This is the way the terrorism is spreading not only in the States but through-out the country. The reason behind all these disturbances is that a man who is poor feels uneasy and distressed, due to poverty. When he becomes annoyed of his condition he indulges in anti-social activities. Therefore, I would like to draw your attention towards some loopholes in the Budget which have been referred to by me as well as by other colleagues too.

Mr. Speaker, Sir I hail from Rajasthan. I am fully aware of the situation of Rajasthan. Majority of tribals lives in Rajasthan. A commission was set up in the name of tribals and special fund is allotted to that commission. Despite the allocation of funds nothing concrete has been done in that area. The people of backward classes could not be able to get the opportunity for their upliftment. Thus, I would like that the Government should pay this attention towards the upliftment of poors.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I and some other hon. Members have already pointed out that in-

justice is being done to workers. You have increased the price of petrol, in the budget. It affects their mode of transport whether it is motorcycle, tempo or two-wheelers. No relief has been given to the income tax payers. He has to spend more from his pocket due to rise in petrol price. Besides, he has to pay income tax. Therefore, I would like that the exemption limit of income tax should be increased. The salary has increased by sixteen times. The price of petrol has been hiked by 20 per cent. So the exemption limit of income-tax should positively be raised. I would not ask to withdraw it in-toto. But it may be reduced at least by 10 per cent so that the people may get relief.

You have given subsidy on fertilisers to the small farmers. You have done a good deed. I went to my constituency a few days earlier and saw entirely a different position there. The small farmers have no money to purchase fertilisers. The big businessmen or some other persons purchase the fertilisers in the small farmer's name and store it in their godowns. In this way, needy persons do not get fertilisers. When he requires fertilisers for his field, he has to purchase it on a very high prices. Thus, the farmers are being exploited.

Besides, I would like to request that proper attention should be paid on the means of irrigation. I had already raised this issue earlier. Now I want to reiterate that the provision may be made for the same in the budget. Though, the poor people have land yet no irrigation facility is there. The Government should make arrangements to provide irrigation facilities for them. A master plan should be formulated to provide irrigation facilities to the farmers so that people could be able to get benefit.

Mr. Speaker, Sir you have rung the bell. I abide by the discipline strictly. Therefore, I conclude and thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Anna Joshi.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI: You may please allow Shrimati Vasundhara first. Then I will speak.

MR. SPEAKER: I would have done that. But I was told that she wanted to speak only at the end.

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE (Jhalawar): Mr. Speaker, I thank you for having given me an opportunity to make a submission. And I also thank Shri Anna Joshi for kindly allowing me to speak first. I have had the privilege of being able to listen to a most comprehensive debate, for the most part, a very enlightening and enjoyable debate. I do not believe that I am an economic genius and that I can add much more to this. But I have risen today to underscore a point which my colleagues before me, viz. Prof. Dhumal and Lakshmi Narayanaji have already made.

The hon. Finance Minister is sitting here today. I do appreciate the fact that he has just granted many concessions. But as my hon. colleague has said, those concessions have just not been enough and there are some areas which have been left out. I speak mainly about the glass container industry.

I would like him to appreciate the fact that other packing materials like tin, plastics, etc. are not cheap vis-a-vis glass. But the glass containers have been made more expensive because there is a huge excise of 44 per cent slapped on them. And when you add sales tax to it, there is an enormous burden of almost 58.4 per cent taxation which is quite a killer. Normally, this kind of high rate of taxation at the rate of 44 per cent would be applicable to most luxury items. But Sir, even some luxury items are subject to a lower rate.

I would like to put before you just briefly the comparative rates of various packaging materials. The excise plus sale tax on plastics is 8 per cent, on tetrapack it is 10 per cent, on tin, 28.15 per cent, on PET bottles 8 per cent and on glass containers 58.4 per

[Smt. Vasundhara Raje]

cent. Our country imports basically 55 per cent of its requirement of plastics, and 80 per cent of its requirement of tinplate. Glass industry and glass itself is 100 per cent indigenous and it does not use any imported raw material either. The other materials like plastics, PET bottles, tetrapack, etc. not only use imported raw material but also imported machinery. At a time when the country is facing an acute balance of payment problem, the tetrapack industry has spent about Rs. 100 crore on the import of machinery. The total investment on tetrapack is about Rs. 200 crore, of which only 20 per cent capacity is being utilised. Such industries are encouraged by levy of low excise or 16.5 per cent duty *ad valorem*!

Glass is the least energy intensive industry compared to other packaging materials. I have a table here before me which tells us as to what is the typical gross energy required to produce a kilo of various materials. For low density polyethylene resin, the total energy used to 104.35 MJ. PET resins to which the hon. Finance Minister has just given 20 per cent concession, use about 83 MJ of this. The glass containers on the other hand, use only about 21.7 MJ. The glass container industry, apart from all these things, is labour intensive and it provides employment to almost 1.2 million workers. It is a non-polluting packaging material and it is completely recyclable.

Prof. Dhumal mentioned about a factory in Thailand. Thailand produces almost 350,000 tonnes of glass. India's total production is about 600,000 tonnes. Thailand has got about three such factories and other small factories and it exports to Malaysia, Middle-East and various other countries around it. It is quite shameful that we in India are not being able to give an impetus to the glass container industry as a result, it is almost a sick industry due to this unequal competition. Keeping all these things in mind, it is important that the Government reduce this Excise Duty on the glass containers from the present 44 per cent *ad valorem* to

at least about 16.5 per cent so that this industry may not only survive but prosper. I want to mention to the hon. Finance Minister that I have been waiting for a very long time and I enjoyed this debate tremendously.

MR. SPEAKER: It is being noticed.

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: But I would like him to listen to me because I have waited for quite some time.

Sir, I would like to once again underscore this point and I would like the hon. Finance Minister to give his attention to it so that this industry does not fall sick which it is doing. I hope, very soon, he will make the concessions necessary to let it prosper. I am sure - since I am the only lady at 11 o'clock in the night waiting...

PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN: No. You cannot treat me as a man. I am a mother of two children.

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: I am the only lady member from this side who has waited for quite some time to put my point of view, so that the Finance Minister will give the necessary attention and make the necessary changes that are required.

Thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to speak here.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI (Pune): Sir, I rise to oppose this Finance Bill and I would like to put forward some points here.

When a discussion was taking place here regarding the transfer of gold from India to foreign countries, the hon. Prime Minister intervened. It was raised by Shri Vajpayee in this House. The hon. Prime Minister said: "Yes, we have done that." By supporting that step, he had quoted in Sanskrit: "*Sarvnashe Sumutpaney Ardham Tejati se Panditah*" So, the question arose, why the country has arrived to this position of *Sarvanash*? For that Shri Vajpayee has rightly told that "We would not quarrel about debt, the interest you are paying but at least

let us know why this much debt has been created? Where have you spent this money? The answer was not there. But in the last ten years, most part of it was ruled by the Congress party- you can easily find out how much expenditure they have incurred. You can find out the answer. It is very alarming because the expenditure that we have incurred were on such items which were unproductive and which are not giving anything to this country.

23.00 hrs

I will cite some examples where you have spent crores of rupees for nothing. The loan *melas* organised by the various nationalised Banks. We have paid nearly Rs. 3000 crores from these loan *melas* and achieved nothing.

A lot of corruption was involved during the Asian Games. If we have to account for that, it has deprived us Rs. 1, 600 crores nearly.

Then there was a meet of the Commonwealth Heads of Governments including their three-day tour to Goa. That has cost us nearly Rs. 300 crores.

Then there was a meeting of the Non-Aligned countries. Then we had to spend on the Indian Peace Keeping Forces in Sri Lanka. We were spending daily nearly Rs. 4 crores, and that too for two years.

We had spent there nearly Rs. 4000 crores and lost one thousand military men. We have got nothing from that.

AN HON. MEMBER: And also Shri Rajiv Gandhi.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI: That is the greatest loss. Then we had to spend some crores of rupees on Bharat Utsav which we celebrated throughout the country. Like that, we have spent crores of rupees.

Our esteemed friend, Shri George Fernandes said that frauds worth crores of rupees

have been committed in the Nationalised Banks plus public undertakings. In those frauds, we have lost money worth crores of rupees. If we take all these things into account, then they can give us an answer.

We have brought from abroad as debt crores and crores of rupees and we have spent all that money on some thing or the other without getting anything. So, before we pass these Budget proposals, you must account for all this expenditures that you have incurred; and whether you are ready to keep away from that and want to adopt some other course.

Even you have declared concessions worth Rs. 29 crores. Out of Rs. 29 crores, you are giving to the film industry Rs. 20 crores and only Rs. 9 crores will go to the poor people or the needy people. That shows what is the attitude of the Government. This shows that there is no change in the attitude of the Government regarding the priorities for the expenses or for the concessions so far.

The new era starts right from the third of July, 1991. The new industrial policy has increased the rate of interest and this has put the small scale industry into trouble. Since you have allowed them to charge interest at any rate, they are now free to charge interest at any rate they like.

Now the industries which have got some standing in the market, they will get as much loan as they want at a concessional rate of interest. But these industries which are new or the tiny industries or the cottage industries which do not have any standing, in the market, no establishment, they will have to pay more interest with the result that they will get less loan. Therefore, due to the new industrial policy and the increase in the interest rate, the small scale industries, the tiny industries and the cottage industries are in trouble.

There second point which I would like to bring to your notice is regarding the Urban Cooperative banks. The restrictions you are

[Sh. Anna Joshi]

imposing, or the interest you are going to charge on the deposits which are there, have landed them in two-fold difficulties. On the one hand all the deposits will be taken away from the banks and on the other, they will be required to pay tax.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH): Where will the deposits go?

SHRI ANNA JOSHI: That, you can find out yourself.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: They will be shifted to black channels and some other channels. You know about them.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI: They will be facing many difficulties. I have got so many representations from the Cooperative Banks which have been submitted by Professor Kapse to you also. There depositors will be inclined to take away their deposits, they will not be encouraged to keep them there and at the same time the banks will have more work. Thus, these cooperative banks will have to face difficulties. Therefore, it will be better if they are exempted from this tax.

Then there is one more provision on which I have given my amendment. That is about these depositors who are earning an interest of more than Rs. 2, 500/- who will have to pay some interest. At least you may give them one concession, that if they produce the advance tax receipt, in proof of having paid that much amount, then, at that time only, they may be given exemption from this tax. This provision should not be applicable to them.

With these suggestions, I retire.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Sir, please permit me to make a correction. I had mentioned Rs. 20,000/- as the *per capita* income. I really meant *per family* income. That may be corrected accordingly. I do not want to go wrong on this point.

Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: All right.

SHRI B.N. REDDY. Absent.

SHRI AYUB KHAN.

[Translation]

SHRI AYUB KHAN (Jhunjhunu): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak at this juncture. First of all, late Mahatma Gandhi had a dream about the country and late nehruji realised that dream. Late Smt. Gandhi and late Shri Rajiv Gandhi nourished it by sacrificing their lives, and took the country to a path of progress and glory. Under the leadership of Shri P.V. Narsimharao, our Finance Minister, other Ministers and the officials of all the Departments deserve to be appreciated for the Finance Bill which have been moved in the House. I would like to emphasise that we, the Indian's, can lead a life of poverty but we can never compromise with the prestige of our country. It means that once upon a time late Prime Minister, Shri Lai Bahadur Shastri had given a slogan 'Jai Jawan Jai Kisan'. Today the time has come when we have to adopt this slogan in our life. If we would not have allowed the gold to be sent out of the country and did not take assistance in turn from outside, it would have been the better service, for the country. In my opinion, the people should come forward to serve the country. I hail from Rajasthan. It is a backward areas from the development point of view. But there are many villages in my Jhunjhunu district where a number of billionaires reside. If these people are granted exemption in this regard, they could have helped the country a lot in this matter. In my opinion, the new industrial policy will lead to the country to the path of slavery again. It would not be proper if outsiders come and misuse our poors for their own benefit. Today, the business groups have created another party that has created a lot of disturbances in the country and can play a dangerous role in the set up of the country. I would request that some restric-

tion should positively be imposed on outsiders so that the workers participation in the industry may be ensured for the purpose of containing the profit of big people as well as due profit to the workers.

Mr. Speaker, Sir Jhunjhunu is my constituency in Rajasthan where drinking water is a terrible problem. Indra Gandhi Canal is the only source of drinking water. No Government in the State is capable to run that project. If you provide more financial assistance then only we would be able to commission the project. I think that not only irrigation but drinking water also would be made available by commissioning the project.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to request that the income tax ceiling must be raised as military officers and jawans who are serving the country are also paying the income tax. On the one hand, the Government is increasing their salary and on the other hand, it is taking back the amount in the form of income tax. It is very surprising that even lower class employees are also paying income tax. Please look into it.

Now there is an issue of gas cylinder. In this respect people have a lot of complaints. If you happen to go to villages they will talk about gas cylinder. I request you please pay attention to this matter also. The second issue is that of diesel and petrol. The present prices of petrol are very high and general public cannot travel on taxi or scooter. Please pay attention to this issue too. You have given concession on Kerosene oil but there is so much difference between the prices of petrol or diesel and kerosene oil that it will lead to corruption.

Mr. Speaker, Sir there is so much hike in the prices of fertilizers that it requires a board to be constituted. The farmers can not get relief because a heavy amount is invested in the production of fertilizers, so I request you that in respect of the fertilizers it is better to give more subsidy to the farmers. As you have fixed a limit for land holdings, similarly there should be a limit for the rich people that they can not have

assets more than rupees one crore. I would urge you that if there is more assets than this limit it should be treated as the assets of the nation. Provide more and more facilities to my constituency. It is so much backward that till now people have not seen train.

MR. SPEAKER: Leave it. It is not covered by the Finance Bill. This matter may be raised with the Minister for Railways.

SHRI AYUB KHAN: I appeal you to provide more money for the development of Rajasthan so that the problem of drinking water can be solved. My last submission is that provide a pass of Girdavari to the farmers and give loans to them on the basis of that pass book. Patwari, Tahsildar and Sarpanch should not go to inform the farmers but banks should provide loan to them on producing that pass book. They will produce that pass book to the bank officer and on seeing that pass book he will give them loan. If any farmer has an entry in his pass book to the effect that he has already taken a loan then he should not further be provided a loan. If he has repaid the loan it should be renewed, otherwise not. Bank should not ask for any witness because he has a large property of land. So there should be such an arrangement that he can get a loan. Thanking you.

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have no objection if Shri Khandelwal wants to speak first.

MR. SPEAKER: Well Shri Khandelwal speak first.

SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDELWAL: Thank you Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to know that how much time has been allotted to me.

MR. SPEAKER: Five minutes.

SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDELWAL: I will have to speak in the telegraphic language.

MR SPEAKER: If you speak on the issue you can tell a lot.

SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDELWAL (Chandni Chowk): Mr. Speaker, Sir, kindly increase my time limit to proportionate to the percentage of inflation and price rise due to this budget.

MR. SPEAKER: Speak on good points. The number of points you will speak, your time will be increased accordingly, highlight such new points which have not been mentioned by any other member and speak on the finance bill only.

SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDELWAL (Chandini Chowk): Mr. Speaker, Sir, while opposing this finance bill I, want to draw the attention of the Finance Minister on an important issue other than the issues of taxation. It seems to me that the businessmen are neglected in this finance bill. No attention has been given towards business and businessmen. I accept that there is a lobby of capitalists and industrialists in our country but I want to state that businessmen are backbone of the economy of the country. There are approximately 8 crore small, medium and big businessmen in our country. Our Government always neglects the role played by the businessmen in business, economy of the whole country and in the distribution system. My submission is that where there are so many ministries, there should be a separate Ministry for trade. If it is not possible to do so immediately then there should be a Department of Internal Trade under this Ministry. When our country got freedom Jawahar Lalji included a Ministry for Trade Affairs in his first cabinet. This is my submission that there must be a Minister for trade affairs.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, when the Government announced that it would check price rise with in 100 days and will bring it to the level of July 1990, at that time people who have political skill knew that it is a fraud. It was mentioned in the manifesto the misguide the countrymen, but innocent people of this country were pleased to know that a new Govern-

ment is being formed.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: That point is already made by other Members.

SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDELWAL: Every Member has repeated, why are you checking me? I will finish within a time-limit.

[Translation]

Don't interrupt me again and again, it will take more time.

PROF. PREMDHUMAL: Please let him speak fluently for sometime.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: There is no point in repeating the same thing again and again.

SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDELWAL: This is my maiden speech at the tag end of the day of this Session. You should take care of it.

[Translation]

I had forgotten this. That is why I was making a request. The innocent people of the country had a belief that this Government would really check the price-rise. But the prices instead of coming under control within 100 days have gone up. Now the people who were once all praise for this Government are criticising it severely. The hon. Finance Minister issued a statement that checking the price rise was not possible. If the Government has no formula. I have a formula which would help contain price-rise. According to my formula, the Government should make an announcement today that it would not enhance the administered prices of the essential commodities for the next five years. If that is not possible, let it be for next two years only. Even then, the prices will come under control, they will not go up...(Interruptions)...you have again interrupted me...(Interruptions)...No, they are

our friends. There will be no price-rise if the Government makes such an announcement even for two years. The Government itself enhances the prices of commodities under its control and thereafter shifts the blame on the businessmen and industrialists. The Government who is itself responsible for rise in prices has no right to blame others. It has taken over all sorts of business in its hands. An economist or an intellectual once said that:-

"Jo sarkar bane vyapari
Uski praja bane bhikhari."

(Interruptions)

Yes, Chanakya once said, if the Government does business itself, its subjects turn beggars. Today, the Government is unable to manage its trade properly. Performance of all public undertakings and other institutions under its control is very dismal. 80 per cent public undertakings are running at loss.

It is like the thief threatening the policeman. The Government is exactly doing this. It has increased the prices of several commodities itself. The price-rise certainly would come under control if it sticks to my formula.

Now, I come to the point of taxation. I would not say more in regard to raising the exemption limit of income-tax from Rs. 22,000 as many of the hon. Members have already spoken a lot on this point. However, I would like to request the Government to yield to the popular demand all over the country and raise the limit further from Rs. 22,000 in the public interest if it really believes in the democratic set up. Although in our manifesto we have promised to raise the exemption limit of income-tax up to Rs. 48 thousands, I will compromise with my demand if the limit is raised to Rs. 40,000. Exemption limit in respect of a firm is Rs. 15,000. It is ironical that when the exemption limit in respect of individual income is 22,000, for a firm which does business, it is Rs. 15,000. The Government should raise exemption limit in respect of firms to Rs. 40,000. Secondly, the people

are very much distressed over double taxation. It is also ironical that taxes are levied twice in our country. Firstly, tax is levied on the firms and thereafter on its partner's. I demand that the dual taxation policy should be done away with.

Thirdly, I would like to submit that firms having an annual turn-over of Rs. 40 lakhs are supposed to furnish an audit report. When the rate of inflation has gone so high, I demand that this limit should be raised from Rs. 40 lakhs to Rs. 75 lakhs.

A new provision has been incorporated in clause 194 (h) which is very harmful and has been opposed everywhere. The exemption limit for the purpose of T.D.S. on income accruing from interest, commission and brokerage has been fixed at Rs. 2,500. Now I would like to tell the hon. Minister of Finance that if this limit is fixed at Rs. 2,500 per annum, that means people making a deposit of Rs. 200 per month would come under its purview. In our country, there are petty brokers or commission agents who earn only Rs. 300-400 as commission or brokerage per month. There are widows who keep their entire savings as fixed deposits in banks. The salaried class people, the teachers for example keep their small savings in the form of F.D.R. The Government servants who retired from service and get lump-sum amounts as their retirement benefits also deposit the same in the banks. The Government wants to levy tax on that amount also. I demand that the provision of T.D.S. on the above incomes should be withdrawn. And if our hon. Finance Minister is not in a mood to completely withdraw it, he can at least raise exemption limit of interest amount from Rs. 2500 to Rs. 10,000. Under sub-section 2 of section 143 a facility of self-assessment was given to small traders. The basic intention was to give them relief. There was a provision under it that if an income tax officer was not satisfied he could open the case within six months. Now the provision is for twelve months. I would like to know whether Government does not have adequate means for the screening on the income tax returns within six months. Some Inspectors of In-

[Sh. Tara Chand Khandelwal]

come Tax try to blackmail the traders and tell them that their case is going to be reopened within six months and then stike a deal under the table. I, therefore, request the hon. Finance Minister not to be swayed by the suggestions of Government officials and do by his own sagacity. He should seriously think in this direction.

Mr. Speaker, Sir before concluding I would like to submit that for the last 17 years there has been a long-standing demand for the abolition of sales tax. Almost all the Parties have mentioned about the abolition of sales tax in their manifesto in one year or the other. It involves two things-generation of black money and corruption. Every customer wants that he should not be charged 7 or 10 per sales tax and that is why he is not interested in taking a bill for the goods. As a result black money is being generated and therefore, there is urgent need to abolish sales tax. Here, I would like to submit that this demand is not only of the traders but also of consumers. Government is allergic to traders. As they are organised they can raise their voice but the consumers are not organised and, therefore, they cannot raise it. The consumers are the worst affected. I, therefore, demand that sales tax should be abolished. It is stated here that it is a state subject but I would like to ask what prevents the Central Government from abolishing the Central Sales tax. I, therefore, demand that the Central Sales Tax should be abolished immediately.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, with these words I conclude. I am sorry for having transgressed the time limit - though it was for a minute or so.

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North): Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a shloka in Sanskrit:-

"Vinayakam Dakuvaram
Rachayamas Vanaram"

We are celebrating the function of Ganapathi these days and we started making the idol of Ganapathi but instead the final

shape of the idol came out to be that of a monkey. They were talking of bringing down prices within 100 days. A new economic resolution was brought forward but the prices went up instead of going down and if we compare the present whole sale price index with that of June, there has been a 15.20 per cent rise in it. In August 90 the whole sale Price Index was 180.3 per cent whereas today it is 207.7 per cent. That means there has been an increase of 28 per cent in prices. It was said that prices would be rolled back within 100 days but it is not known as to where would the effort, being made by Government, take the country to. That is why I have certain apprehensions, whenever there is steep rise in prices we say that the prices have touched the sky. I think the prices have now pierced through the sky and hit an all time high. In this way, the wholesale Price index is going up. The BJP volunteers did an experiment in Bombay in this regard. When the Finance Bill was likely to be taken up for discussion, they sent printed postcards with a questionnaire to the people in the city and sought signatures of those people if they thought that the demands made in the questionnaire were justified. They told the people that these post cards would be sent to the Finance Minister and the Hon. Prime Minister. Sir, you would be surprised to know that within seven days I received 40,000 postcards whereas the discussion on the Finance bill began the day before yesterday. I delivered those post cards to the Hon. Prime Minister along with a letter. Four demands have been made in that questionnaire. I would like to mention them here as it is related to the Bill. The first demand is that the income tax exemption limit should be raised to Rs. 48,000. I have with the figures of Consumer price Index of 1982. If we treat it as base year with the value of rupee as 100 paise, it was just 53 paise in July 1990 and today the value of rupee is merely 46 paise. The value of rupee has eroded so much during the last ten years.

[English]

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum): May I ask a question with your permission?

*(Interruptions)**[Translation]**[Translation]*

SHRI RAM NAIK: Please ask. Questions should ordinarily be asked from the hon. Minister, but if you ask me, I have no objection. I will reply to it.

[English]

SHRI A. CHARLES: You said that you have received 40,000 cards and the questionnaire and you have suggested that the income-tax upper limit should be raised to Rs. 48,000/-. What is the percentage of the people of the country that will be benefited by it?

SHRI RAM NAIK: There may not be many persons, but you are wasting your energy, the administrative machinery, just to collect a few crores of rupees.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH): 90 per cent of the assessments are summary assessments, no administrative expenditure is involved.

SHRI RAM NAIK: You are giving exemption upto Rs. 22000. What is the value of the rupee? On Rs. 48000 limit I am not going to say more.

[Translation]

I was simply saying that the income tax exemption limit should be raised to Rs. 48,000. Second demand was that the price of LPG should be brought down to pre-Budget level. The third demand which has been mentioned...

*(Interruptions)...**[English]*

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: There are 870 crores of rupees subsidy on L.P.G.

SHRI RAM NAIK: Ultimately, whom are you punishing and for what?

The middle class and factory workers who toil hard are being taxed whereas incentive is being given to black marketeers for disclosing the unaccounted money. You will have to seriously deliberate upon your role... *(Interruptions)* I do not have any objection if film industry is given some incentives. If a trade or profession is granted the status of industry, it should be treated as industry. That is my personal opinion. They are facing some problems and if they have been given some incentive that is good.

About Railways, I would like to submit that the fare of suburban railways should be reduced and these should be rolled back to the level of July 1990. I have said this because people are agitated and you should bear it in mind. If you want to witness the display of their agitation, you may go to Bombay where women propose to hold a rally on 27th September when 100 days of Government are going to be over.

[Translation]

You can go and see how anguished the housewives are.

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: You launch most of the programmes on women.

SHRI RAM NAIK: Earlier, these people thought that we were not with the farmers. We launched programmes in the interest of the farmers. Shri Sharad Joshi thought that the farmers were with us. The Government should take stock of the people's reactions on its Budget. If it does not take these into accounts, people will naturally express their anger through agitation. And when people express their anger in such a manner, it will not be useful for the country, for the people and for the society.

Secondly, I would like to speak about the Finance Bill. At the time of retirement a Government employee or a factory worker who works in cities like Delhi, Calcutta or Bombay receives about Rs. 80,000 to Rs. 1

[Sh. Ram Naik]

lakh towards gratuity. It is the earning of his whole life and he gets more than Rs. 2500 interest on it. The value of money is going down. Now, how can these retired pensioners who get this type of gratuity be excluded from the scheme terming them as a salaried class. If the Government does not give them exemption from tax on the interest money they would be getting this salaried class will continue to be exploited. Their pension does not increase with the increase in dearness allowances. My demand is that the Government must understand the hardship to be faced by these people as a result of this decision.

Several Hon. Members spoke about urban Co-operative Banks. So I would not like to repeat them any longer. The policy the Government framed for the Urban Co-operative Banks, which are mainly located in Maharashtra, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh, is as good as a death knell. Earlier, no income tax was being levied from these co-operatives but today income tax @3% is being levied on gross income directly. The Co-operative Banks functioned in the areas where the nationalised banks did not function. These banks were very helpful to ordinary people, small businessmen, petty craftsmen and small scale industries. (*Interruptions*)

The Government proposes to levy 3% income tax on the gross income of these Co-operative Banks. These banks mobilise resources and give loans in places where nationalised banks do not function. Earlier, the difference between the rate of interest of the nationalised banks and urban banks was 1%. It was helpful to urban banks in their competition. Now, the Reserve Bank reduced it to 1/2% Earlier, that was also not there. When we made representations and explained the position to the Hon. Minister, it was made 1/2%. Why such miserliness? Urban co-operative banks do a commendable work in the urban areas. As such the existing stance under which trends of weakening the co-operative banks are visible,

should be changed. Many Hon. Members like me and Shri George Fernandes have connections with many co-operative banks. Their deposits have begun to recede. Of course the concessions which have been given now through an affidavit will be beneficial to them to some extent, but not to a great extent. I request you that as in the past, the co-operative banks should be kept beyond the purview of income tax.

The Hon. Minister made some submissions about the hotel industries. We live in a hot country and in such a country air-conditioned hotels are being treated as a luxury. I can understand the justifiability of levying taxes on such places where residential arrangements or hotels are there. Because one who visits these place will be required to pay more. But what about the person who only takes meals from a 'dhaba' on the highway. (*Interruptions*) Leave the case of Bombay. You go to Madras and Calcutta. You will find this situation there. Our country men are fortunate that providing two toilets in a hotel appeared to be a case of luxury for the Government.

[English]

TO WHAT EXTENT IS THE Government thinking perversely?

[Translation]

There should be no separate toilets for men and women.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: He has moved an amendment for that.

SHRI RAM NAIK: But only after complaining about it, he did it.

[Translation]

It is an illustration of how the Government thinks. The Government should not

expect levying more tax from eating house where air-conditioner have been fitted.

Finally, I would like to make one point only. A mention about the glass industries was also made. I have close connections with these industries because there are three or four big glass factories in my constituency. I feel that it is a labour intensive industry. It must be considered from all angles. People are likely to meet the Hon. Minister and discuss the matter with him. As such, I do not want to take much time on it.

Now I would like to make a submission about the overall development process. During the question Hour there was a proposal to create an M.P. Constituency Fund. We discuss about the development and plans of the whole country but there are certain special requirements for which the people of our individual constituencies are interested. While we discuss about the whole development process, our local requirements are not covered by that. We construct long roads and big bridges. But there is a small rivulet in my constituency and we have been demanding for last 10 years for the construction of a bridge on it. But or demand is not being conceded to. There are a number of other minor things which are no way directly linked with the national planning. But it is a problem with the representatives of individual constituencies. The Hon. Minister assured that he would re-consider these local demands. But perhaps due to his pre-occupations in connection with the Finance Bill, he could not make time for all this. But I would like to tell him that the public representatives who come here as M.Ps have a special responsibility towards their individual constituencies alongwith their contribution to financial set-up of the country.

[Translation]

There is a scheme in Maharashtra under which Rs. 21 lakh are reserved for each legislative assembly Constituency and district planning Council prepares plan. In

Bombay Rs. 10 lakh are given for each Corporation ward for carrying out development works in the ward. On the same lines, if you provide Rs. 1.5 crore for one constituency and it will cost about Rs.750 crore as there are 6 state Legislative assembly constituencies in a Lok Sabha Constituency in our Maharashtra and 7-8 in Madhya Pradesh. If I am not wrong, it is 0.3% of your total budget. Members of Parliament can suggest some schemes according to the local needs. In this way they can associate the common man in the whole planning process and in the work process. Honourable Minister of Finance please think on these lines and do the same. With these words I conclude.

*SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO (Chikkabalapur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, The Hon'ble Finance Minister has presented a balanced finance Bill despite financial crisis in the country. I heartily congratulate him and other related persons. I welcome the Finance Bill and give certain suggestions for the kind consideration of the Hon'ble Finance Minister.

Food, clothing and Housing are the basic amenities which are very essential to each and every citizen. The Govt. should take the responsibility of providing these basic amenities to all persons in the country. We should have special plans for this and the Govt. should come forward with innovative schemes.

The rural poor, especially, Harijans and Girijans do not have proper housing facilities. So far we are not able to wipe out their tears. The gap between rich and the poor is widening day day. This has to be stopped immediately and the poor should be provided better housing facilities. The Hon'ble Finance Minister, Shri Man Mohan Singh is capable of doing this.

Our country has not progressed as expected. The progress is meagre when compared to the progress achieved by other countries like Japan, Germany, America etc.

[Sh. V. Krishna Rao]

We have talented and intelligent persons in our country. We have abundant natural resources in the country. Even then, the progress that we have achieved is negligible. We have the potentiality but unfortunately it is not being exploited properly. Hence, the Hon'ble Minister should come forward with new schemes for the benefit of the poor people of this country. is capable of doing this.

Our late lamented leader, Smt. Indira Gandhi nationalised most of the Banks for the noble cause of helping the poor. But what is happening in these banks? I want to know whether these banks are assisting the poor people or the managers and other officials of banks. What is the condition of the Rural banks today. I born and brought up in a village and I know the problems of villagers. These banks have to be modernised and the working of these banks has to be monitored.

How is the industrial development in the country? How many industrial units in the country have become sick? Where our plans have gone wrong? Our Hon'ble Finance Minister should do some introspection and find out solution for the sickness of these industrial units. Sickness should be avoided completely and production has to go up. The Govt. should take all necessary steps to increase the per capita income.

It will be like putting butter milk worth six paise in the mouth of Ravana if the family planning programmes are not implemented strictly. In the absence of family planning all the progress of the country would be worthless. It will be like pouring milk in mole hill. There is no other alternative before the Govt. than making family planning compulsory.

Sir, the Hon'ble Finance Minister is a very intelligent person. But I do not understand why there is a dual policy regarding fertilizer subsidy. This has to go. The farmers have to struggle to get fertilizers. There is black marketing and other malpractice in

the sale of fertilizers to the farmers. The farmers has to be the village accountant and the agent to get fertilizers. This has to be rectified by the Hon'ble Minister as early as possible. Institutions, industries and other organisations, have the facility of insurance cover. Unfortunately there is no crop insurance Scheme in our country. Insurance cover is a must to the farmers without which their progress is impossible. Similarly support price also is very essential for the farmers.

I request the Hon'ble Finance Minister to clear the following projects in Karnataka:

1. Vijayanagar Steel Plant;
2. Mangalore Refineries;
3. Raichur Thermal Power Plant IInd Unit.

The Gold mines in Kolar Gold Fields are being closed and about 14 thousand workers are on the roads. It is reliably learnt that the clay which is dumped around the mines like hillocks (after extracting gold) contain good percentage of gold. This has to be found out as it not only solves the unemployment problems but also fetches gold to the Government.

Neither there is electricity nor sufficient drinking water in Karnataka. The cattle do not have fodder. Therefore, may I ask the Hon'ble Minister the approximate time by which the Kaiga atomic power plant would start functioning.

Most of the irrigation projects in Karnataka are pending for the last several decades. They are:

- (1) Upper Bhadra;
- (2) Kabini;
- (3) Harangi.
- (4) Hemavathi.

I appeal to the Hon'ble Minister to

complete these vital projects and help the farmers of Karnataka.

Huge money is being spent for the implementation of Nehru Rojgar Yojana. Crores and crores of rupees are being spent but the poor villages get nothing what is happening in village Panchayats and mandal panchayats. The villagers and the farmers are suffering. If this situation continues the farmers will be on war-path. I urge upon the Hon'ble Minister to send a team to inspect all these happenings and to take corrective measures.

My constituency is reeling under severe drought. Most of the coconut trees have withered away. The Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Shri Mallikarjunaiah is here and he knows the condition of farmers very well. Drought situation is prevailing in Kolar, Tumkur, Bangalore and Chitradurga districts. I, therefore, request the Hon'ble Minister to set up a permanent Board for providing relief measures to these drought prone districts.

The people of Karnataka are looking forward for the centre's assistance. I hope that the Hon'ble Minister of Finance would do his best to help the people of Karnataka.

Sir, I thank you for giving me a chance to speak and with these words I conclude my speech.

24.00 hrs

[English]

SHRI RAM NAIK: Sir, I have got two tablets of codopyrin and aspirin. If anybody wants them, I am ready to give.

AN. HON. MEMBER: Were you ever a doctor? (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: We have all the time been talking about the atrocities on Harjans...

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is going to be 12 o'clock. The discussion in going on Finance bill. Our hon. learned members have given very good suggestions on it. It is an important thing of our country. It is difficult to speak on it. After all the budget and the Finance Bill have been prepared and presented by our Hon. Minister of Finance who is a great scholar of Economics. He has prepared both budget and Finance bill. He has brought both these things with a view to improve the economic situation of our country which is going bad to worse. This is also true that we have to identify the causes and our wrong policy that have brought our country to such a situation. It is very essential to think over it, lest we should not take the country to the worst situation by following that wrong policy again. The people have talked about and given their comments on the budget that has been presented recently. It is not that the opposition does not appreciate the good policies. Opposition appreciates. So I do not agree that we will not appreciate the good steps taken by our Government. Certainly I will say that it is a very good step. It will benefit the country. But can you tell me what benefit will we get from this Finance bill. It has caused price hike. You have promised to control price rise. Yesterday, I purchased two kg mustard oil. It cost me Rs. 92.80. Now you can think this budget was brought to provide relief to the poor, farmers, labourers, small traders etc. and not to cause harm to them. It points out the shortcomings in this budget. Why is it so that we have failed to control price hike?

Secondly, Mr. Speaker, Sir a number of suggestions have been given during the course of debate of Finance Bill. We cannot give any more suggestions in this connection. But one thing is clear and everybody accepts that India is an agriculture based country. It is a hard reality. In fact people say that it is an agriculture based country. 75% of the dependants of this agriculture based country are farmers and labourers. They are the people who help to strengthen economy

[Sh. Ramashray Prasad Singh]

of the country. An hon. member has said that businessmen are the backbone of our country's economy while we think that farmers and farming are the backbone which make our economy more strong. We can earn more and more foreign exchange and we can use it in running our country and making it better. So we want to say that no attention has so far been paid to the development of agriculture. If agriculture had been developed, we would not have reached the present economic situation. We would have been in better situation. But today agriculture depends on rain. And this dependance shows our backwardness in the field of agriculture. Now we do farming with the faith in God that is why farmers do not get any benefit from agriculture. This is because you have not paid any attention towards the agriculture. Secondly, I would like to draw attention towards the economic condition. You have taken loan from International Monetary Fund to bring about improvement in the economic condition. Will it improve the situation or not? It is a rural saying that one who takes loan to meet one's essential requirements of food etc.

can, not prosper. You have taken loan and have accepted the conditions of interest. You had to accept because position was very bad. But where will it lead to the country? It is matter to be considered. I want to state that hon. members have given very good suggestions. You have not done anything wrong in taking loan. You have to think in nation's interest. You make amends in national interest so that we are able to strengthen the national economy. Please do not repeat our wrong economic policies as they may deteriorate the condition further.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I think we have earned our bread today. Well, I thank you for your cooperation. The House stands adjourned to meet today at 11 AM, the 14th of September, 1991. After completing the formalities, there will be reply on Finance Bill. There will be no speeches as such.

00.07 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Saturday, September 14, 1991/Bhadra 23, 1913 (Saka)

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