

# **LOK SABHA DEBATES**

## **(English Version)**

**Ninth Session  
(Tenth Lok Sabha)**



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Corrigenda to Lok Sabha Debates  
(English Version)

Monday, May 9, 1994/Vaisakha 19, 1916 (Saka)

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| 406/3                   | SHRI CHEDDI PASWAN         | SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN            |
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# LOK SABHA DEBATES

## LOK SABHA

*Monday, May 9, 1994/  
Vaisakha 19, 1916 (Saka)*

*The Lok Sabha met at  
Eleven of the Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

## ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

### Investment by U.S. Companies

+  
\*601. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN:  
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA  
RAO:

Will the Minister of POWER be  
pleased to state:

(a) whether major U.S. power  
companies have agreed to invest in setting  
up of three power plants in the country;

(b) whether these proposals have  
been accepted;

(c) the places where these power  
plants are proposed to be set up;

(d) the total power to be generated  
from these power plants; and

(e) the total estimated cost of these  
power projects, plant-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V.  
RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (e). A  
*Statement* is laid on the Table of the  
House.

## STATEMENT

(a) As on date proposals have  
been received from US based Private  
Companies for setting up of 22 Power  
Projects for a total capacity addition of  
11589 MW costing approx. Rs. 38122  
crores.

(b) Out of the 22 proposals, six of  
them have been cleared from the angle  
of foreign investment.

(c) to (e). Details are given in the  
*Annexure*.

## ANNEXURE

*Details of Power Project Proposals of US based Private Companies which are  
cleared from Foreign Investment Angle*

| Sl.<br>No. | Foreign/<br>Indian | Capacity<br>(MW) | Prov. Cost<br>Estimate<br>(Rs. Crs.) | Name of<br>the Company |
|------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1.         | Forgn.<br>(NRI)    | 235.00<br>(Gas)  | 827.00                               | GVK Industries, USA    |

| Sl. No. | Foreign/<br>Indian | Capacity<br>(MW)              | Prov. Cost<br>Estimate<br>(Rs. Crs.) | Name of<br>the Company   |
|---------|--------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| 2.      | Forgn.<br>(NRI)    | 208.00<br>(Gas)               | 748.43                               | Spectrum Power Generation<br>Ltd. USA  |
| 3.      | Forgn.             | 1000.00<br>(Coal)             | 5088.00                              | Cogentrix Inc. USA   |
| 4.      | Forgn.             | 695.00<br>(distilat<br>oil)   | 2912.00                              | Enron Power Development<br>Corporation & General<br>Electric Corp., Bectel,<br>USA |
|         |                    | 1320.00<br>(LNG)              | 6139.27                              |  |
| 5.      | Forgn.             | 420.00<br>(2 x 210)<br>(Coal) | 2025.60                              | AES Corporation, USA   |
| 6.      | Forgn.<br>(NRI)    | 210.00<br>(1 x 120)<br>(Lig)  | 750.00                               | ST Power Systems Inc.<br>USA   |

**SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, it has been mentioned in the Statement given by the hon. Minister that out of the 22 proposals, six have been cleared from the angle of foreign investment. Will the hon. Minister be kind enough to elaborate on the conditions of the Agreement allowing the foreign companies to invest in the project? I would like to know whether 16 per cent return and other incentives would encourage the foreign investors to inflate the project cost so as to garner more profits. And to counter that, will there be global tenders? I would also like to know whether this 16 per cent return is allowed on such sectors as distribution in some uneconomic lines, as is the case in respect of airlines.

**THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N.K.P. SALVE):** There are two aspects of hon. Member's question. One is, inflation of the project cost and the consequent effects of that on the tariff

and the other is the bidding part I would like to say that 16 per cent return is on equity and it is not on the entire project. So far as the inflation of the project cost is concerned, 16 per cent return would not be relevant because they have to bring in equity in any case. If at all inflation is there, it can be on the import of plant and machinery.

As far as the biddings are concerned, we have already advised the States to go in for global bidding. But the private power development in India, Sir, has been an uncharted area for us. The States have to do plenty of work. They have to prepare Feasibility Reports costing lots of money to them. They have to take 15 statutory clearances and it is not easy for the States to be able to put the projects on the shelves So that it can straightaway be offered for inviting biddings. Initially, there were no takers in the private sector for investment in India. Therefore, we had adopted the

route of negotiation. But now the dual route is possible viz., negotiations and global biddings.

SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN: Sir, it is mentioned that the Government is going in for foreign funding in the power sector for meeting the gap between the resources and needs. But at the same time it is reported in the newspapers that the Industrial Development Bank of India is forced to fund Rs. 1500 crore to Enron for meeting virtually 75 per cent of its debt requirement. I want the hon. Minister to kindly explain whether this investment by the Industrial Development Bank out of our Central fund will not affect other developmental activities in our country.

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE: Sir, I do not know about the refusal by the IDBI to finance Enron. But I know one thing and that is Enron is bringing in foreign exchange and out of Loans equity and out of that about 60 per cent to 65 per cent of the money will be in foreign exchange.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, understandably, private investment in public sector is necessary because of the severe resource crunch which could even paralyse our power sector. We must also remember at the same time that electricity is not just any other commodity. It is a vital input for every other sector.

From the reply of the hon. Minister, Sir, I find that the cost per mega watt would be between Rs. 3.50 Crore and Rs. 5 Crore. Taking the question of the hon. Member further, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, when this is a fact known to us that in case of domestic production, in case of bilateral production,

the cost per mega watt ranges from Rs. 1.14 crore to about Rs. 2.50 crore, what are we doing to see that the weaker sections of the society do continue to get electricity at less cost. It is because as I said, this is a vital input for all sectors. We know that even green revolution was possible only because of low cost of power.

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE: Sir, the hon. Member is absolutely right that ultimately the generation cost is something which the society should be able to bear. But one assumption of the hon. Member is not correct that the cost of plants in the public sector is less and in the private sector it is more. After devaluation, particularly now, the difference is very marginal. India's power generation cost is one of the lowest in the world. We have got some figures from the World Bank that India's cost which has been shown in terms of cents is 2.86 cents in TNEB and 3.05 cents in Punjab. It is one of the lowest in the world. Sir, today the average cost in the world is round about 7 cents to 8 cents. We have been cautious enough to ensure that the power which we get by 1997 or 1998 should not go beyond this. It is our continuous endeavour to see that India's creditworthiness on account of being a country which is producing one of the cheapest power must remain as it is.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: He has to answer giving comparables. The question put is per MW cost, not per KW cost. So, he has to say, whether or not, this cost structure is very much higher compared to that one. What is intriguing about the second question is what is the *modus operandi* of guaranteeing 16 per cent rate of interest? How do we do that? Is it by allowing them to have a consolidated

idea of distribution as the Calcutta Electricity Supply happens to do and have a high return or is it in some other manner? How do you propose to guarantee it? Or do you propose to give subsidy?

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE: I have answered one part of the question regarding private and public sector. As to the second part, 16 per cent return is guaranteed by making it a part of fixed cost. We have two parts' tariff formula — fixed cost and variable cost. Sixteen per cent return on equity is to be included as part of the fixed cost. That is how we guarantee it.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: How do you guarantee that 16 per cent is available; if necessary, would you give subsidy or are you guaranteeing that they are so situated in the market that they will follow it automatically?

MR. SPEAKER: He has explained that.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: He has not answered that.

MR. SPEAKER: Dual pricing.

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE: The difficulty is that he understands everything.

*[Translation]*

SHRI BRISHIN PATEL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, out of the total 22 proposals, 6 proposals have been cleared by the Central Government. I would like to know from the Government whether any of the remaining 18 projects also include any project for Bihar? If so, the latest position in this regard.

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE: As per the details available to me, no project of Bihar is included in these 22 proposals.

*[English]*

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: It is reported in the press that the Kayankulam Super Power Project will be taken up by the USA Power Company. If it is true, what are the details thereof?

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE: I have answered that.

### **Delegated Inspection Scheme**

\*602. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have introduced "Delegated Inspection Scheme" (DIS);

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) whether the scheme has been awarded to private companies for implementation;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith the terms and conditions of the award;

(e) the steps taken to observe strict quality control in the telecom sector in respect of equipment and cables in rural areas;

(f) whether the monitoring regarding quality control of equipment in the telecom sector will be done by the DOT; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

### STATEMENT

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) (i) A high level management representative of the manufacturer has to give an undertaking that wrong claims about availability of a product and conformance to specification will not be given.

(ii) That he has given such an undertaking will be known to all wings of his organisation.

(iii) DOT will concentrate only on the establishment of sound quality system in the manufacturing process and may not visit the factory for routine inspection. However, occasional surveillance checks are not ruled out.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Scheme is designed to replace external policing by self-regulation and trust. It places responsibility on the manufacturer to ensure quality of his products instead of relying on the inspection by DOT.

Terms & Conditions are as follows:—

1. The manufacturer shall establish and implement an

Inspection System clearly indicating Inspection Stations.

2. The manufacturer shall nominate a Management Representative at a high level of responsibility to interact with DOT.

3. The Manufacturer's Representative shall furnish the test results of the products giving complete details about lots/batches.

4. Sampling Inspection (if carried out) shall be in accordance with the relevant BIS specification or ITD specification.

5. The inspection shall ensure that the equipment/materials will have their quality characteristics preserved during storage, handling, shipment and delivery.

6. The manufacturer shall furnish a monthly statement to DOT on the feedback complaint status.

(e) All supplies of equipments and cables to DOT are subject to quality assurance checks as per standard procedure followed throughout the country.

(f) Yes, Sir.

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

[*Translation*]

SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit that it is due to the fact that private companies have been entrusted the responsibility for implementing the 'Delegated Inspection Scheme' that the Government have been suffering a heavy loss. Is the hon. Minister aware of the fact that the private companies have been engaged in wrong practices particularly in tele-communications in rural areas and thus causing a great loss to the telephone department. If so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government.

The telephones all over the country are out of order these days due to the inferior quality of cables used by them. Instead of purchasing cables of renowned company they instal cables of sub standard quality at lower rates, due to which telephones all over the country are out of order. People are facing a great deal of inconvenience due to the sub standard quality cables being used. What measures are proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

SHRI SUKH RAM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the items manufactured under DIS cover only small scale and medium industry. That too include only technology items. High technology items do not cover in it. This scheme has been implemented to create self-confidence in the entrepreneurs, besides the inspection facility should be there for them. The concerned Chief Executive Officer is supposed to make a declaration that the material proposed to be supplied is available as per the DOT specifications. The quality Assurance circle of the concerned officer test the items. DOT is not supposed to purchase any item

without testing or the specifications issued in this regard. If at all any hon. Member has any objection and feel that the machinery is being wasted, he may bring it to my notice, appropriate action will be taken in this regard.

SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Sir, my submission is that the hon. Minister is very senior. The telecommunication department in the country is the means through which maximum revenue is collected. But with regard to the target fixed for revenue collection by the Communication Department my submission is that no initiative for installation of telephones in rural areas is taken either by the Department of Telecommunication or the Government. A news item published in yesterday's edition of the Economic Times stated that in the controversy of the department and the hon. Minister, a good scheme of a foreign communications corporation... (*Interruptions*)...

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: That does not come out of this question.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: He is a very senior Minister and whatever scheme for improvement he had chalked out... (*Interruptions*)...

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Please confine yourself to the main question.

(*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: When we read it in the paper, we are sorry. Because he is such a senior Minister... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: If you go on speaking in this manner. I will disallow you... (Interruptions)\*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: All this is not going on record. You will reply only to the relevant part.

[Translation]

SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, irregularities continue to take place and in spite of the fact that the concerned Ministry is aware of it no action is taken in this regard.

MR. SPEAKER: You have asked a very good question, please take it ahead properly.

SHRI SUKH RAM: Sir, some people have only objection as to why irregularities were not allowed. The hon. Member has the belief that DOT is there only for revenue collection and nothing else. The hon. Member may perhaps be aware that the Government have fixed a target to provide the facility to 2 lakh 34 thousand Gram Panchayats in rural areas and about one lakh Gram Panchayats are there to be provided this facility by the end of this year. However, I have taken another decision in view of the fact that people at many places in rural areas have grievances that they were deprived of the benefits of the facility provided

since there were some defects in it. As a result of it we have directed the concerned department to take corrective measures in this regard. All the sophisticated transmission systems are to be installed in rural areas. The total cost of laying one line in rural areas comes to Rs. 1 Lakh and 20 thousand to 25 thousand where as in urban areas it comes to about Rs. 20 to 22 thousand. We invest cities' revenue in villages. There are 5,74,000 villages in our country and our Prime Minister proposes to provide telephone facility to the remaining 2,50,000 villages by the end of the current Five Year Plan. Therefore, this kind of impression is wrong. We do not even get Budgetary support and the revenue generated in cities is invested in villages and subsidies are also provided to villages. Some loans are also raised. Last year 12,50,000 lines were provided as against the target of one million lines and this year also, we propose to provide 30 lakh lines as against the target of 14 lakh lines subject to availability of funds for which we are trying hard.

SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is true that telephone in villages continue to be out of order for 10-15 days despite making complaints about it and the letters written in this regard are also not entertained. There is a lot of corruption in providing telephone connections, bribe is taken and the waiting list is quite long. I would like to know from the hon. Minister the time by which the people registered in the waiting-list are proposed to be provided with telephone facility in the cities from where most of the revenue is generated.

SHRI SUKH RAM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I admit, the telephone system in some villages is defective but I do not

\* Not recorded.



agree that it is defective everywhere, as the hon. Member has said. The directions have been issued with a view to providing sophisticated equipment to villages and quality-inspection is undertaken and a rigorous verification is done. The Chief General Manager provides feed-back in regard to equipment and if some company's equipment does not function properly, the equipment is not purchased from that company in future.

So far as the cities are concerned the hon. Member belongs to Bombay where last year 3 lakh new connections were provided and the efforts are on to provide telephone connections this year to everyone registered in the waiting list. In no other Metropolitan city, so much work has been done. So, atleast the hon. Member should have no complaints in this regard. We are trying our level best to improve the position in villages.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister...

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It is not going on record.

[Translation]

DR. G.L. KANAUIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister can get a survey conducted in five districts, namely Lakheempur, Kheeri, Shahjahanpur, Sitapur, etc. of my area. I am even willing to accompany him to show that telephone connections are not functioning in any village. So, the data provided to the hon. Minister are not correct and he is misguiding the House. The hon. Minister can get a survey conducted of all the said five districts tomorrow itself. I am willing to accompany him.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Let it not be contested. You can take steps to improve the position.

[Translation]

SHRI SUKH RAM: I will definitely get the complaints made by you and other several Members probed.

[English]

SHRI ANNA JOSHI: My question is very specific. What concrete steps have been taken to see that there is no breakdown of telephone system during the approaching monsoon season in the cities like Delhi and Bombay?

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: It is a very good question. No further questions are required. What do you propose to do to prevent breakdown of telephones during the rainy season?

SHRI ANNA JOSHI: In villages and cities.

SHRI SUKH RAM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have given standing orders for every village that the telephone system should function smoothly no matter what the season is because the telephones are meant to function. Delhi, Bombay and Calcutta have old technology cables. These are paper-insulated cables. Since it was the only cable available at that time, that is why, it was laid... (Interruptions) I am replying to whatever has been asked.

MR. SPEAKER: Your answer is absolutely right.

SHRI SUKH RAM: The PWD or corporation etc. keep doing their development work in cities where cables had been laid. Every city or town has a coordination committee. Time and again I have written to Chief Ministers and Mayors of corporations that whenever they are undertaking dismantling of roads, they should do so after taking into confidence the DOT so that the cable system does not get tampered with. The cable is paper insulated and water gets percolated into it, thereby leading to malfunctioning of the system. According to our estimate replacing of the whole cable system in Calcutta will require an expenditure to the tune of Rs. 4-6 crore. The Metropolitan cities like Delhi, Bombay and Calcutta have this problem. We should have enough funds to be able to replace the whole system within a year to avoid inconvenience... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Is it your department who will convene the coordination committee meeting?

SHRIMATI SURYA KANTA PATIL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Department is functioning properly. Four days back I had read in the news papers, you also might have read it that parallel exchanges are being run in Bombay. The employees of this department are also involved in it. I want to know what action has been taken by you in this regard against these people? If no action has been taken, what are the reasons there for? What steps are being taken by you to check such tendency?

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Do not make us the scapegoats for giving vent to your anger directed at Himachal Legislators. When we make phone calls to you we never get the return calls... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUKH RAM: I have accomplished the task which I took on myself in order to being back my party to power. Do not worry about that I have done whatever I could do. I admit that there are cases of misuse of the system as has been pointed out in the question. I had said that we are setting up IB cells separately in the four Metropolitan cities to prevent such misuse. Several raids were conducted in Bombay and Delhi and many people were caught. We have incorporated certain amendments to ensure that the employees found to be involved are severely punished. The arrangements are being made to see that they do not only get fined but , get 2 years' incarceration also. I am aware of that. We have taken a policy decision in this regard. All the electric exchanges have a problem of over-billing. The dynamic locking system is available to check over-billing. Any other problem will also be taken care of. The non-electronic exchanges will be replaced as the only answer to set right the telephone system is new technology. No matter how hard you try, wherever there is revenue leakage the human ingenuity will find a scope for isolating all the laws enacted in this connections.

### Power Generation

+

\*604. SHRI NITISH KUMAR:  
SHRI V. SREENIVASA  
PRASAD:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the targets fixed for power generation during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) the break-up thereof, State-wise, both in public and private sectors;

(c) whether the latest assessments have revealed that there will be acute shortfall in power generation in the Eighth Plan and that the targets may not be achieved;

(d) if so, the extent of shortfall envisaged and the reasons therefor; and

(e) the measures proposed to be taken to achieve the targets?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (e). A *Statement* is laid on the Table of the House.

#### STATEMENT

(a) and (b). The Planning Commission envisaged additional generation capacity of 30537.7 MW. Target for actual power generation is fixed on a year to year basis. State-wise energy generation target for the year 1994-95 is indicated in *Annexure*.

(c) and (d). Central Electricity Authority (CEA) has estimated that capacity addition during the Eighth Five Year Plan might fall short of the prescribed target of 30537.7 MW and the likely capacity addition may be about 20,000 MW. Consequently energy shortage in the terminal year of the plan might be of the order of about 14% and a peak deficit of about 28%. The reasons for shortfall are inadequacy of resources, delay in land acquisition, law and order problems and compliance with environmental conditions, etc.

(e) Various measures being taken to improve the availability of power in the country include (i) expediting commissioning of new generating capacity, (ii) implementation of short gestation projects, (iii) improving of performance of existing power stations, (iv) reduction of Transmission and Distribution losses, (v) implementation of better demand management and energy conservation measures, (vi) arranging transfer of energy from surplus to deficit areas and (vii) promotion of private sector investment in Power Sector.

#### ANNEXURE

##### *State-wise/UT/System-wise Energy Generation Target for 1994-95*

(Figures in Million Units)

| Name of the State/UT/System | Energy Generation Target |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>BBMB</b>                 | 9505                     |
| <b>Delhi</b>                |                          |
| DESU                        | 3000                     |
| Badarpur                    | 4200                     |
| Total Delhi                 | 7200                     |
| <b>J &amp; K</b>            |                          |
| Elec. Dept.                 | 900                      |
| Salal (NHPC)                | 2400                     |
| Total J & K                 | 3300                     |
| <b>Himachal Pradesh</b>     |                          |
| HPSEB                       | 1225                     |
| Baira Siul                  | 750                      |
| Chamera                     | 1500                     |
| Total Himachal Pradesh      | 3475                     |

(Figures in Million Units)

| Name of the State/UT/System | Energy Generation Target |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Haryana</b>              | 3820                     |
| <b>Rajasthan</b>            |                          |
| RSEB                        | 5655                     |
| NTPC Anta                   | 2200                     |
| RAPS                        | 950                      |
| Rajasthan Total             | <u>8805</u>              |
| <b>Punjab</b>               | 12800                    |
| <b>Uttar Pradesh</b>        |                          |
| UPSEB                       | 20970                    |
| NTPC Singrauli              | 13600                    |
| NTPC Rihand                 | 6500                     |
| Dadri                       | 2500                     |
| NTPC Unchahar               | 2400                     |
| NTPC Auraiya GT             | 3300                     |
| Dadri GT                    | 2100                     |
| NHPC Tanakpur               | 460                      |
| Narora APS                  | 2160                     |
| U.P. Total                  | <u>53990</u>             |
| <b>Gujarat</b>              |                          |
| GEB                         | 22370                    |
| AE Co. Pvt.*                | 2865                     |
| GIPCL*                      | 1000                     |
| KAPS Nuclear                | 1540                     |
| NTPC GT                     | 2400                     |
| Gujarat Total               | <u>30175</u>             |

(Figures in Million Units)

| Name of the State/UT/System | Energy Generation Target |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Maharashtra</b>          |                          |
| MSEB                        | 36706                    |
| Tarapur Nuclear             | 1650                     |
| Tata Power Co.*             | 7520                     |
| BSEB Co.*                   | 200                      |
| Maharashtra Total           | <u>46076</u>             |
| <b>Madhya Pradesh</b>       |                          |
| MPEB                        | 15765                    |
| NTPC Korba                  | 13500                    |
| NTPC Vindhyachal            | 7000                     |
| M.P. Total                  | <u>36265</u>             |
| <b>Andhra Pradesh</b>       |                          |
| APSEB                       | 20525                    |
| AP Gas                      | 500                      |
| NTPC Ramagundem             | 13800                    |
| Andhra Pradesh Total        | <u>34825</u>             |
| <b>Karnataka</b>            | 13870                    |
| <b>Kerala</b>               | 5800                     |
| <b>Tamil Nadu</b>           |                          |
| TNEB                        | 17120                    |
| Neyveli Thermal             | 10300                    |
| Kalpakkam                   | 2000                     |
| Tamil Nadu Total            | <u>29420</u>             |
| <b>Bihar</b>                |                          |
| BSEB                        | 3598                     |

(Figures in Million Units)

(Figures in Million Units)

| Name of the State/UT/System | Energy Generation Target |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Tenughat                    | 500                      |
| Kahalgaoon NTPC             | 1000                     |
| Bihar Total                 | 5098                     |
| <b>Orissa</b>               |                          |
| OSEB                        | 4730                     |
| IB Valley                   | 400                      |
| Talcher STPS                | 500                      |
| Orissa Total                | 5630                     |
| <b>West Bengal</b>          |                          |
| WBSEB                       | 3827                     |
| WBP Dev.                    | 6500                     |
| DPL                         | 1000                     |
| CESC Pvt.*                  | 3315                     |
| NTPC Farakka                | 5000                     |
| West Bengal Total           | 19642                    |
| <b>DVC</b>                  | 7375                     |
| <b>Sikkim</b>               | 50                       |
| <b>Assam</b>                | 1250                     |
| <b>Meghalaya</b>            |                          |
| State Hydel                 | 488                      |
| NEEPCO                      | 805                      |
| Total                       | 1293                     |
| <b>Tripura</b>              | 174                      |
| <b>Manipur</b>              | 450                      |

| Name of the State/UT/System | Energy Generation Target |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Arunachal Pradesh</b>    | 12                       |
| <b>All India</b>            | 340300                   |
| <b>Sector-wise Break-up</b> |                          |
| State (Public) Sector       | 325300                   |
| Private Sector              | 15000                    |

\*Indicates Private Sector Stations.

*[Translation]*

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the august House to a news item published in 'The Hindustan Times' that India seeks foreign assistance in power sector and it has made efforts to attract foreign investment also, but it wants to promote private sector to make up power shortage : The newsitem is :

*[English]*

"Even as India is trying hard to attract foreign investment in the power sector on hard commercial terms, the country had an amount of over Rs. 31481/- of foreign assistance lying unutilised at the end of the financial year 1993-94".

*[Translation]*

Thus the capital is lying unutilised and its commitment charges are being paid. I would like to know the reaction of the hon. Minister thereto. Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is another question related thereto that 'National working Group on Power' has been constituted in the Power sector. Technocrats, bureaucrats and

economists have submitted their 20 page-report thereon and referring to a booklet circulated by the Government regarding power investment in private sector "Missed and reality" an allegation has been levelled that the power crisis is concocted one because power assessment in the Industrial growth was made 8 per cent whereas the industrial growth has reached 1 per cent. In such a situation we do not require more power while the power crisis has been exaggerated for the sake of promoting foreign investment.

MR. SPEAKER: The question will be thus very long and a compact reply cannot be given.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: On the one hand the Government is promoting foreign investment on the other hand the hon. Minister talks of 16% rate of return on equity in his reply. If tariff is fixed by adding fixed assets, it will certainly be higher. Thus the power tariff is likely to be raised by Rs. 2.50 per unit and we are incurring Rs. 1.50 crore in generating one mega watt power whereas nearly Rs. 5 crore per mega watt will be incurred on foreign investment unit. In such a situation I would like to know reaction of the Government on this present crisis.

[English]

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the first question raised by the hon. Member is about the unutilised foreign aid. Strictly speaking, it is in the realm of the Finance Ministry. It may have contained elements of foreign aid for power sector, part of it may be a World Bank loan; part of it may be from ADB and that is being used by the public sector units like NTPC or State units. I cannot give any details as to why that entire amount is lying idle.

MR. SPEAKER: This is relating to the power generation. You should know how much is available to you and how much is not utilised.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: You should have done your home work properly.

MR. SPEAKER: You will collect that information and pass it on to the hon. Member later on.

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: Yes, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: Please answer the second part of the question.

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: The second part of the question is about some group...

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: I know that he is opposed to the private investment.

MR. SPEAKER: Now they say that you do not need so much of electricity and you are creating an artificial demand.

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: It is not correct. As you know, there are complaints from various parts of the country and even MPs also complain about shortage of power. Agriculture is not getting its due share.

MR. SPEAKER: It is not only Industry but Agriculture and Transport are also not getting power.

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: Sir, when the hon. Member can see it with his own eyes that there is power shortage, I do not know why he is depending on some report which is only theoretical.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Please furnish us detailed report in this regard. My question has not been replied properly. In his reply he has stated regarding the target of energy generation, the surplus area will be transferred to energy deficit area. It means there is imbalance some-where. As per his reply the targets fixed for power generation for different States during the 1994-95 are U.P. 53,990 M.U.M., Gujarat 30,175 million unit, Maharashtra 46,075 M.U.M. and Madhya Pradesh 36,265 M.U.M., Andhra Pradesh 34,825 M.U.M. and Bihar 5098 M.U.M. The ten per cent of the population of the country lives there, but its target is very low. In 1991, after the commencement of Eighth Five Year Plan the per capita installed capacity in the country was 65.15 watt whereas it was 19.56 watt in Bihar. Its peak time demand was 1526 mega watt but its supply under the best operative conditions was 640 mega watt. Out of the total investment made in the country under the power sector, 2.93 per cent has been made in Bihar and remaining 97.07 per cent is made in the other parts of India. Keeping the targets fixed for power generation into view on, Bihar is being neglected and I would like to know as to what steps to be taken by the Government to remove the regional imbalance created in the power sector?

[English]

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: Mr. Speaker, Sir, unfortunately in Bihar, the Plant Load Factor is the lowest in the country. It is only 24.4 per cent. So, the improvement can be only marginal. I cannot bring about improvement in Bihar overnight. The targets are fixed based on the performance of the previous year. I

cannot bring Bihar to the level of Gujarat or Maharashtra overnight.

As far as investment is concerned, power generation is basically a State subject. Of course, NTPC have also got a project in Bihar. They have already commissioned two units and these units are also going to generate Power very soon on commercial lines. They have also got a project called the Tenughat Project. Actually that project is scheduled to be commissioned this year but they are not able to do it for want of funds. I offered to take over that project from the Bihar Government. I had discussions with the hon. Chief Minister. He is willing but he is not proceeding further. I am prepare to take over this project from the Bihar Government and supply 68 per cent of the power generate from the Tenughat project. If they agree we can also adjust all the outstanding dues of the Bihar Government against the cost of the Tenughat Project. I am sure the situation in Bihar will improve, if they accept my proposal. In fact, I had personally mentioned this to the hon. Member also while travelling together from Patna to Delhi, recently. He is also agreed. I request him to use his good offices in convincing the Chief Minister on this Tenughat Project.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I shall refer to an aspect that is not being sufficiently clarified. The Government has, in certain projects, guranteed a return of sixteen per cent on capital employed, combined with assurances about parity on exchange rate. Is it not correct that when this sixteen per cent is combined with bonuses granted for exceeding the laid down target of Plant Load Factor, the return of sixteen per cent may, in certain cases, go up to as much as in excess of twenty per cent and even twenty-four per cent?

When such a return becomes available to the investor, who will actually pay the price of that kind of return to the investor? Will it eventually not be the consumer, whether it is urban or rural?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N.K.P. SALVE): Sir, it is true that for generation beyond 68.5 per cent Plant Load Factor, a certain incentive is contemplated. But the cover against foreign exchange fluctuation is confined only to 16 per cent. That is the first part of the answer. Incentive is provided because the totality of the fixed is covered at 68.5 per cent Plant Load Factor. If you generate beyond 68.5 per cent, the power becomes cheaper because then there will only be the variable cost which is the cost of the fuel. And that is why the provision for incentive has been given and according to the latest notification the maximum incentive that can be given is 0.7 per cent per every one point per cent increase of P.L.F.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: Sir, the hon. Minister has stated in his answer that the target for generation of energy in Orissa for 1994-95 is 5,630 M.W. From the answer you will find that in Uttar Pradesh the target is 53,990 M.W. and similarly in Maharashtra it is 46,076 M.W. In comparison to Orissa and Bihar, these figures are more than ten times. I want a categorical answer from the hon. Minister. What steps are being taken by the Government to keep the balance of energy production, energy generation in the States?

MR. SPEAKER: The question has been replying to the question on Bihar. He says that the State Government is responsible for it. The P.L.F. is responsible for it.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: I may be excused. Where the State Governments have not taken steps...  
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Patra, please come out with the question quickly. It is repetition of the question.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: Sir, what steps are being taken by the Central Government where the State Governments are not taking any steps to increase the generation of energy?

MR. SPEAKER: We shall have to consult the Constitution for that.

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: Sir, Bihar and Orissa are part of Eastern Region which consists of Bihar, Orissa and West Bengal. Like Bihar, Orissa also gets power from Central projects like N.T.P.C., D.V.C. etc. There is shortfall. The target is given only for the projects located in Orissa. Orissa gets power from Central sector projects from West Bengal and Bihar. That is why, to the extent possible, we will try to supplement their internal generation.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Sir, the hon. Minister has stated that the target during the last year of Eighth Plan is only 30,537 M.W. and they say that it may be reduced to 20,000 M.W. by the end of the Eighth Plan. Subsequently the hon. Minister has stated that the actual requirement in the power sector is the peak hour deficit which cannot be met by this kind of generation. How the Government is thinking of meeting the situation of peak hour deficit? That is the most important situation. What exactly is



the peak hour shortage and what will be the peak hour shortage during the Eighth Plan and how you are going to meet this? By putting private sector it is not going to help.

MR. SPEAKER: You asked a good question. Why do you repeat it?

How do you meet the peak hour requirement is the question.

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: Sir, after revising the target from 30,537 M.W. to around 20,000 M.W. we have worked out peak shortages and we find that the peak shortage is going to be around 28.2 per cent and the energy shortage will be about 14.5 per cent. I have already explained in my answer about the steps we are going to take to meet this peak demand.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: You have not said it.

MR. SPEAKER: You may repeat it.

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: Sir, (i) expediting commissioning of new generating capacity; (ii) implementation of short gestation projects; (iii) improving the performance of existing power stations; (iv) reduction of Transmission and Distribution losses...

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: That is for general generation. What about peak hour deficit?

MR. SPEAKER: That is not for peak hour.

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: Sir, when we increase generation we can also meet peak hour demand.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: How can it be? It is not possible. Mr. Minister, please clarify. *(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Unless we augment our hydel power generation how can the peak hour demand be met.

*[English]*

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will take a minute to explain the whole thing. At the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan the requirement shortage was 7.8 per cent and the peak shortage was 18.8 per cent. The Central Electricity Authority and the Planning Commission envisaged that to be able to cope up with this shortage totally in the Eighth Five Year Plan, we should have additional generation of 48,000 MW. Now, the resource crunch being what it is, the Planning Commission set a figure of 30,537 MW. Had that come about, Sir, the shortage would have been the same at the end of the Eighth Five Year Plan as it is at the beginning. That means, the peak shortage would have remained at 18.8 per cent. But due to the actual resource crunch the additionality of generation will not go beyond 20,000 MW and therefore, the anticipated shortage will be 14 per cent of the requirement and the peak shortage will be 28 per cent. This 20,000 MW is what we are going to install. That is the maximum we can do. Therefore, the shortage is inevitable.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: How are you going to meet the peak hour shortage?

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Minister, there are two types of shortages. One

is total energy shortage and the other is peak hour shortage.

MR. SPEAKER: Nitish Kumarji, this is not the way.

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE: I am aware of what Mr. Nitish Kumar says. There is a requirement shortage and there is a peak hour shortage. With the addition of 20,000 MW the peak shortage will be 28 per cent. So, the difference between supply and demand will remain there. How do we meet it?

MR. SPEAKER: You can meet it by having the oil fire generators and you can meet it by some other methods also.

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE: This is answered already. We take the following measures. They are, expediting the commissioning of new generating capacity, implementation of short gestation projects, improving the performance of the existing power stations, reduction of transmission and distribution losses, implementation of better demand management and energy conservation measures, arranging transfer of energy from surplus to deficit areas and promotion of private sector investment in this sector. All these efforts are there. I want to make it clear because I am making this statement on the floor of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: Even by regulating the supply and all those things also you can meet the demand.

*[Translation]*

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I just want to know the ratio of the hydel and thermal power generation during the Eighth Five Year Plan.

*[English]*

MR. SPEKAER: Please do not reply to Mr. Nitish Kumar.

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE: Sir, despite all the best efforts there is going to remain a gap between supply and demand, the growth being what it is, at the peak hour and that will be the shortage.

*[Translation]*

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, unless this peak hour demand is met through the hydel power, the gap, between Supply and Demand cannot be made up. But the hon. Minister is not telling us about the hydel power. He is rather interested in foreign investment.

*[English]*

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister has already stated that on this private foreign investment in the field of power which is a core sector of our economy, there shall be a guarantee of 16 per cent return at the current rate of exchange. This would mean a continuous drain of our foreign exchange resources. Moreover, the Government have stipulated even 100 per cent private foreign investment in this sector. Now, the point I wish to make, Sir, is that the buyers are the State Electricity Boards and the State Electricity Boards, we all know, are in bad shape. That is why the foreign companies were not content with this stipulation in the agreement. They wanted a collateral assurance and a guarantee, *vis-a-vis*, if the Boards to pay then the Government of India shall pay.

Has the Ministry of Finance agreed to provide this continuing collateral guarantee in foreign exchange for all these investments.

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE: Sir, so far as the first part is concerned, 16 per cent is confined only on the equity. Equity is going to be only 20 per cent minimum of the total project cost.

Secondly, regarding counter-guarantee by the Government of India in respect of monies to be paid, it is primarily by the Electricity Board to the generating company that is covered. Their primary responsibility to pay that money is covered by Escrow account. Should the Escrow account fail, then there is the guarantee of the State Government. Counter-guarantee of the Government of India is in respect of guarantee given by the State Government. It has been agreed to.

MR. SPEAKER: If the Power Ministry agrees, it should be taken that the Finance Ministry also agrees. That is the Government decision.

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE: It is the Cabinet Committee decision.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, just now the hon. Minister has pointed out in his reply that the Government has received proposal worth Rs. 38,122 crore of the American private companies for generating 11,589 mega watt of power and it has accepted 6 proposals out of them. These six proposals are related to Karnataka, Orissa, Tamil Nadu,

Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh. I would like to submit that Uttar Pradesh is facing acute power crisis and main crops have been destroyed and industries have been closed there. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he has received any proposal for U.P. regarding American investment by American Companies. If so, whether the Government have chalked out any plan to generate more and more power?

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: It can be replied briefly.

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: We have already said about Bihar. There is no project sponsored by Americans in Bihar or in U.P.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Specially in Eastern region, Bihar, Orissa and West Bengal, the power shortage is very acute. In West Bengal, for the Eighth Five Year Plan, the target is 19,642 energy generation. Though everything depends on the State Government in view of providing infrastructure and availability of other things, may I know from the hon. Minister what are the prospects of Bakreshwar Thermal power project in West Bengal. It is lying pending since long. I want to know from the Minister whether the Government of India has received any proposal from the State Government to clear this project.

MR. SPEAKER: It is a specific question. If you have that information give it, or you send it in writing.

SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: We will send it in writing.

**National Highway 31A**

\*605. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Highway 31A meets the standard prescribed for a National Highway;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps the Government contemplate to improve the condition of this Highway?

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

(a) to (c). National Highway 31A generally meets the National Highway standards. Improvement of National Highways including NH 31A is a continuous process and is undertaken subject to availability of funds.

SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI: First of all, I would like to say that the Reply itself is not correct. What is the general standard. In a Highway if two vehicles are not able to pass through smoothly, do you call it meeting the National Highway standards?

The National Highway 31A is important not only because it is the lifeline of Sikkim because Sikkim is not connected by the Railways or Airways, but this Highway runs right up to the International Border with China.

It caters to the needs of the defence also. Proper attention has not been paid to this National Highway. At places, there are perennial landslides. Not only that. There are narrow stretches of roads

which are hazardous and very precarious and the movement of essential goods to Sikkim depends on other States. They have to be moved to Sikkim. The movement of vehicles is hindered and there is loss of time and material. Teesta bridge falls on this Highway. The construction of Teesta bridge was started, if I am not incorrect, in 1985 or 1986. This bridge is important not only for Sikkim but for defence needs of the country also, as I have already mentioned. But this bridge has not yet been completed. I would like to know from the hon. Minister what was the estimated cost of the Teesta bridge then and now, and how long will it take to complete the construction of the Teesta bridge to make it operational for the benefit of the entire nation.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: Actually this question should have been referred to the Ministry of Defence because this comes under the control of the Border Roads Organisation. No doubt, the hon. Member is right that this route is a difficult route and it has lot of geological problems. It has landslides. But it is a worthy route for defence requirements, as we know it. There are ten points on this route which, as has been pinpointed by them, require constant repairs and out of the ten points, seven have been identified and we are working on it.

As for bridge Teesta, the expected time-limit for its completion is March, 1995. As per the cost, since the bridge is going to be ready in time in 1995, I do not have the figures but I can find them from the Defence Ministry and inform the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI: One stretch of this National Highways runs through the State capital

of Sikkim, Gangtok. Gangtok, as it is, is a small place. The road is very narrow and the footpath along the National Highway has been broken long back. It has become very dangerous for the people of Gangtok and mostly for the school-going children. It has become really dangerous for their life. I would like to know whether Government can think of giving additional funds. In fact, they have already mentioned that because of non-availability of funds, they are not able to do it. But I would like to know whether the Government can consider giving more importance to the construction of this road which runs through the Capital itself. I would like to know whether Government can consider it and, if so, how long it will take to complete the work.

**SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER:** It is subject to the availability of funds. The problem can be looked into. I can assure the hon. Member that the problems mentioned by her would be intimated to the Defence Ministry.

**MR. SPEAKER:** I will like you to ask the question. But this question relates to National Highway 31A.

**DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI:** There is one additional National Highway 31 running through Bihar, Assam, Siliguri and West Bengal. This National Highway is in bad shape and it is not even motorable. I would like to know from the hon. Minister what action would be taken to improve this road and how much amount of funds has been allocated to Bihar and what amount is going to be earmarked for it?

**SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER:** The repairs of the National Highways is an on-going process and we are always

constantly repairing the National Highways. I can inform the hon. Member that subject to the availability of funds—I am always asking for more funds for the National Highways—the repair would be taken up and the Highway improved. But presently also, wherever there is a damage to the roads, we are constantly repairing them.

This question relates, of course, to National Highway 31A which passes through West Bengal and Sikkim but not to National Highway 31.

**SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA**  
**URS:** Sir, some of the National Highways need a lot of repairs. But whenever we ask for the funds to be given to a National Highway and whenever we ask for inclusion of any road—stretch as a National Highway, they always raise the point of paucity of funds. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Ministry is thinking of inviting any foreign investments or investments through any other company. For example, the Bangalore — Mangalore — Mercara National Highway is a long way where heavy traffic is there. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether this could be included and inviting investments could be thought of from any other agency or from outside also.

**SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER:** When we talk of any agency or investment from outside, privatisation would come in. The National Highways belong to the nation. The National Highways are open to everybody. These are new roads, express ways. The foreign investment is most welcome. We have already identified some of the roads, some of the bridges and by-passes which are open to foreign investment.

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WRITTEN ANSWERS TO  
QUESTIONS

[English]

**Nuclear Capping**

[Translation]

**Copper Production**

\*603. SHRI GAYA PRASAD KORI:  
Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the estimated production target for copper for 1993-94 has not been achieved;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to increase copper production in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b). Hindustan Copper Ltd. (HCL), a public sector undertaking under the Ministry of Mines, has produced 39,002 tonnes of refined copper during 1993-94 against the target of 39,000 tonnes as per the Performance Budget of the Ministry.

(c) In the context of economic reforms, additional capacities based on imported raw material like copper concentrates/scrap for increasing domestic production of copper in the private sector are expected to come up. Also HCL is contemplating expansion of the existing smelting capacity at Khetri from 31,000 tonnes to 100,000 tonnes of refined copper per annum with imported high grade feedstock copper concentrates.

\*606. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:  
SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government's attention has been drawn to the revised US proposal to Pakistan for nuclear capping as a condition for a one time waiver of the Pressler's amendment to enable Pakistan to receive 38 more F-16 fighters;

(b) whether the US Government have pressed for similar nuclear capping by India also; and

(c) if so, the Government's reaction thereto?

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

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Government have conveyed that the US proposal to transfer F-16 aircraft and other military equipment to Pakistan is a matter of deep concern for India. F-16 aircraft would augment Pakistan's strike capabilities by providing extra delivery systems. Pakistan's acquisitions of sophisticated military equipment have been traditionally directed against India. Government would have to reappraise India's defence requirements and take adequate steps to safeguard India's security.

**Aluminium**

\*607. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the total annual aluminium production in the country has never equalled the total installed capacity of all the aluminium producing Public Sector Undertakings;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of the installed capacity, target set and production achieved during the last three years plant-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) to (c). The total annual installed capacity of all the five primary producers of aluminium, namely Hindalco Industries Limited (HINDALCO), Indian Aluminium Company

Limited (INDAL), Madras Aluminium Company Limited (MALCO), National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) and Bharat Aluminium Company Limited (BALCO), in the country is 6.35 lakh tonnes. The total production of aluminium during 1993-94 is 4,65,486 tonnes.

The installed capacity of the two Public Sector Aluminium producing companies, namely National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) and Bharat Aluminium Company Limited (BALCO), in the country is 6.35 lakh tonnes. The total production of aluminium during 1993-94 is 4,65,486 tonnes.

The installed capacity of the two Public Sector aluminium producing companies, namely National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) and Bharat Aluminium Company Limited (BALCO) together with effective capacity, the target fixed for them and production achieved during the last three years are given below:—

| Year             | Installed Capacity (in MT) | Effective Capacity (Lakh/MT) | Target Set (in MT) | Production Achievement (in MT) |
|------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>I. BALCO</b>  |                            |                              |                    |                                |
| 1991-92          | 100,000                    | 1.00                         | 95,000             | 92,011                         |
| 1992-93          | 100,000                    | 1.00                         | 94,000             | 91,047                         |
| 1993-94          | 100,000                    | 1.00                         | 90,000             | 91,802<br>(Provisional)        |
| <b>II. NALCO</b> |                            |                              |                    |                                |
| 1991-92          | 218,000                    | 1.95                         | 1,90,000           | 1,92,202                       |
| 1992-93          | 218,000                    | 1.95                         | 1,95,000           | 1,91,072                       |
| 1993-94          | 218,000                    | 1.95                         | 1,95,000           | 1,94,332<br>(Provisional)      |

The installed capacity of NALCO when all the 480 pots are commissioned is 2.18 lakh tonnes per annum. At present only 410 pots are operating due to constraint of power giving an effective capacity of 1.95 lakh tonnes per annum only. The 6th Unit of the Captive Power Plant (CPP) of 120 MW capacity of the Company is likely to be commissioned some time in the middle of 1994. After the commissioning of the 6th Unit of CPP the Company would have reached the total installed capacity. The shortfall in production of BALCO, which has an old plant set up in 1975 is mainly due to ageing of equipments and power outages of its Captive Power Plant and interruptions and restrictions on backup power availability from Madhya Pradesh State Electricity Board.

[Translation]

### **STD and Telex Facilities**

\*608. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKLIA:  
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the S.T.D. and Telex facilities are being provided in the adivasi districts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to expand the said facilities in the near future in such areas;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) — All District Headquarters of adivasi districts in the country have already been linked with STD facility.

— All sub-divisional headquarters of adivasi districts have been linked with STD facility, in respect of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Orissa, Rajasthan & Tamil Nadu Telecom Circles.

— All Taluk Headquarters in adivasi districts have also been provided with STD facility in respect of Karnataka, Kerala, Orissa, Rajasthan & Tamil Nadu Telecom Circles.

— The State-wise list of adivasi districts having Telex facility is given in the *Statement-I*.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) All Sub-divisional Headquarters/ Tehsil Headquarters are proposed to be linked to the STD network by March, 95, subject to availability of resources such as Funds, Equipments, Land, Building etc.

Circle-wise list of such S.D.H.Qs/ T.H.Qs in adivasi districts proposed to be linked with STD facility by March, 95 subject to the availability of resources, is given in the enclosed *Statement-II*.

— National Telex exchange can be provided if there is demand for more than 4 connections.

(e) Does not arise, in view of (d) above.



**STATEMENT-I***List of Adivasi Districts where Telex Facility is available*

| Name of the State | Name of Districts   |
|-------------------|---|
| Andhra Pradesh    | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Khammam</li> <li>2. East Godavari</li> <li>3. Vishkapatnam</li> <li>4. Srikakulam</li> <li>5. Warangal</li> <li>6. Adilabad</li> <li>7. Vizianagaram</li> </ol>                         |
| Assam             | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Dibrugarh</li> </ol>  |
| Bihar             | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ranchi</li> </ol>   |
| Gujarat           | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Broach</li> <li>2. Vadodara</li> <li>3. Valsad</li> <li>4. Surat</li> </ol>   |
| Karnataka         | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Chickmagalur</li> <li>2. Mysore</li> </ol>  |
| Kerala            | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Palghat</li> <li>2. Malapuram</li> <li>3. Kozhikode</li> <li>4. Cannanore</li> <li>5. Trivandrum</li> <li>6. Quilon</li> <li>7. Ernakulam</li> </ol>                                    |
| Madhya Pradesh    | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Raigarh</li> <li>2. Jabalpur</li> <li>3. Dewas</li> <li>4. Khargone (West Nimar)</li> <li>5. Bilaspur</li> <li>6. Raipur</li> <li>7. Ratlam</li> <li>8. Khandwa (East Nimar)</li> </ol> |
| Maharashtra       | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Chandrapur</li> <li>2. Yeotmal</li> <li>3. Ahmednagar</li> <li>4. Pune</li> <li>5. Nanded</li> </ol>  |

| Name of the State | Name of Districts  |
|-------------------|--|
| Maharashtra       | 6. Amravati<br>7. Thane<br>8. Nasik<br>9. Bhule<br>10. Jalgaon                     |
| Orissa            | 1. Koraput<br>2. Balasore<br>3. Sambalpur  |
| Rajasthan         | 1. Udaipur   |
| Tamil Nadu        | 1. Salem<br>2. North Arcot<br>3. Tiruchirapally<br>4. Dharmapuri<br>5. South Arcot |
| West Bengal       | 1. Darjeeling<br>2. Malda<br>3. Burdwan  |
| Daman and Diu     | 1. Daman   |

**STATEMENT-II**

*Pending list of SDHQs/THQs Adivasi Districts for provision of STD*

| Circle         | District     | Name of Station                             |
|----------------|--------------|---|
| Andhra Pradesh | Adilabad     | Mukhole<br>Luxettipet<br>Chinoor            |
|                | Khamham      | Sudimalla<br>Bhoragampadu                   |
|                | Srikakulam   | Pathapatnam                                 |
|                | Visakapatnam | Chintapalli<br>K. Kotapadu                  |
|                | Vizianagaram | Saluru<br>Bhogapuram<br>Kurupaam<br>Badangi |
|                | Warangal     | Marripeda<br>Chityal<br>Etumagaram          |

| Circle           | District     | Name of Station                                  |
|------------------|--------------|--|
| Andhra Pradesh   | W. Godavari  | Polavaram  |
| Assam            | Darang       | Dalgoan<br>Patharighat<br>Harisinga              |
|                  | Goalpara     | Matia<br>Rangjuli<br>Palijana                    |
|                  | Kamrup       | Nagarberra<br>Chamaria                           |
|                  | Lakhimpur    | Kadam<br>Naoboichia                              |
|                  | Sibsagar     | Mahmara  |
| Gujarat          | Banaskantha  | Kankrej (Shihori)<br>Santalpur                   |
|                  | Panchmahals  | Santrampur                                       |
|                  | Surat        | Nizar<br>M.M. Mangrol<br>Palsana                 |
|                  | Vadodara     | Mahuva (SRT)<br>Tilakwada<br>Naswadi<br>Sankheda |
|                  | Valsad       | Gandevi  |
| Himachal Pradesh | Chamba       | Killar<br>Salooni<br>Bharmour<br>Churah          |
|                  | Kinnaur      | Pooh<br>Moorang<br>Nichar<br>Sangla              |
|                  | Lahaul-Spiti | Kaza   |
| Maharashtra      | Ahmednagar   | Pathardi<br>Shewgaon                             |
|                  | Amravati     | Nandgaonkazi<br>Bhatukli<br>Dhami                |

| Circle         | District   | Name of Station |
|----------------|------------|-----------------|
| Maharashtra    | Amravati   | Morshi          |
|                |            | Chikaldhara     |
|                |            | Chandur Bazar   |
|                | Chandrapur | Daryapur        |
|                |            | Gondpimpri      |
|                |            | Chimur          |
|                | Dhule      | Akmi            |
|                |            | Billoli         |
|                |            | Bhokar          |
|                | Nanded     | Mukhed          |
|                |            | Khandhar        |
|                |            | Hadgaon         |
|                | Nasik      | Kinwat          |
|                |            | Degloor         |
|                |            | Kalwan          |
|                | Thana      | Peint           |
|                |            | Surgana         |
|                |            | Talasari        |
|                | Yeotmal    | Jawahar         |
|                |            | Mokhada         |
|                |            | Babulgaon       |
| Madhya Pradesh | Balaghat   | Maregaon        |
|                |            | Ralegaon        |
|                |            | Wani            |
|                | Baster     | Nerparsopant    |
|                |            | Mahagaon        |
|                |            | Digras          |
|                | Betul      | Langi           |
|                |            | Katangi         |
|                |            | Baihar          |
|                | Bilaspur   | Narainpur       |
|                |            | Konta           |
|                |            | Antagarh        |
|                |            | Bhopalpatham    |
|                |            | Bijapur         |
|                |            | Shahpur         |
|                |            | Sakti           |
|                |            | Pandaria        |
|                |            | Janjgir         |
|                |            | Dabhara         |
|                |            | Lormi           |
|                |            | Pendra Road     |
|                |            | Katghora        |

| Circle         | District    | Name of Station |
|----------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Madhya Pradesh | Bilaspur    | Konta           |
|                |             | Pamgarh         |
|                |             | Mungeli         |
|                |             | Takatpur        |
|                | Chindwara   | Tamia           |
|                | Dewas       | Kannod          |
|                |             | Bagli           |
|                |             | Khategaon       |
|                | Dhar        | Manawar         |
|                |             | Kukshi          |
|                |             | Gandhwani       |
|                | Durg        | Bemetara        |
|                |             | Dondilohari     |
|                |             | Nawagarh        |
|                |             | Shaja           |
|                | Jabua       | Jobat           |
|                |             | Bhabara         |
|                | Khargone    | Maheswar        |
|                | Mandla      | Shahpura        |
|                |             | Dindori         |
|                |             | Niwas           |
|                | Morena      | Sheopur         |
|                |             | Bijapur         |
|                | Raigarh     | Baghirha        |
|                |             | Kunkuri         |
|                |             | Dharamjaigarh   |
|                | Raipur      | Deobhog         |
|                |             | Bhilaigarh      |
|                |             | Bhidranwagarh   |
|                |             | Simga           |
|                | Rajnandgaon | Dongaragarh     |
|                |             | Chhuikhadan     |
|                |             | Khairagarh      |
|                |             | Mohla           |
|                | Ratlam      | Bajna           |
|                | Shadol      | Beohari         |
|                |             | Kotma           |
|                |             | Annuppur        |
|                |             | Pushparajgarh   |
|                |             | Bandogarh       |
|                |             | Jaisinghnagar   |
|                | Sidhi       | Rampumaikan     |
|                |             | Kusmi           |
|                |             | Sindhwad        |
|                |             | Deosar          |

| Circle         | District | Name of Station |
|----------------|----------|-----------------|
| Madhya Pradesh | Sidhi    | Jiawan          |
|                |          | Majholi         |
|                |          | Chitrangi       |
|                | Sirguja  | Manendragarh    |
|                |          | Lundra          |
|                |          | Sitapur         |
|                |          | Samari          |
|                |          | Ramanuganj      |
|                |          | Pratappur       |
|                |          | Bharatpur       |
|                |          | Wadrab Nagar    |
|                |          | Baikunthpur     |
|                |          | Surajpur        |
| North-East     | Manipur  | Babupara        |
|                |          | Litan           |
|                |          | Lamsang         |
|                |          | Chinghai        |
|                |          | Swambung        |
|                |          | Thanlon         |
|                |          | Andro           |
|                |          | Tipaimukh       |
|                |          | Jiribamjiribam  |
|                |          | Tousem          |
|                |          | Sagolmang       |
|                |          | Nungba          |
|                |          | Moirang         |
|                |          | Kangpokpi       |
|                |          | Sekamai         |
|                |          | Wangoi          |
|                |          | Saikul          |
|                |          | Kakching        |
|                |          | Naram           |
|                |          | Nungba          |
|                |          | Tamei           |
|                |          | Shangshak       |
|                |          | Taiwaichung     |
|                |          | Tegnoupal       |
|                |          | Thinghat        |
|                |          | Tadubi          |
|                |          | Kasemkhulen     |
|                |          | Oinam           |
|                |          | Parbung         |
|                |          | Mayang Imphal   |

| Circle        | District           | Name of Station          |
|---------------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| North East    | Manipur            | Borobekra                |
|               |                    | Phungyar                 |
|               |                    | Henglep                  |
|               |                    | Paomata Purul            |
|               |                    | Jeshami                  |
|               |                    | Waikong                  |
|               |                    | Yaripok                  |
|               |                    | Chakpikarong             |
| North East    | Tripura            | Kamjong                  |
|               |                    | Amarpur                  |
|               |                    | Killa                    |
|               |                    | Chamanu                  |
|               |                    | Kanchanpur               |
|               |                    | Vangmun                  |
|               |                    | Ambassa                  |
|               |                    | Shantirbazar             |
|               |                    | Sonamura                 |
|               |                    | Bishalgarh               |
|               |                    | Manughat                 |
|               |                    | Melagarh                 |
|               |                    | Ganganagar               |
|               |                    | Teliamura                |
|               |                    | Sabroom                  |
|               |                    | Rajnagar                 |
|               |                    | Maharanipur              |
|               |                    | Mohanpur                 |
|               |                    | Kumarghat                |
|               |                    | Gandachera               |
| Uttar Pradesh | Gonda              | Kamalpur                 |
|               |                    | Silachari                |
|               |                    | Takarjala                |
|               |                    | Belonia                  |
|               |                    | Jirania (Birendra Nagar) |
|               |                    | Khowai                   |
|               |                    | Ompi                     |
|               |                    | Dharmanagar              |
|               | Lakhimpur<br>Khiri | ColelNganj               |
|               |                    | Tulsipur                 |
|               |                    | Tarabganj                |
|               |                    | Viraula                  |
|               |                    | Dhaurahar                |

| Circle      | District     | Name of Station |
|-------------|--------------|-----------------|
| West Bengal | Murshidabad  | Rahunath Ganj   |
|             | Sikkim (W)   | Soreng          |
|             | Sikkim (N)   | Chungthang      |
|             | West Dinapur | Islampur        |

[Translation]

### Indians in Hong Kong

\*609. SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN  
SHARAN SINGH:  
SHRI SATYA DEO  
SINGH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indians and people of Indian origin in Hong Kong at present;

(b) the nature of their problems regarding citizenship and property rights after the present British colony reverts to China in 1977; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to protect the above rights of the Indian Community?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED): (a) to (c). There are approximately 26,000 Indian nationals and persons of Indian origin resident in Hong Kong. Of these, approximately 19,000 are Indian citizens (holding Indian passports) and the rest hold either British Dependent Territories Citizens (BDTC) or British National (Overseas) [BN (O)] passports issued by the British Government.

When Hongkong reverts to Chinese sovereignty on July 1, 1997, those persons who can show proof of seven years of continuous residence in Hong Kong would be entitled to permanent identity cards providing them with the right of abode in Hong Kong. Most BDTC and BN (O) passport holders are expected to qualify. The Government of India will continue to extend consular protection to the Indian citizens (holding Indian passports) residing in Hong Kong.

The Sino-British Agreement on Hong Kong which was signed in 1984, provides for a planned and orderly transfer of sovereignty over Hong Kong to China. It also provides that the current social and economic system in Hong Kong will remain unchanged for a period of fifty years after 1997. Thus the people of Indian origin are unlikely to face problems regarding their property rights in Hong Kong.

According to British Government Policy the first two generations of offspring of BDTC and BN (O) passport holders, born after 1997, will be given the status of British Overseas Citizens (BOC). This would entitle them to British consular protection but not the right of abode in the United Kingdom. However, the third generation will not be granted this status and might therefore be rendered "stateless" unless they have acquired citizenship of China or another country by then.



Government have raised this matter with the British and Chinese Governments. It has been the consistent position of the Government of India that the British Government has basic responsibility towards BDTC and BN(O) passport holders and that it should take the necessary steps to safeguard the status of these persons as British citizens. The British government have assured Government that they would consider it an obligation on any future government to treat with considerable and particular sympathy the case for admission to the United Kingdom of any British national who, against all present expectation, came under pressure to leave Hong Kong. Senior Chinese officials have also on several occasions stated that this group of persons did have the options of applying for Chinese citizenship. They can also apply for Indian citizenship, if they so desire, in accordance with the Indian law.

[Translation]

### National Highways

\*610. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:  
Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the projects submitted by the State Governments for the development of National Highways during the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(b) the details of projects sanctioned by the Union Government, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Details of proposals submitted by States for inclusion in Eighth Five Year Plan are given below:

(Rs. in crore)

| Sl. No. | State             | Road Works | Bridge Works | Total   |
|---------|-------------------|------------|--------------|---------|
| 1.      | Andhra Pradesh    | 2702.20    | 362.00       | 3064.20 |
| 2.      | Arunachal Pradesh | 15.54      | 5.11         | 20.65   |
| 3.      | Assam             | 545.50     | 60.00        | 605.50  |
| 4.      | Bihar             | 538.00     | 87.00        | 625.00  |
| 5.      | Goa               | 113.00     | 50.67        | 163.67  |
| 6.      | Gujarat           | 946.52     | 266.57       | 1213.09 |
| 7.      | Haryana           | 448.26     | 37.92        | 486.18  |
| 8.      | Himachal Pradesh  | 139.00     | 67.32        | 206.32  |
| 9.      | Karnataka         | 378.35     | 51.35        | 429.70  |
| 10.     | Kerala            | 391.55     | 215.28       | 606.83  |

*(Rs. in crore)*

| Sl. No. | State          | Road Works | Bridge Works | Total    |
|---------|----------------|------------|--------------|----------|
| 11.     | Madhya Pradesh | 500.00     | 146.00       | 646.00   |
| 12.     | Maharashtra    | 498.00     | 59.00        | 557.00   |
| 13.     | Manipur        | 51.00      | 10.60        | 61.60    |
| 14.     | Meghalaya      | 142.40     | 9.21         | 151.61   |
| 15.     | Nagaland       | 37.75      | 3.00         | 40.75    |
| 16.     | Orissa         | 398.40     | 53.00        | 451.40   |
| 17.     | Pondicherry    | 7.93       | —            | 7.93     |
| 18.     | Punjab         | 515.09     | 57.57        | 572.66   |
| 19.     | Rajasthan      | 615.00     | 60.50        | 675.50   |
| 20.     | Tamil Nadu     | 1101.84    | 18.66        | 1120.50  |
| 21.     | Uttar Pradesh  | 511.40     | 223.50       | 734.90   |
| 22.     | West Bengal    | 794.52     | 114.09       | 908.61   |
| Total:  |                | 11391.25   | 1958.35      | 13349.60 |

(b) Details of projects sanctioned during the first two years of the Eighth Plan, State-wise are given below:

*(Rs. in crore)*

| Sl. No. | State             | 1992-93 |         |       | 1993-94 |         |       |
|---------|-------------------|---------|---------|-------|---------|---------|-------|
|         |                   | Roads   | Bridges | Total | Roads   | Bridges | Total |
| 1.      | Andhra Pradesh    | 7.43    | 0.01    | 7.44  | 10.54   | 0.33    | 10.87 |
| 2.      | Arunachal Pradesh | —       | —       | —     | 0.24    | —       | 0.24  |
| 3.      | Assam             | 13.53   | 1.01    | 14.54 | 3.14    | 1.33    | 4.47  |
| 4.      | Bihar             | 8.75    | 3.28    | 12.03 | 13.81   | 1.04    | 14.85 |
| 5.      | Chandigarh        | —       | —       | —     | 0.23    | —       | 0.23  |
| 6.      | Delhi             | 0.66    | —       | 0.66  | 0.37    | —       | 0.37  |

| Sl. No. | State            | 1992-93 |         |        | 1993-94 |         |        |
|---------|------------------|---------|---------|--------|---------|---------|--------|
|         |                  | Roads   | Bridges | Total  | Roads   | Bridges | Total  |
| 7.      | Goa              | 0.49    | —       | 0.49   | 1.96    | —       | 1.96   |
| 8.      | Gujarat          | 16.74   | 0.08    | 16.82  | 39.83   | 39.28   | 79.11  |
| 9.      | Haryana          | 7.69    | —       | 7.69   | 1.81    | —       | 1.81   |
| 10.     | Himachal Pradesh | 3.11    | 3.27    | 6.38   | 3.46    | 2.10    | 5.56   |
| 11.     | Jammu & Kashmir  | 1.83    | —       | 1.83   | —       | —       | —      |
| 12.     | Karnataka        | 5.35    | —       | 5.35   | 12.89   | 4.36    | 17.25  |
| 13.     | Kerala           | 60.84   | 31.74   | 92.58  | 17.22   | 5.95    | 23.17  |
| 14.     | Madhya Pradesh   | 115.41  | 1.59    | 117.00 | 1.89    | —       | 1.89   |
| 15.     | Maharashtra      | 10.50   | 6.14    | 16.64  | 104.20  | 25.88   | 130.08 |
| 16.     | Manipur          | 0.66    | —       | 0.66   | 1.85    | —       | 1.85   |
| 17.     | Meghalaya        | 7.99    | 4.50    | 12.49  | 3.46    | 1.24    | 4.70   |
| 18.     | Nagaland         | 0.48    | —       | 0.48   | —       | —       | —      |
| 19.     | Orissa           | 6.28    | —       | 6.28   | 86.69   | 54.82   | 141.51 |
| 20.     | Pondicherry      | 0.03    | —       | 0.03   | 0.23    | —       | 0.23   |
| 21.     | Punjab           | 9.02    | —       | 9.02   | 86.10   | —       | 86.10  |
| 22.     | Rajasthan        | 14.10   | 8.44    | 22.54  | 0.57    | 0.22    | 0.79   |
| 23.     | Tamil Nadu       | 8.94    | —       | 8.94   | 4.27    | 0.52    | 4.79   |
| 24.     | Uttar Pradesh    | 19.40   | 104.83  | 124.23 | 125.62  | 5.82    | 131.44 |
| 25.     | West Bengal      | 1.83    | 18.17   | 20.00  | 99.60   | 0.82    | 100.42 |
| Total:  |                  | 321.06  | 183.06  | 504.12 | 619.98  | 143.71  | 763.69 |

[English]

### **South Africans of Indian Origin**

\*611. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rising violence has impelled the Indian Mission in Johannesburg (South Africa) to make contingency plans for evacuating Indian nationals and South Africans of Indian origin living there;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor when the people of Indian origin had been living there for generations and are 'South Africans';

(c) the estimated number of Indians and South Africans of Indian Origin living in South Africa; and

(d) the number out of them who hold Indian Passports and have got registered themselves with the Mission for evacuation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED): (a) and (b). No special contingency plans for evacuating Indian nationals from South Africa have been made by the Indian mission in Johannesburg. Standard procedures which exist for evacuation of Indian nationals in an emergency are adequate in the light of available figures for Indian passport holders residing in that country. The question of evacuating South Africans of Indian origin does not arise because they are citizens of South Africa, holding South African passports, who have been living in that country for several generations.

(c) and (d). The estimated number of South Africans of Indian origin in

South Africa is approximately one million (10 lakhs). The exact number of Indian passport holders who have got themselves registered with the Consulate General of India, Johannesburg upto 20.4.94. is 654. Since only the head of every family is required to register, the total number of Indians can be considered at about 2000.

[Translation]

### **Mini Steel Plants**

\*612. SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the installed capacity and the annual steel production of mini-steel plants in the country during the last three years;

(b) whether the production of steel by the mini-steel plants is well below their installed capacity;

(c) if so, the reasons therefore; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The present annual installed capacity of mini steel plants (electric arc furnace units) is estimated at about 7.8 million tonnes. Production of steel from these units was 2.7 million tonnes in 1991-92, 2.5 million tonnes in 1992-93, and 1.56 million tonnes in 1993-94 (till December, 1993).

(b) and (c). Production of steel from the electric arc furnace units has been below their installed capacity. The performance of this sector has been adversely affected due to various factors such as demand recession, increase in

input costs like power tariffs, scrap prices etc.

(d) Measures like increased allocation for health, rural development and infrastructural sectors in the 1994-95 budget are expected to increase the steel demand. Other measures like lowering of custom duty on project imports from 35% to 25%, extension of Modvat to capital goods, reduction of interest rate by 1% and reduction in import duty on steel melting scrap from 12.5% to 5% are also expected to improve the performance of the steel sector.

[Translation]

#### **Mica Mines**

\*613. SHRI LALLBABU RAI:  
PROF. M. KAMSON:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the names and locations of all the mica mines in the country;

(b) the annual mica production at each of these mines for the last three years;

(c) the reasons for these mines not functioning to their full capacity;

(d) whether workers who have been rendered jobless due to the closure of mines have been rehabilitated; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) Names of the districts in which Mica Mines are located (for the year 1992-93) alongwith the number of such mines are given below:-

| State          | District      | No. of Mines |
|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| Andhra Pradesh |               | 65           |
|                | Khammam       | 1            |
|                | Nellore       | 58           |
|                | Visakhapatnam | 6            |
| Bihar          |               | 70           |
|                | Giridih       | 14           |
|                | Hazaribagh    | 40           |
|                | Nawadah       | 16           |
| Rajasthan      |               | 40           |
|                | Ajmer         | 7            |
|                | Bhilwara      | 33           |

(b) The annual mica production during the last 3 years is as under:

|                      | (in tonnes) |         |         |
|----------------------|-------------|---------|---------|
| Production           | 1990-91     | 1991-92 | 1992-93 |
| Mica crude           | 4062        | 3593    | 2507    |
| Mica waste and scrap | 3366        | 2364    | 1490    |

(c) The main reason identified for the mines not functioning to their full capacity is the high cost of mining at deeper levels and lack of demand in the international market on account of substitutes from mica and its products having been developed.

(d) and (e). In order to create additional jobs for those affected by closure of some mica mines, the Government have taken steps like modification of procurement policy for mica scrap and encourage establishment of industries providing mica based value added products so that mica mining can get a boost.

[Translation]

### **Demand and Supply of Power**

\*614. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any action plan to generate power on long term basis;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the steps taken by the Government to reduce the gap between demand and supply of power?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N.K.P. SALVE): (a) to (c). The energy and peaking shortage at the commencement of the Eighth Five Year Plan were 7.8% and 18.8% respectively. In order to meet the increasing demand of power and to reduce the gap between demand and supply of power, a target of 30,537.7 MW capacity addition during the Eighth Five Year Plan has been envisaged at an outlay of Rs. 79,589.32 crores. However, due to severe funds constraints, among other things, the plan target may not be achieved and about 20,000 MW of new generation capacity may be added during the Plan period. Based on this capacity addition, the anticipated power shortages in the terminal year of the Eighth Five Year Plan (1996-97) would be about 14% (energy) and 28% (peaking).

In addition to the above envisaged capacity addition, measures taken to reduce the gap between demand and supply include (i) expediting commissioning of new generating capacity (ii) implementation of short gestation projects (iii) improving the performance of existing power stations (iv) reduction of Transmission and Distribution losses (v) implementation of better demand management and energy conservation measures (vi) arranging transfer of energy from surplus to deficit areas, and (vii) promotion of private sector investment in Power Sector.

[English]

### **Pepsi in India**

\*615. SHRI RABI RAY:  
SHRI GEORGE  
FERNANDES:

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

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned 'Pepsi goes 100 pc foreign' appearing in the Tribune dated April, 4 1994;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether the Government have reached an agreement with Pepsico over the interpretation of terms of export commitments;

(e) if so, the details thereof?

(f) whether the Government propose to take action against the Pepsico for not meeting the commitments made by the companies; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). M/s. Pepsico Inc. requested the Government that they may be allowed to purchase the shares held by Punjab Agro Industries Corporation raising their equity participation in Pepsi Foods Ltd. to Rs. 104.99 crores (99.97%) in the paid up capital of Rs. 105 crores. This request has since been approved by the Government.

(d) to (g). The Government has not entered into any agreement with Pepsico Inc. regarding terms of export commitment. However, M/s. Pepsico Foods Ltd. had requested for amendment in some of the conditions of the approval granted

to them. The request has been approved by the Government keeping in view its liberalised industrial policy and in tune with the permission granted to other companies engaged in similar industrial activity. The company has projected to export products worth at least Rs. 400 crores over a ten year period and the export to import ratio shall all along be maintained at 3:1.

[Translation]

### **Akashwani Coverage in Border Areas**

\*616. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA:  
SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU:

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

(a) whether the Government have formulated any schemes to improve Akashwani coverage in border areas in view of propaganda by the neighbouring countries in these areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of schemes completed so far; and

(d) the time by which the remaining schemes are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The details of the schemes are given in enclosed *Statement-I*.

(c) 50 schemes have since been completed so far.

(d) As indicated in the enclosed Statement-II.

### STATEMENT-I

*List of Radio Stations included in the 6th plan (1980-85) 7th Plan (1985-90), Annual Plan 1990-91, 1991-92 and 8th Plan (1992-97) which will provide coverage in the border areas of the country*

| Sl. No.                     | State            | Place         | Schemes                                 |
|-----------------------------|------------------|---------------|---|
| 1                           | 2                | 3             | 4                                       |
| <b>A New Radio Stations</b> |                  |               |   |
| 1.                          | Assam            | Dhubri        | 2x3 KW FM Tr., MP Studio etc. (Local)   |
| 2.                          | Himachal Pradesh | Kinnaur       | 1 KW MW Tr. (without studio facilities) |
| 3.                          | Jammu & Kashmir  | Kargil        | 1 KW MW Tr. MP Studio                   |
| 4.                          | Jammu & Kashmir  | Poonch        | 2x3 KW FM Tr. MP Studio (Local)         |
| 5.                          | Jammu & Kashmir  | Kathua        | 2x3 KW FM Tr. MP Studio (Local)         |
| 6.                          | Manipur          | Churachandpur | 2x3 KW FM Tr. MP Studio (Local)         |
| 7.                          | Meghalaya        | Tura          | 20 KW MW Tr. Type I(R) NRS              |
| 8.                          | Mizoram          | Lungleh       | 2x3 KW FM Tr. MP Studio                 |
| 9.                          | Sikkim           | Gangtok       | 20 KW MW Tr. Type I(R) NRS              |
| 10.                         | Punjab           | Bhatinda      | 2x3 KW FM Tr. MP Studio (Local)         |
|                             |                  | Patiala       | 2x3 KW MW Tr. MP Studio                 |
| 11.                         | Rajasthan        | Barmer        | 2x10 KW MW Tr. MP Studio                |
| 12.                         | Rajasthan        | Jaisalmer     | 2x5 KW FM Tr. Type I(R) Studio          |
| 13.                         | Tamil Nadu       | Tuticorin     | 2x100 KW MW Tr. Type I(R) Studio        |
| 14.                         | Tripura          | Kailashahar   | 2x3 KW FM Tr. MP Studio (Local)         |



| 1   | 2             | 3              | 4                                       |
|-----|---------------|----------------|---|
| 15. | Tripura       | Belonia        | 2x3 KW FM Tr. MP Studio (Local)         |
| 16. | Uttar Pradesh | Chamoli        | 1 KW MW Tr. MP Studio (Local)           |
| 17. | Uttar Pradesh | Pauri/Srinagar | 1 KW MW Tr. MP Studio (Local)           |
| 18. | Uttar Pradesh | Pithoragarh    | 1 KW MW Tr. (without studio facilities) |
| 19. | Uttar Pradesh | Uttarkashi     | 1 KW MW Tr. (without studio facilities) |
| 20. | West Bengal   | Murshidabad    | 2x3 KW FM Tr. MP Studio (Local)         |
| 21. | West Bengal   | Maldah         | 2x3 KW MW Tr. Relay Centre              |

*B : Other Schemes*

|    |                  |           |   |
|----|------------------|-----------|---|
| 1. | Assam            | Dibrugarh | 300 KW MW Tr. in place of 100 KW MW                   |
|    |                  | Guwahati  | Replacement of 10 KW SW Tr. by 50 KW SW Tr.           |
|    |                  | Guwahati  | Upgradation of 50 KW MW Tr. to 100 KW MW Tr.          |
| 2. | Bihar            | Patna     | 100 KW MW Tr. in place of 20 KW MW                    |
| 3. | Gujarat          | Ahmedabad | Replacement of 50 KW MW Tr. by 200 KW MW Tr.          |
|    |                  | Rajkot    | 300 KW MW Tr. in place of 20 KW MW                    |
| 4. | Himachal Pradesh | Simla     | Replacement of 2.5 KW SW Tr. by 50 KW SW Tr.          |
| 5. | Jammu & Kashmir  | Srinagar  | Replacement of 2.5 KW SW Tr. by 50 KW SW Tr.          |
|    |                  | Jammu     | Upgradation of power of 50 KW MW Tr. to 300 KW MW Tr. |
|    |                  | Leh       | Provision of 10 KW SW Tr.                             |
| 6. | Manipur          | Imphal    | Provision of 50 KW SW Tr.                             |
| 7. | Meghalaya        | Shillong  | 50 KW MW Tr. for INES                                 |

| 1   | 2             | 3         | 4  |
|-----|---------------|-----------|--|
| 8.  | Nagaland      | Kohima    | Upgradation of power of 2 KW MW Tr. to 50 KW SW Tr.        |
| 9.  | Punjab        | Jalandhar | Upgradation of power of 50 KW Tr. to 300 KW MW Tr.         |
|     |               | Jalandhar | Upgradation of 100 KW MW Tr. to 200 KW MW Tr.              |
| 10. | Rajasthan     | Jaipur    | Provision of 50 KW SW Tr.                                  |
|     |               | Bikaner   | Replacement of 10 KW MW Tr. by 20 KW MW Tr.                |
|     |               | Suratgarh | Upgradation of 20 KW MW Tr. to 300 KW MW Tr.               |
|     |               | Jodhpur   | Upgradation of 1 KW MW Tr. to 2x3 KW FM Tr.                |
|     |               | Ajmer     | 200 KW MW Tr. in place of 20 KW MW                         |
| 11. | Sikkim        | Gangtok   | Provision of 10 KW SW Tr.                                  |
| 12. | Tamilnadu     | Madras    | 200 KW MW Tr. in place of 20 KW MW                         |
| 13. | Uttar Pradesh | Lucknow   | 300 KW MW Tr. in place of 50 KW MW                         |
|     |               | Lucknow   | Replacement of 10 KW SW Tr. by 50 KW SW Tr.                |
|     |               | Gorakhpur | Provision of 50 KW SW Tr.                                  |
|     |               | Gorakhpur | Replacement of 100 KW MW Tr. by new 100 KW MW Tr.          |
| 14. | West Bengal   | Siliguri  | 200 KW MW Tr. in place of 20 KW MW                         |
|     |               | Calcutta  | (i) Replacement of existing 10 KW SW Tr. by a 50 KW SW Tr. |
|     |               |           | (ii) Replacement of 50 KW MW Tr. by 100 KW MW Tr.          |
|     |               | Kurseong  | Replacement of existing 20 KW MW Tr. 50 KW SW Tr.          |

| 1   | 2                 | 3         | 4   |
|-----|-------------------|-----------|---|
|     |                   | Calcutta  | 200 KW MW Tr. upgradation   |
|     |                   | Calcutta  | Provision of 2 nos. of<br>10 KW FM Trs.   |
| 15. | Arunachal Pradesh | Passighat | Upgradation of LP Tr.<br>by 10 KW MW Tr.  |
|     |                   | Tezu      | Upgradation of LP Tr. by<br>10 KW MW Tr.  |
|     |                   | Tawang    | Upgradation of LP Tr.<br>by 10 KW MW Tr.  |
|     |                   | Itanagar  | Provision of 50 KW SW Tr.<br><br>Upgradation of 1 KW MW Tr.<br>by 100 KW MW Tr. |
| 16. | Meghalaya         | Shillong  | Provision of 50 KW SW Tr.<br>for INES   |

**STATEMENT-II**

*Schemes under implementation for expansion/improvement of All India Radio network in border areas*

*List of remaining new Radio Stations included in the 6th Plan (1980-85), 7th Plan (1985-90), Annual Plan 1990-91 and 8th Plan (1992-97) which will provide coverage in the border areas of the country*

| S. No.                      | State            | Place   | Schemes                                    | Target      |
|-----------------------------|------------------|---------|--|-------------|
| <b>A New Radio Stations</b> |                  |         |  |             |
| 1.                          | Assam            | Dhubri  | 2x3 KW MW Tr.,<br>MP Studio etc. (Local)   | March, 1997 |
| 2.                          | Himachal Pradesh | Kinnaur | 1 KW MW Tr. (without<br>studio facilities) | Oct. 1994   |
| 3.                          | Jammu & Kashmir  | Kargil  | 1 KW MW Tr. MP Studio                      | Oct., 95    |
| 4.                          | Jammu & Kashmir  | Poonch  | 2x3 KW FM Tr. MP<br>Studio (Local)         | Oct., 1994  |

| Sl. No. | State         | Place          | Schemes                                 | Target      |
|---------|---------------|----------------|---|-------------|
| 5.      | Manipur       | Churachandpur  | 2x3 KW FM Tr. MP Studio (Local)         | 1994-95     |
| 6.      | Mizoram       | Lungleh        | 2x3 KW FM Tr. MP Studio                 | Oct., 1994  |
| 7.      | Sikkim        | Gangtok        | 20 KW MW Tr. Type I(R) NRS              | March, 1995 |
| 8.      | Tamil Nadu    | Tuticorin      | 2x100 KW MW Tr. Type I(R) Studio        | Tech. Ready |
| 9.      | Uttar Pradesh | Chamoli        | 1 KW MW Tr. MP Studio (Local)           | 1995-96     |
| 10.     | Uttar Pradesh | Pauri/Srinagar | 1 KW MW Tr. MP Studio (Local)           | Oct., 1994  |
| 11.     | Uttar Pradesh | Pithoragarh    | 1 KW MW Tr. (without studio facilities) | 1994-95     |
| 12.     | Uttar Pradesh | Uttarkashi     | 1 KW MW Tr. (without studio facilities) | Tech. Ready |
| 13.     | West Bengal   | Maldah         | 2x3 KW FM Tr. Relay Centre              | 1996-97     |

*B. Other Schemes*

|    |                  |           |   |             |
|----|------------------|-----------|---|-------------|
| 1. | Assam            | Guwahati  | Upgradation of 50 KW MW Tr. to 100 KW MW Tr.  | 1995-96     |
| 2. | Himachal Pradesh | Simla     | Replacement of 2.5 KW SW Tr. by 50 KW SW Tr.  | Oct., 95    |
| 3. | Manipur          | Imphal    | Provision of 50 KW SW Tr.                     | 1994-95     |
| 4. | Nagaland         | Kohima    | Upgradation of 20 KW SW Tr. to 50 KW SW Tr.   | 1994-95     |
| 5. | Punjab           | Jalandhar | Upgradation of 100 KW MW Tr. to 200 KW MW Tr. | 1995-96     |
| 6. | Rajasthan        | Jaipur    | Provision of 50 KW SW Tr.                     | Tech. Ready |
|    |                  | Jodhpur   | Upgradation of 1 KW MW Tr. to 2x3 KW MW Tr.   | March, 95   |

| S. No. | State             | Place     | Schemes  | Target      |
|--------|-------------------|-----------|--|-------------|
| 7.     | Sikkim            | Gangtok   | Provision of 10 KW SW Tr.                            | Tech. Ready |
| 8.     | Uttar Pradesh     | Gorakhpur | Replacement of 100 KW MW Tr. by new 100 KW MW Tr.    | 1995-96     |
| 9.     | West Bengal       | Kurseong  | Replacement of existing 20 KW SW Tr. by 50 KW SW Tr. | March, 1995 |
|        |                   | Calcutta  | 200 KW MW Tr. upgradation                            | 1995-96     |
|        |                   | Calcutta  | Provision of 2 nos. of 10 KW FM Trs.                 | 1994-95     |
| 10.    | Arunachal Pradesh | Passighat | Upgradation of LP Tr. by 10 KW MW Tr.                | June, 94    |
|        |                   | Tezu      | Upgradation of LP Tr. by 10 KW MW Tr.                | June, 94    |
|        |                   | Tawang    | Upgradation of LP Tr. by 10 KW MW Tr.                | 1994-95     |
|        |                   | Itanagar  | Provision of 50 KW SW Tr.                            | 1994-95     |

[English]

### Haj Pilgrims

\*617. SHRI SYED SHAHA-BUDDIN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have been subsidising the transport of Haj pilgrims by sea;

(b) if so, whether the subsidy is calculated on the basis of no-profit-no-loss by the shipping line or on the basis of an operational profit;

(c) the fare as claimed by the shipping line and the fare as actually paid by the pilgrims for the first and the bunk class separately during the last three years, year-wise;

(d) the total number of pilgrims and the amount paid or proposed to be paid to the shipping line, year-wise; and

(e) the reasons for the subsidy and particularly for maintaining the fare at a constant level despite rise in operational cost?

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

(b) The Shipping Corporation of India Ltd., is operating the Haj service on "no profit-no loss" basis and the subsidy is calculated on this basis.

(c) The Shipping Corporation of India Ltd. does not claim any specific fares from the pilgrims. The fares for the Haj pilgrims travelling by ship are fixed by the Central Government. The fares are collected by the State/Central Haj Committees and are credited to the SCI. The fares actually paid by the pilgrims for first class and bunk class during the last three years are as follows:—

|                                  | Fare per pilgrim per round trip |  |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
|                                  | 1991<br>(M.V. Akbar)<br>(Rs.)   | 1992 & 1993<br>(M.V. Nicobar)<br>(Rs.) |
| <i>Cabin Class</i>               |                                 |  |
| (a) 2-berth Cabin                | 8000                            | 8750                                   |
| (b) 4-berth Cabin<br>on the ship | Not available                   | 8500                                   |
| (c) 6-berth Cabin                | 8000                            | 8250                                   |
| <i>Bunk Class</i>                | 3000                            | 3750                                   |

(d) The total number of pilgrims and the amount of subsidy paid/payable to Shipping Corporation of India Ltd. for the last three years are as follows:

| Year | No. of pilgrims |        | Subsidy paid/payable to SCI<br>(Rs. in lakhs) |
|------|-----------------|--------|---|
|      | outward         | Inward |   |
| 1991 | 4552            | 4496   | 385.12  |
| 1992 | 4751            | 4707   | 469.60  |
| 1993 | 4592            | 4565   | 549.09 (estimated)                            |

The number of pilgrims in the inward direction is less since some times a few pilgrims choose to return by air.

(e) The Cabin class fares were revised in 1991 and again in 1992. The bunk class fare was also revised in 1992. Although bulk of the pilgrims travel by air,

yet the shipping service has been maintained for some of the pilgrims who hail from the economically weaker sections of the community. In deference to the sentiments of the poorer and less affluent pilgrims, Government have been making endeavours to ensure concessional fare for pilgrims travelling by ship despite the increase in operational cost. As the Haj service is operated by the Shipping Corporation of India Ltd. as per directions of the Central Government, the losses incurred by the SCI in the operation of the service due to fixation of fares below break-even level are reimbursed by the Central Government in full to the SCI.

### **Acquaculture and Deep Sea Fishing Sector**

\*618. PROF. UMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to create common infrastructural facilities for the acquaculture and deep sea fishing sector?

(b) the areas where such linkage is possible; and

(c) whether State Governments will be involved in such linkage plans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b). Government encourages the setting up of infrastructural facilities for procurement, preservation, processing, transportation and marketing of fish through various schemes. Some of these infrastructural facilities like processing plants, cold storages, ice plants refrigerated transport etc. are used

both by the acquaculture and deep sea fishing sectors.

(c) Under some of these schemes assistance is provided to the State Governments for creation of infrastructural facilities.

### **Hydel Power Generation**

\*619. DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the potential of hydel power generation, State-wise;

(b) the number of hydel power projects under control of Union Government and the State Governments with their capacity and present power generation;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up more hydel power projects;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N.K.P. SALVE): (a) Central Electricity Authority has assessed the hydro-electric potential in India as 84044 MW at 60% load factor. The details, State-wise, of the potential are at *Statement-I*.

(b) As on 30.4.1994, there are 17 hydel stations with an installed capacity of 4518.50 MW in the Central Sector, and 165 hydel stations with total installed capacity of 15445 MW in the State Sector. The total power generation from all hydel stations during 1993-94 was 70311 million units.

(c) to (e). Yes, Sir, 93 schemes with an installed capacity of 18155.55

MW are sanctioned and ongoing. The details are at *Statement-II*.

**STATEMENT-I**

| Region/State     | Potential assessed at 60% load factor (MW) |
|------------------|--|
| <b>NORTHERN</b>  |  |
| Jammu & Kashmir  | 7487.00                                    |
| Himachal Pradesh | 11647.00                                   |
| Punjab           | 922.00                                     |
| Haryana          | 64.00                                      |
| Rajasthan        | 291.00                                     |
| Uttar Pradesh    | 9744.00                                    |
| Sub Total (NR):  | 30155.00                                   |
| <b>WESTERN</b>   |  |
| Madhya Pradesh   | 2774.00                                    |
| Gujarat          | 409.00                                     |
| Maharashtra      | 2460.00                                    |
| Goa              | 36.00                                      |
| Sub Total (WR):  | 5679.00                                    |
| <b>SOUTHERN</b>  |  |
| Andhra Pradesh   | 2909.00                                    |
| Karnataka        | 4347.00                                    |
| Kerala           | 2301.00                                    |



| Region/State      | Potential assessed at 60%<br>load factor (MW) |
|-------------------|---|
| Tamil Nadu        | 1206.00                                       |
| Sub Total (SR):   | <u>10763.00</u>                               |
| EASTERN           |   |
| Bihar             | 538.00  |
| Orissa            | 1983.00                                       |
| West Bengal       | 1786.00                                       |
| Sikkim            | 1283.00                                       |
| Sub Total (ER):   | <u>5590.00</u>                                |
| NORTH EASTERN     |   |
| Meghalaya         | 1070.00                                       |
| Tripura           | 9.00  |
| Manipur           | 1176.00                                       |
| Assam             | 351.00  |
| Nagaland          | 1040.00                                       |
| Arunachal Pradesh | 26756.00                                      |
| Mizoram           | 1455.00                                       |
| Sub Total (NE):   | <u>31857.00</u>                               |
| ALL INDIA         | <u>84044.00</u>                               |

**STATEMENT-II***Sanctioned/Ongoing H.E. Schemes (Installed Capacity above 3 MW)**As on 1.5 1994*

| Sl. No.               | Name of Project                      | Installed Capacity (MW) | Latest Commissioning Schedule |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>CENTRAL SECTOR</b> |                                      |                         |                               |
| 1.                    | Nathpa Jhakri (NJPC) H.P.            | 6x250                   | 1998-99                       |
| 2.                    | Dulhasti (NHPC) J&K                  | 3x130                   | 1996-97<br>(Unit 1)           |
| 3.                    | Salal II (NHPC) J&K                  | 3x115 *                 | 1994-95                       |
| 4.                    | Uri (NHPC) J&K                       | 4x120                   | 1996-97                       |
| 5.                    | Tehri St. I (THDC) U.P.              | 4x250                   | 9th Plan                      |
| 6.                    | Dauliganga St. I (NHPC) U.P.         | 4x70                    | 2000-01                       |
| 7.                    | Koal Karo (NHPC) Bihar               | 4x172.5 +<br>1x20       | 1998-2001                     |
| 8.                    | Rangit III (NHPC) Sikkim             | 3x20                    | 1996-97                       |
| 9.                    | Doyang (NEEPCU) Nagaland             | 3x25                    | 1996-98                       |
| 10.                   | Ranganadi (NEEPCO) Arunachal Pradesh | 3x135                   | 1996-98                       |
| 11.                   | Kopili Extn. (NEEPCO) Assam          | 2x50                    | 1996-97                       |
| <b>Sub Total</b>      |                                      | <b>5115 MW</b>          |                               |

\*2 Units since rolled.

| Sl. No.                | Name of Project            | Installed Capacity (MW) | Latest Commissioning Schedule |
|------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>STATE SECTOR</b>    |                            |                         |                               |
| <b>Northern Region</b> |                            |                         |                               |
| 1.                     | Dadupur<br>Haryana         | 4x1.5                   | 1996-97                       |
| 2.                     | Baner<br>Himachal Pradesh  | 3x4                     | 1995-96                       |
| 3.                     | Gaj<br>Himachal Pradesh    | 3x3.5                   | 1995-96                       |
| 4.                     | Thirot<br>Himachal Pradesh | 3x1.5                   | 1995-96                       |
| 5.                     | Larji<br>Himachal Pradesh  | 3x42                    | 1998-99                       |
| 6.                     | Upper Sindh II<br>J&K      | 2x35                    | 1995-96                       |
| 7.                     | Upper Sindh Extn.<br>J&K   | 1x35                    | 1996-97                       |
| 8.                     | Kargil<br>J&K              | 3x1.25                  | 1994-95                       |
| 9.                     | Kishanganga<br>J&K         | 3x110                   | Beyond 9th Plan               |
| 10.                    | Shahpurkandi<br>Punjab     | 2x40 +<br>2x40 +<br>1x8 | 9th Plan                      |
| 11.                    | Ranjit Sagar<br>Punjab     | 4x150                   | 1996-98                       |
| 12.                    | Jakham<br>Rajasthan        | 2x2.5                   | 9th Plan                      |
| 13.                    | Srinagar<br>U.P.           | 6x55                    | 1997-98                       |
| 14.                    | Sobla<br>U.P.              | 2x3                     | 1995-96                       |
| 15.                    | Lakhwar Vyasi<br>U.P.      | 3x100 +<br>2x60         | 1998-99                       |
| 16.                    | Manari Bhali II            | 4x76                    | 1997-98                       |
|                        | <b>Sub Total</b>           | <b>2430.75 MW</b>       |                               |

| Sl. No.               | Name of Project                    | Installed Capacity (MW) | Latest Commissioning Schedule |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Western Region</b> |                                    |                         |                               |
| 1.                    | Kadana PSS Extn. Gujarat           | 2x60                    | 1995-96                       |
| 2.                    | Sardar Sarovar Guj./M.P./Mah.      | 6x200 + 5x50            | 1995-98                       |
| 3.                    | Bansagar Tons PH II & III (M.P.)   | 2x15 + 3x20             | 1996-97                       |
| 4.                    | Hasdeo Bango (M.P.)                | 3x40*                   | 1994-95                       |
| 5.                    | Narmada Sagar (Indira Sagar), M.P. | 8x125                   | 1999-2000                     |
| 6.                    | Bansagar PH IV, M.P.               | 2x10                    | 1996-97                       |
| 7.                    | Bodhghat M.P.                      | 4x125                   | Beyond 9th Plan               |
| 8.                    | Rajghat UP/MP                      | 3x15                    | 1995-96                       |
| 9.                    | Bhandardara St. II Maharashtra     | 1x34                    | 1995-96                       |
| 10.                   | Manikdoh Maharashtra               | 1x6                     | 1994-95                       |
| 11.                   | Surya Maharashtra                  | 1x6                     | 1994-95                       |
| 12.                   | Warna Maharashtra                  | 2x8                     | 1995-96                       |
| 13.                   | Koyana St. IV Maharashtra          | 4x250                   | 1996-98                       |
| 14.                   | Dudhganga Maharashtra              | 2x12                    | 1995-96                       |
| 15.                   | Dimbhe Maharashtra                 | 1x5                     | 1994-95                       |
| 16.                   | Ghatghar PSS Maharashtra           | 2x125                   | 1999-2000                     |
| Sub Total             |                                    | 4646 MW                 |                               |

\* 1 unit already commissioned in 1993-94.

| Sl. No.                | Name of Project           | Installed Capacity (MW) | Latest Commissioning Schedule |
|------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Southern Region</b> |                           |                         |                               |
| 1.                     | Srisaillam LBPH<br>A.P.   | 6x150                   | 1996-99                       |
| 2.                     | Upper Sileru II<br>A.P.   | 2x60*                   | 1994-95                       |
| 3.                     | Guntur Canal I<br>A.P.    | 2x2                     | 1995-96                       |
| 4.                     | Guntur Canal II<br>A.P.   | 2x2.25                  | 1995-96                       |
| 5.                     | Singur<br>A.P.            | 2x7.5                   | 1995-96                       |
| 6.                     | Somasila<br>A.P.          | 2x5                     | 9th Plan                      |
| 7.                     | Balimela<br>A.P.          | 2x30                    | 1997-98                       |
| 8.                     | Dandeli<br>Karnataka      | 2x30                    | 9th Plan                      |
| 9.                     | Kalinadi II<br>Karnataka  | 3x40 +<br>3x50          | 1995-97                       |
| 10.                    | Brindavan<br>Karnataka    | 2x6                     | 1996-97                       |
| 11.                    | Bhadra RBC<br>Karnataka   | 1x6                     | 1996-97                       |
| 12.                    | Sharawathi R<br>Karnataka | 4x60                    | 1995-97                       |
| 13.                    | Gangawali<br>Karnataka    | 2x105                   | 1999-2000                     |

\* 1 unit already commissioned in 1993-94.

| Sl. No.   | Name of Project                     | Installed Capacity (MW) | Latest Commissioning Schedule |
|-----------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 14.       | Lower Periyar Kerala                | 3x60                    | 1995-96                       |
| 15.       | Muvattupuzha Kerala                 | 2x3.5                   | 1995-96                       |
| 16.       | Kakkad Kerala                       | 2x25                    | 1995-96                       |
| 17.       | Kallada Kerala                      | 2x7.5*                  | 1994-95                       |
| 18.       | Poringalkuthu Extn. (Unit-4) Kerala | 1x16                    | 1996-97                       |
| 19.       | Kuttiyadi Extn. Kerala              | 1x50                    | 1996-97                       |
| 20.       | Pooyankutty Kerala                  | 2x120                   | 9th Plan                      |
| 21.       | Lower Bhavani RBC Tamil Nadu        | 2x4                     | 9th Plan                      |
| 22.       | Sathanur Dam Tamil Nadu             | 1x7.5                   | 1995-96                       |
| 23.       | Kundah V Extn. Tamil Nadu           | 1x30                    | 9th Plan                      |
| 24.       | Pykara Ultimate St. Tamil Nadu      | 3x50                    | 1997-98                       |
| Sub Total |                                     | <u>2597.5 MW</u>        |                               |

**Eastern Region**

|    |                      |     |         |
|----|----------------------|-----|---------|
| 1. | Eastern Gandak Bihar | 3x5 | 1994-95 |
|----|----------------------|-----|---------|

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\* 1 Unit already commissioned in 1993-94.

| Sl. No.                     | Name of Project           | Installed Capacity (MW) | Latest Commissioning Schedule |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 2.                          | Sona Eastern Canal Bihar  | 2x1.65                  | 1994-95                       |
| 3.                          | Chandil Bihar             | 2x4                     | 1995-96                       |
| 4.                          | North Koal Bihar          | 2x12                    | 1995-96                       |
| 5.                          | Upper Indravati Orissa    | 4x150                   | 1994-97                       |
| 6.                          | Pottaru Orissa            | 2x3                     | 1995-96                       |
| 7.                          | Balimala II Orissa        | 2x60                    | 9th Plan                      |
| 8.                          | Bargarh Canal Orissa      | 3x3                     | 9th Plan                      |
| 9.                          | Rammam St. II West Bengal | 4x12.5                  | 1994-96                       |
| 10.                         | Teesta Falls West Bengal  | 3x3x7.5                 | 1994-96                       |
| 11.                         | Rammam St. I West Bengal  | 3x12                    | 9th Plan                      |
| 12.                         | Purulia PSS West Bengal   | 4x225                   | 9th Plan                      |
| Sub Total :                 |                           | 1838.8 MW               |                               |
| <b>North-Eastern Region</b> |                           |                         |                               |
| 1.                          | Nuranang Andhra Pradesh   | 3x2                     | 1996-97                       |
| 2.                          | Dhansiri Assam            | 15x1.33                 | 1995-96                       |
| 3.                          | Dalaima Assam             | 3x2                     | 1997-98                       |

| Sl. No. | Name of Project      | Installed Capacity (MW) | Latest Commissioning Schedule |
|---------|----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 4.      | Serlui-B<br>Mizoram  | 2x4.5                   | 1998-99                       |
| 5.      | Likim-Ro<br>Nagaland | 3x8                     | 1995-96                       |
|         | Sub Total :          | 65 MW                   |                               |
|         | Total State Sector   | 11578.05 MW             |                               |

**PRIVATE SECTOR**

|    |                                 |            |           |
|----|---------------------------------|------------|-----------|
| 1. | Ghanvi<br>H.P.                  | 3x7.5      | 9th Plan  |
| 2. | Uhl<br>H.P.                     | 4x17.5     | 9th Plan  |
| 3. | Baspa H.E.P.<br>H.P.            | 3x100      | 9th Plan  |
| 4. | Vishnuprayag<br>U.P.            | 4x100      | 9th Plan  |
| 5. | Tawa LBC<br>M.P.                | 2x6        | 1996-97   |
| 6. | Mahashwar<br>M.P.               | 10x40      | 1998-2000 |
| 7. | Bhira PSS (TATA)<br>Maharashtra | 1x150      | 1994-95   |
| 8. | Anakkayam<br>Kerala             | 2x4        | 1997-98   |
| 9. | Karbi Langpi<br>Assam           | 2x50       | 1995-96   |
|    | Sub Total :                     | 1462.50 MW |           |

**SUMMARY**

TOTAL (CENTRAL SECTOR) : 5115.00 MW  
 TOTAL (STATE SECTOR) : 11578.05 MW  
 TOTAL (PRIVATE SECTOR) : 1462.50 MW

ALL INDIA TOTAL

18155.55 MW



*[Translation]***Cemented Roads**

\*620. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to use cement instead of coal tar in the construction of roads;

(b) whether durability of cemented roads is more than the roads constructed with coal tar;

(c) if so, whether any special study has been conducted in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the names of the national highways which are proposed to be converted into cemented roads on trial basis?

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

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

*[English]***Farakka Thermal Project-IV**

6647. SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the total estimated loss suffered due to the recently collapsed Electro-

static Precipitator of Farakka Thermal Power Project Unit-IV;

(b) the time by which the generation of power on commercial basis in the concerned unit of the Farakka Thermal Power Project is likely to be started;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a team of experts of the Union Government and NTPC had found some defects in the Project before its collapse; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) has constituted an inquiry committee including a representative of the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) to investigate the cause of failure, extent of damage etc. The estimate of loss would be known after the report is submitted by the inquiry committee.

(b) The power generation from Farakka Unit IV is expected to commence after October 1994, after carrying out necessary restoration works in 3 out of 4 passes of the Electrostatic Precipitator. The exact schedule for commercial operation of the unit at full load can be fixed up only after the rectification measures for the foundations and the time period for the supply and erection of the fourth pass of the Electrostatic Precipitator are firmed up.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

**Bunglings in Doordarshan**

6648. SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Ferozepur): Will the Minister of INFORMATION & BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Doordarshan Mein Hone Wale ghotalon ki janch karane ki mang" appearing in Jansatta dated March 6, 1994;

(b) if so, whether any enquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken against the persons found guilty; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e). No violation of copyright by the producer was detected by Doordarshan in this case.

**National Working Group on Power Section**

6649. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the recent letter to M.Ps. issued by the national working group on the power section;

(b) whether the cost projections provided by the Central Electricity Authority and Power Ministry for new private plants differ significantly; and

(c) the demand projections made by the Power Ministry and Central Electricity Authority;

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

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Electrical Energy Demand projections are based on the 14th Electric Power Survey Report brought out by the Central Electricity Authority. The demand projections made in this Report put the energy requirement by 2000 AD to be 517005 MKWH and peak demand at 91191 MW.

**Production of Optic Fibres**

6650. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the production of optic fibres in the country and the estimated requirement thereof by the end of the current century;

(b) the details of the plans to meet the growing requirement of optic fibres and the present level of its import;

(c) whether any investors from abroad have shown interest in setting up new optic fibre plants in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Production of optical fibre cable during 93-94 has been approximately 6000 route Kms. The total estimated requirement till the end of the current century is 40,000 route Kms.

(b) Adequate indigenous capacity for the manufacture of optical fibre cable is expected to be available in the country to meet the growing demand. There is no import of this cable by the D.O.T. at present.

(c) No proposal from investors from abroad for setting up new Optic Fibre Plant in India has been received by the D.O.T.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

### **Certification of Films**

6651. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK: Will the Minister of INFORMATION & BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the Indian and foreign feature films which were refused by the Central Board of Film Certification for certificate and the details of guidelines violated by each film that was refused to be certified;

(b) the names of the films out of them which were issued certificate on the modified editions; and

(c) the films out of them which were certified by the Film Certification Appeal Tribunal?

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

[English]

### **Complaints against Indian Companies**

6652. SHRI TARA SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some German Companies have made serious complaints against some Indian Companies/PSUs for giving them false and fabricated information on certain issues;

(b) whether the German companies have been lodging complaints with Indian Embassy there in Germany;

(c) whether the Government in the larger interest of bilateral relations between the two countries would direct the concerned Indian companies to resolve the issues or to compensate the foreign companies appropriately; and

(d) if so, the facts and details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Government are aware of some commercial complaints raised by German Companies against Indian Companies/PSUs.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No Sir. Complaints of a commercial nature are basically for the parties concerned to resolve between themselves. Wherever necessary, Government uses what good offices are possible to facilitate a resolution of such differences.

(d) Does not arise.

### **Bombay-Pune Highway**

6653. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to implement a build operate-transfer (B.O.T.) basis for Bombay-Pune six lane highway;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Government of Maharashtra in this regard; and

(d) the guidelines issued by the Union Government on the project?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No such intimation has been received from the Government of Maharashtra as yet.

(d) Does not arise.

### **AIR Stations in Andhra Pradesh**

6654. SHRI DHARMABHIKSHAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to upgrade 'AIR' stations in Andhra Pradesh.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when a new AIR station is likely to be set up at Nalgonda in Andhra Pradesh?

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

(b) The details of upgradation, schemes of All India Radio in the State of Andhra Pradesh are given below:

| Station   | Existing project     | Upgraded project         |
|-----------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Hyderabad | 10 KW SW transmitter | 50 KW SW transmitter     |
| -do-      | 50 KW MW transmitter | 2x100 KW MW transmitter  |
| -do-      | Studio               | Type IV permanent studio |

(c) At present, there is no proposal to set up a new All India Radio station at Nalgonda. Setting up of a new All India

Radio station at Nalgonda will depend upon availability of resources and interse priorities.

[Translation]

**T.V. Serial on Guru Granth  
Ratnavali**

6655. SHRI PRABHU LAL RAWAT:  
Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND  
BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether 'Guru Granth Ratnavali'  
T.V. Serial has been selected under the  
new sponsorship programme; and

(b) if so, by when it is likely to be  
telecast?

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

(b) The telecast of the serial would  
depend upon approval of the pilot, by  
Doordarshan and completion of other  
formalities.

[English]

**Payment of Telephone Bills**

6656. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD  
SINGH: Will the Minister of  
COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer  
to the reply given to Unstarred Question  
No. 1573 on December, 13, 1993 and  
state:

(a) the reasons that the Chief  
General Manager, MTNL, New Delhi  
despite repeated representations made  
to him for the grant of discount in  
telephone rental for the periods last year  
during which the telephones remained  
out-of-order in the South Zone, owing to  
seepage of rain water in the underground  
cables, has not taken any action in the  
matter;

(b) whether representations were  
also made to the General Manager(S)  
MTNL, Nehru Place, New Delhi and no  
action has been taken thereon, if so, the  
reasons therefor; and

(c) the number of claims submitted  
to the Area Manager, (S) which are still  
pending in his office and how long it will  
take to settle them?

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

**Setting up power plants by British  
Company**

6657. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJA-  
PATHI: Will the Minister of POWER be  
pleased to state:

(a) whether any British Company  
has been given contract to set up power  
plants in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

(c) the places where these power  
plants are proposed to be set up; and

(d) the steps being taken to imple-  
ment these proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V.  
RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c). Three  
expressions of interest for setting up  
power plants have been received from  
U.K. based companies. The details are  
as follows:

1. Visakhapatnam TPS (1000 MW)  
in Andhra Pradesh of M/s Ashok  
Leyland and National Power, UK.

2. Roze TPS (750 MW) in Uttar Pradesh of Indo-Gulf Fertilisers and Chemicals and Power Gen. UK.
3. Mangalore TPS (1000 MW) in Karnataka of Jaiprakash Industries and National Power, UK.

(d) The private promoters are being assisted in getting all clearances for speedy implementation of these projects.

#### **Doordarshan tie with E.S.T.V.**

6658. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Doordarshan has signed an agreement with E.S.T.V. a U.K. based Cable T.V. firm;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the terms and conditions of the agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) to (c). Doordarshan has entered into an agreement with M/s. G.S.T.V., London to provide it a daily three hour programme capsule containing programmes and news bulletins (to be taken live) for being shown on the company's satellite channel throughout UK and Europe. The programmes, carrying the Doordarshan logo, under the agreement, which is valid for an initial period of three years, would be supplied free of cost for the first three months whereafter G.S.T.V. would make an hourly payment to Doordarshan. In addition, Doordarshan would

also get 10% of the gross revenue earned through these programmes (subscription/ advertisement/sponsorship). The agreement can be discontinued by either party through a notice of 12 months.

#### **Result of CBI Investigations**

6659. SHRI SIMON MARANDI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3467 on December 12, 1992 and state:

(a) whether the investigation report of the CBI has been received;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by when the report is likely to be received?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). CBI has intimated that the investigation in the case has been completed and they would submit the report shortly.

#### **AIR Stations in North-Eastern Region**

6660. SHRI NURUL ISLAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of All India Radio stations functioning in the North-

Eastern Region of the country and the location thereof;

(b) whether any demand has been made to set up new All India Radio stations in the region; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) A *Statement* is attached.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. Representations are received from time to time with various demands. These are examined thoroughly keeping in view the available resources, need, feasibility etc., and appropriate action taken thereon.

### STATEMENT

#### *Locations of All India Radio Stations in the North Eastern Region*

| Sl. No. | Location    | State             |
|---------|-------------|-------------------|
| 1.      | Passighat   | Arunachal Pradesh |
| 2.      | Tawang      | -do-              |
| 3.      | Tezu        | -do-              |
| 4.      | Itanagar    | -do-              |
| 5.      | Guwahati    | Assam             |
| 6.      | Silchar     | -do-              |
| 7.      | Dibrugarh   | -do-              |
| 8.      | Jorhat      | -do-              |
| 9.      | Haflong     | -do-              |
| 10.     | Nowgong     | -do-              |
| 11.     | Imphal      | Manipur           |
| 12.     | Shillong    | Meghalaya         |
| 13.     | Tura        | -do-              |
| 14.     | Aizawal     | Mizoram           |
| 15.     | Kohima      | Nagaland          |
| 16.     | Agartala    | Tripura           |
| 17.     | Belonia     | -do-              |
| 18.     | Kailashahar | -do-              |

### Telephone Exchanges in West Bengal

6661. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN:  
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS  
be pleased to state:

(a) the names of such telephone exchanges in West Bengal which have not yet been converted into electronic exchanges so far; and

(b) the time by which these exchanges are likely to be converted into electronic exchanges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The names of such telephone exchanges in West Bengal are given in the attached *Statement*.

(b) 73 numbers of telephone exchanges during 1994-95 and 40 numbers during 1995-96 are planned to be converted into electronic exchanges and remaining 26 exchanges will be converted into electronic exchanges progressively on the expiry of their prescribed life.

### STATEMENT

*Names of Telephone Exchanges in West Bengal which have not yet been converted into Electronic Exchanges so far*

| Sl. No. | Name of Exchange |
|---------|------------------|
|---------|------------------|

- |    |                     |
|----|---------------------|
| 1. | Bankura             |
| 2. | Durgapur-Industries |
| 3. | Burdwan             |
| 4. | Durgapur-Steel      |

| Sl. No. | Name of Exchange |
|---------|------------------|
|---------|------------------|

- |     |                   |
|-----|-------------------|
| 5.  | Darjeeling        |
| 6.  | Bahula            |
| 7.  | Burnpur           |
| 8.  | Suri              |
| 9.  | Coochbehar        |
| 10. | Kalinpong         |
| 11. | Kurshiang         |
| 12. | Bagdogra          |
| 13. | Tarakeswar        |
| 14. | Malda-Unit I      |
| 15. | Malda-Unit II     |
| 16. | Kharagpur         |
| 17. | Diamond Harbour   |
| 18. | Haldia-Industries |
| 19. | Midnapur          |
| 20. | Durgachak         |
| 21. | Kandi             |
| 22. | Krishnanagar      |
| 23. | Purulia           |
| 24. | Balurghat         |
| 25. | Raiganj           |
| 26. | Basirhat          |
| 27. | Memari            |
| 28. | Berhampur         |
| 29. | Siliguri          |
| 30. | Raniganj          |
| 31. | Dhatrigram        |
| 32. | Kandra            |
| 33. | Mondalgram        |
| 34. | Nandanghat        |



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| Sl. No. | Name of Exchange |
|---------|------------------|
|---------|------------------|

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- |     |                 |
|-----|-----------------|
| 35. | Panchanantala   |
| 36. | Patuli          |
| 37. | Samudragarh     |
| 38. | Andi            |
| 39. | Basapara        |
| 40. | Bishnupore      |
| 41. | Domkal          |
| 42. | Jalangi         |
| 43. | Khairasol       |
| 44. | Mayureswar      |
| 45. | Murarai         |
| 46. | Nabagram (2)    |
| 47. | Nagar           |
| 48. | Nasipurbalagach |
| 49. | Panchgram       |
| 50. | Panchthupi      |
| 51. | Patikabaru      |
| 52. | Purandarpur     |
| 53. | Rajnagar        |
| 54. | Raninagar       |
- 

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| Sl. No. | Name of Exchange |
|---------|------------------|
|---------|------------------|

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- |     |                |
|-----|----------------|
| 55. | Sagardighi     |
| 56. | Sagarpara      |
| 57. | Salar          |
| 58. | Satui          |
| 59. | Tantipara      |
| 60. | Tarapith       |
| 61. | Ajodhya        |
| 62. | Basanti        |
| 63. | Chitrasenpur   |
| 64. | Dasghare       |
| 65. | Dhaniakhali    |
| 66. | Gangadharpur   |
| 67. | Garopota       |
| 68. | Gourhati       |
| 69. | Guptipara      |
| 70. | Helan          |
| 71. | Helencha       |
| 72. | Jagatballavpur |
| 73. | Jangipara      |
-

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| Sl. No. | Name of Exchange |
|---------|------------------|
|---------|------------------|

---

|     |             |
|-----|-------------|
| 74. | Kanpurpuras |
|-----|-------------|

|     |        |
|-----|--------|
| 75. | Khatul |
|-----|--------|

|     |           |
|-----|-----------|
| 76. | Kuliapora |
|-----|-----------|

|     |          |
|-----|----------|
| 77. | Moloypur |
|-----|----------|

|     |            |
|-----|------------|
| 78. | Muthadanga |
|-----|------------|

|     |          |
|-----|----------|
| 79. | Naisarai |
|-----|----------|

|     |         |
|-----|---------|
| 80. | Panchla |
|-----|---------|

|     |               |
|-----|---------------|
| 81. | Patharpratima |
|-----|---------------|

|     |           |
|-----|-----------|
| 82. | Rajbalhat |
|-----|-----------|

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| 83. | Udaynarayanpur |
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| 84. | Baxirhat |
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| 85. | Bhotpatti |
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| 86. | Brajapur |
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| 87. | Dhupguri |
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| 88. | Jaigaon |
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| 89. | Jateswar |
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| 90. | Kamakshyeguri |
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| 91. | Kumargramduar |
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| 92. | Nishigunj |
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| 93. | Shitalkuchi |
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| Sl. No. | Name of Exchange |
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| 94. | Danton |
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| 95. | Kalindi |
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| 96. | Marhtala |
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| 97. | Nachinda |
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| 98. | Paramanandapur |
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| 99. | Badkulla |
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| 100. | Bethuadahari |
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| 101. | Bimagar |
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| 102. | Chakdah |
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| 103. | Dayerbazar |
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| 104. | Fulia |
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| 105. | Joaniabhaluka |
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| 106. | Madanpur |
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| 107. | Matiary |
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| 108. | Muragachha |
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| 109. | Nazirpur |
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| 110. | Gopalganj |
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| 111. | Hemtabad |
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| 112. | Kushmandi |
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| 113. | Rampur |
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| Sl. No. | Name of Exchange |
|---------|------------------|
| 114.    | Sonapurhat       |
| 115.    | Jhalong          |
| 116.    | Parulia          |
| 117.    | Chandpara Bazar  |
| 118.    | Buniadpur        |
| 119.    | Bara-audulia     |
| 120.    | Jalpaiguri       |

| Calcutta               | Level |
|------------------------|-------|
| 121 Teretta Bazar-I    | (25)  |
| 122. Teretta Bazar-II  | (27)  |
| 123. Salt Lake         | (31)  |
| 124. Jadavpur          | (72)  |
| 125. Bahela            | (77)  |
| 126. Maniktala         | (36)  |
| 127. Coshipore         | (52)  |
| 128. Serampore         | (62)  |
| 129. Howrah            | (68)  |
| 130. Teretta Bazar-III | (26)  |
| 131. Entally           | (29)  |
| 132. Rusha             | (42)  |

| Sl. No. | Name of Exchange | Level |
|---------|------------------|-------|
| 133.    | Alipore          | (49)  |
| 134.    | Kalighat         | (48)  |
| 135.    | Bagh Bazar       | (54)  |
| 136.    | Dum Dum          | (59)  |
| 137.    | Uttarapara       | (64)  |
| 138.    | Amtola           | (615) |
| 139.    | Uluberia         | (613) |

**Visas for Indian/Pakistani Diplomats**

6662. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Pakistan have recently lifted ban on assignment visas for their diplomats;

(b) the details of the background of imposing ban on assignment visas by both the countries;

(c) the number of applications for assignment visas for Indian diplomats pending since May, 1993 when Pakistan started the ban;

(d) the reasons for the change in policy and lifting of the ban;

(e) whether lifting of ban on assignment visas is likely to lead to the improvement in Indo-Pak relations; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED): (a) to (f). In terms of the Code of Conduct for treatment of Diplomatic/Consular Personnel in India and Pakistan signed between the two countries on 19 August, 1992, replacement visas would be given to officials posted to diplomatic missions in each other's country within 30 days of application. Regrettably, Pakistan had inordinately delayed the issue of assignment visas to Indian officials posted to our Missions. This resulted in an accumulation of 37 Indian requests for assignment visas. Following sustained and vigorous efforts through the diplomatic channels, this problem was resolved when Pakistan issued in end-March, 1994, all the pending assignment visas.

Government earnestly hope that Government of Pakistan will in future adhere to its commitments and obligations under the Code of Conduct in order to facilitate the smooth functioning of Indian Missions in Pakistan.

#### **Dibrugarh Doordarshan Kendra**

6663. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the performance of the Dibrugarh Doordarshan Kendra is not upto the mark;

(b) if so, the remedial steps the Government propose to take in this regard;

(c) whether the Government propose to increase the telecast time for the programmes produced by the Dibrugarh Doordarshan Kendra;

(d) if so, by when the second channel at Dibrugarh is likely to be introduced; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) There is no such proposal at present.

(e) Due to constraints of resources and other infrastructural facilities for the purpose.

#### **Linking Roads of Maharashtra with National Highways**

6664. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has submitted any scheme to link some State roads with 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) and (b). Presumably, the Hon'ble Member has in view the Centrally sponsored Scheme of State roads of Inter-State or Economic Importance. The State Government of Maharashtra has submitted *inter-alia* one proposal for the

construction of Bypass road between Veer-Tol bridge and Khed costing Rs. 400.00 lakhs to link NH 17 under the aforesaid scheme in the 8th Five Year Plan. This work stands approved in May, 1993.

**F.M. Radio Station at Cannanore,  
Kerala**

6665. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any plan for the development/expansion of the F.M. Radio Station at Cannanore in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof with allocation made therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b). The Radio Station at Cannanore with 2x3 KW FM Transmitter, Multi-purpose Studios etc. was commissioned on 4.5.1991. This was envisaged to be a full fledged radio station with programme production facilities. There is, at present, no proposal for development/expansion of this Station.

[Translation]

**Telephone to Panchayats in U.P.**

6666. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Village Panchayats in Uttar Pradesh provided with telephone facility during 1993-94;

(b) whether all telephones are working satisfactorily;

(c) if not, the details and the reasons therefore and the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) the time by which this facility is likely to be provided in the remaining villages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) 3,524 Panchayat Villages in Uttar Pradesh have been covered with telephone facility during the year 1993-94.

(b) and (c). No, Sir. Some of the telephones provided on MARR systems of older generation are not working satisfactorily. Department is getting these systems repaired by the manufacturers. In addition, newer generation equipment, which are more reliable are being inducted.

(d) Though earlier it was proposed to cover all Panchayat Villages in U.P. by 31.3.1995, due to initial delays in getting indigenous equipments in sufficient quantities and other infrastructural problems, the programme for panchayat villages is likely to be over by 31.3.1996 and all other villages are likely to be covered by 2000 A.D.

[English]

**Expenditure on Good-will  
Delegations**

6667. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are sending Goodwill Delegations to Saudi Arabia;

(b) if so, the expenditure incurred on this account during the last three financial years and the amount proposed for 1994-95;

(c) list of people who went on these Delegations during 1993-94; and

(d) the purpose of such Goodwill Delegations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes, Sir. Government of India has traditionally been sending a Goodwill Delegation to Saudi Arabia on the occasion of Haj every year.

(b) Expenditure on this account during the last three financial years is given below:

|         |   |                 |
|---------|---|-----------------|
| 1991-92 | — | Rs. 30.64 lakhs |
| 1992-93 | — | Rs. 54.06 lakhs |
| 1993-94 | — | Rs. 92.26 lakhs |

Composition of the Goodwill Delegation for 1994 has not been finalised so far.

(c) A list of members of the Delegation for Haj 1993 is given in the attached *Statement*.

(d) India sends a large contingent of Haj pilgrims to Saudi Arabia every year. The purpose of sending Haj Goodwill Delegation is to promote goodwill between the two countries, to interact with similar delegations from other countries, to interact with the Saudi authorities for arrangements for Haj and to look into the arrangements for our pilgrims with a view to further improving them.

### STATEMENT

#### *Composition of the Government of India Goodwill Delegation to Haj 1993*

1. Shri P.M. Sayeed,  
Minister of State for  
Home Affairs

Leader

2. Shri Salamatullah

Deputy Leader

3. Shri Mohd. Akbar Pasha,  
Member of Parliament,  
(Tamil Nadu)

4. Mufti Manzoor Sahib of Kanpur  
(UP)

5. Shri Ghulam Rasool Matto,  
Member of Parliament, Kashmir

6. Shri Sayeed Ahmed,  
MLA and ex-Minister,  
Maharashtra
7. Maulana Junaid Saheb of  
Benaras, UP
8. Qari Hiffzur Rehman of Bihar
9. Shri T.H. Musthaffa,  
Minister of Food,  
Government of Kerala,  
Thiruvananthapuram
10. Captain Ayub Khan,  
Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha)
11. Maulana Jameel Ahmed Ilyasi  
(All India Immams' Council)
12. Shri Shafaat Hussain,  
Member, ZRUCC (NR)  
57, Nag Cinema Road,  
Lucknow
13. Dr. Mohd. Fazal Rehman,  
Assistant Director,  
Indian Institute of Chemical  
Technology, Hyderabad
14. Shri Motlur Rehman,  
General Secretary, Bihar, (PCC)
15. Shri Ghulam Rasool Kar,  
President,  
PCC Kashmir
16. Mohammad Ilyas  
C/o Mohd. Yunus Saleem, MP
17. Shri E.T. Mohammad Bashir,  
Minister of Education,  
Government of the State of Kerala
18. Dr. Qazi Ghazanfar Ali,  
Joint Secretary,  
Union Public Service Commission,  
New Delhi

*Member Secretary*

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[Translation]

**Doordarshan Studios**

6668. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the locations where the Government propose to set up Doordarshan studios during the Eighth Five Year Plan in the country and the details of the scheme in this regard;

(b) whether any scheme is under the consideration of the Government to set up a Doordarshan studio at Agra;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) It has been envisaged to set up a Programme Generation Facility (PGF) Centre at Mathura which would meet the cultural requirement of the area including Agra.

**STATEMENT**

*Programme Production Facility Projects under Implementation/Envisaged to be set up*

| State/U.T.           | Locations  |
|----------------------|--|
| Andhra Pradesh(3)    | 1. Vijayawada<br>2. Visakhapatnam<br>3. Warangal                           |
| Arunachal Pradesh(1) | 4. Itanagar  |
| Bihar(4)             | 5. Ranchi (Augmn.)<br>6. Patna (Augmn.)<br>7. Muzaffarpur<br>8. Daltonganj |
| Gujarat(1)           | 9. Rajkot (Augmn.)   |
| Haryana(1)           | 10. Hissar   |
| Himachal Pradesh(1)  | 11. Shimla   |
| Jammu and Kashmir(1) | 12. Srinagar (Expansion)   |
| Karnataka(1)         | 13. Gulbarga   |
| Kerala(1)            | 14. Trichur  |



| State/U.T.                   | Locations |                                       |
|------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------------|
| Madhya Pradesh(3)            | 15.       | Raipur                                |
|                              | 16.       | Gwalior                               |
|                              | 17.       | Jagdalpur                             |
| Maharashtra(3)               | 18.       | Bombay (Expansion)                    |
|                              | 19.       | Nagpur (Augmn.)                       |
|                              | 20.       | Pune                                  |
| Mizoram(1)                   | 21.       | Aizawl                                |
| Orissa(2)                    | 22.       | Sambalpur                             |
|                              | 23.       | Bhawanipatna                          |
| Punjab(1)                    | 24.       | Patiala                               |
| Rajasthan(1)                 | 25.       | Udaipur                               |
| Sikkim(1)                    | 26.       | Gangtok                               |
| Tamil Nadu(2)                | 27.       | Madras (2nd Ch.) (Expn.)              |
|                              | 28.       | Salem                                 |
| Uttar Pradesh(5)             | 29.       | Bareilly                              |
|                              | 30.       | Mau                                   |
|                              | 31.       | Allahabad                             |
|                              | 32.       |                                       |
|                              | 33.       | Mathura<br>Varanasi                   |
| West Bengal(3)               | 34.       | Calcutta (2nd Ch.) (Expn.)            |
|                              | 35.       | Siliguri                              |
|                              | 36.       | Shantiniketan                         |
| Andaman & Nicobar Islands(1) | 37.       | Port Blair                            |
| Chandigarh(1)                | 38.       | Chandigarh                            |
| Delhi(1)                     | 39.       | Delhi (Doordarshan Bhavan)<br>(Expn.) |

Total:

30—New Programme Production Centres

9—Augmentation/Expansion of Existing PPCs.

*[English]***Gold Commission****Second Channel in North Eastern Region**

6669. SHRI LAETA UMBREY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up second channel of Doordarshan in other parts of the country, particularly in the North Eastern region;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the plans to expand Doordarshan network in the North Eastern region particularly in Arunachal Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. It is proposed to extend relay of Metro Channel programmes to the capital cities of the State/UTs of the country including North Eastern region, in phases, depending upon availability of resources, equipment and other infrastructural facilities for the purpose.

(d) 28 TV transmitters of various powers and 2 Programme Production Centre (PPCs) are under implementation/envisaged to be set up in the North Eastern region for extension of terrestrial transmission. 6 TV transmitters and 1 PPC, out of the above, are under implementation/envisaged to be set up in Arunachal Pradesh.

6670. SHRI P. KUMARASAMY: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Geological Survey of India has recommended the setting up of a Gold Commission to promote gold mining activities in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**ED stamp vendors in Haryana**

6671. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ED stamp vendors relieved from services from various General Post Offices in Haryana and particularly from Gurgaon in 1986;

(b) the number of such ED stamp vendors who have since been re-appointed;

(c) the number of such ED stamp vendors from GPO, Gurgaon who have not so far been re-appointed and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which these are likely to be re-appointed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS

(SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

### **Pak propaganda in US**

6672. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH:  
Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "America Mein Bharat virodhi prachar ki Jawabi muhim chalayi jaiye" appearing in Jansatta dated January 14, 1994;

(b) if so, whether Pakistan is carrying out indiscriminate propaganda on Kashmir in the US and the Indian Embassy and consulates in that country are facing resource crunch in regard to countering this propaganda;

(c) whether Indian delegates returned after participating in the UNGA session have also expressed similar views;

(d) if so, the reasons for such drastic curtailment by the Government and the steps taken/being taken in this regard; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to present and propagate the issue in the proper perspective?

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

(b) Pakistan is carrying out an intensive propaganda campaign on Kash-

mir in the US with the help of anti-India elements. Adequate resources are provided to the Indian Embassy and Consulates to counter such propaganda.

(c) Pakistan launched an intensive propaganda campaign against India, focusing on the Kashmir issue, during the 18th UNGA. This was forcefully countered by India by bringing the ground reality regarding the situation in Kashmir particularly Pakistan's abetment to terrorism in Kashmir, to the attention of the International Community. India's position was understood by an overwhelming majority of UN members. The need for greater publicity efforts in USA has been recognised by Government.

(d) and (e). Government have engaged the services of a lobbying firm in the US to supplement the efforts by our Missions and Consulates to counter motivated anti-India propaganda. Government are apprising other foreign Governments of Pakistan's sponsorship of terrorism in Kashmir. All efforts are being made to counter motivated anti-India propaganda and put matters into proper perspective.

[Translation]

### **Afghan elements in Kashmir**

6674. SHRI CHETAN P.S.  
CHAUHAN:

PROF. PREM DHUMAL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL  
AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to a news-item appearing in the Hindustan dated February 23, 1994 captioned "Aab Afghani Ugarvadi Sakriya" (Now Afghan terrorists active); and

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

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

(b) Government have seen reports about sizeable number of highly trained and well-armed foreign mercenaries including Afghan nationals, having infiltrated into J&K with the covert support of Pakistan and who are indulging in acts of subversion and terrorism. According to reports, a few thousand such mercenaries are still in Pakistan.

Government maintain constant vigil and take all measures to combat terrorism and to safeguard, at all costs, the unity and territorial integrity of the nation.

[English]

#### **SC/ST employees in Doordarshan**

6675. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) a total number of SC/ST employees in Class-I posts in Doordarshan all over the country and the number of SC/ST women out of them;

(b) whether the Government are aware of some forged appointments in Class-I posts made in the Doordarshan through UPSC in the year 1981-82 on false caste certificate;

(c) if so, the action Government have taken so far in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) There are 64 SC/ST officers, including 7 women, holding Class-I post in the Doordarshan.

(b) A case has been brought to the notice of the Directorate General, Doordarshan wherein a Class-I officer is alleged to have taken advantage of a Scheduled Caste certificate, to which she was not entitled, to secure appointment as an Assistant Station Director in Doordarshan through the Union Public Service Commission.

(c) and (d). Action will be taken against the person if found guilty under the relevant Government orders/instructions.

[Translation]

#### **SC/ST posts in Akashwani and Doordarshan Kendras in Gujarat**

6676. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of employees of different categories working in Akashwani and Doordarshan Centres in Gujarat; and

(b) the number of posts lying vacant in these centres and the time by which these are likely to be filled up?

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

**All India Radio:** There are 728 employees of different categories working

in Akashvani establishments in Gujarat and 128 posts are lying vacant. The occurrence of vacancies is a continuous process on account of retirement on superannuation, resignation, deputation, etc. Similarly, the action for recruitment and/or promotion for filling-up these vacancies through Union Public Service Commission/Staff Selection Commission or Employment Exchange is also initiated as and when the vacancy in a post arises. Therefore, it is not possible to specify a particular time limit for recruitment against the existing vacancies.

**Doordarshan:** The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

### **Reservation Policy**

6677. SHRI LALIT ORAON: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether D/O Pers & Trg. order No. AB/14017/22 89-Est. (RR) dated 15.5.89 is applicable to SC/ST or Agenda item 119/16 of Indian Road Construction Corporation's Board;

(b) the number of general employees promoted just after completion of eligibility period and the number of SCs/STs employees debarred from 1991 to 1993 and the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of SC/ST employees in BODs/Gratuity Trust, PF & Post-wise DPC/outside backlog vacancies and since when these are not filled and the reasons therefor;

(d) the post-wise details of sanctioned post and number of promotion given without created/sanctioned vacancies from 1991 to 1993; and

(e) the grievances solved out of the total grievances raised in USQ No. 2800 dated 20.12.1993?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (e). The details are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

### **Uniform Granite Mining Policy**

6678. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE:  
SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated a uniform policy for granite mining;

(b) if so, the details and salient features thereof;

(c) the total stock of granite in the country and the annual production thereof both in terms of quantity and value for the last three years, State-wise; and

(d) the targets set for granite mining during the Eighth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Stocks of Granite would be with the producers, processors and traders and Government does not monitor the same. The annual production of granite for 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93 is given in the attached *Statement*.

(d) The report of the Working Group of Mineral Development (other

than Coal & Lignite) (1989) for Eighth Five Year Plan has projected production of granite in the Country at 61.29 lakh tonnes blocks (59.41 lakh tonnes for export and 1.88 lakh tonnes for domestic market) and total value of granite exports has been projected at Rs. 501 crore by 1994-95.

### STATEMENT

*State-wise Production of Granite During 1990-91 to 1992-93*

*(Quantity in thousand tonnes)*

| State                                | 1990-91 | 1991-92 | 1992-93 |
|--------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| <b>1. Dimension Stone Granite</b>    |         |         |         |
| Karnataka                            | 560     | 250     | 280     |
| Tamil Nadu                           | 175 (e) | 175 (e) | 175 (e) |
| Andhra Pradesh                       | 72      | 87      | 138     |
| Rajasthan                            | 28      | 32      | 45      |
| Kerala                               | —       | —       | 9       |
| Madhya Pradesh                       | 1       | 0.6     | N.A.    |
| Total<br>(Dimension Stone)           | 836     | 544.6   | 647     |
| <b>2. Other than dimension stone</b> |         |         |         |
| Kerala                               | 273     | 273 (e) | N.A.    |
| Goa                                  | 171 (e) | 171 (e) | N.A.    |
| Gujarat                              | 5       | 7       | N.A.    |
| Haryana                              | ++      | 16      | N.A.    |
| Total<br>(others)                    | 449     | 467     | N.A.    |

Source: (i) Dimension Stone— Data available with IBM and data supplied by State Govts.

(ii) Data supplied by State Govts. without indicating the type of granite.

(e) Estimated.

++ Negligible

**Fishing in the Palk Strait**

6679. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY:  
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA  
RAO:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a national seminar was held to solve the problem of Indian fishermen, fishing in Palk Strait;

(b) if so, the issues discussed and the decisions taken thereon;

(c) whether a fishing pact has been entered into with the Sri Lankan Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes, Sir. A National Seminar on "Problems of Indian Fishermen in the Palk Straits" was organised by the Centre for South and South East Asian Studies, University of Madras, in collaboration with the Madras Chapter of the Society Indian Ocean Studies, at the University of Madras on February 25, 1994.

(b) The discussions at the Seminar focussed on the problems faced by Indian fishermen in the Palk Straits, particularly their harassment by Sri Lankan Navy. The Seminar expressed serious concern at the incidents of violence against Indian fishermen in the Palk Straits, and discussed ways and means to avoid such incidents.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

**Foreign Collaborations**

6680. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are planning to have foreign collaborations in various areas of communications in the near future;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of foreign collaborations entered into during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The Government (Deptt. of Telecom.) is not planning to have any foreign collaboration in the area of communications in the near future.

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

(c) The information pertaining to the foreign collaboration entered into by the Public/Private Sector Companies during the last three years is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**US Request on Prithvi**

6681. SHRI SRIKANTA JENA:  
SHRI MOHAN SINGH  
(DEORIA):

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the US has requested the Government to stop the deployment of Prithvi missile and offered in lieu of that transfer of defence technology in certain selected areas and stopping of supply of F-16s to Pakistan; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSEED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **New Organisation of Western Countries**

6682. SHRI UDAY SINGRAO GAIKWAD: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the recent reports regarding moves of the US and its allies to constitute a new organisation in order to deny the supply of dangerous and modern weapons and technology useful for peaceful purpose to the third world countries; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSEED): (a) and (b). Government are aware that the Coordinating Committee on Multilateral Export Controls (COCOM), which aimed at preventing the erstwhile communist countries and their allies from acquiring militarily significant technologies, ceased to exist with effect from 31 March, 1994.

Western nations, including the US, are now seeking to establish a successor-regime to COCOM with the cooperation of Russia aimed at preventing the transfer of dual-use technologies and related equipments to non-member states in order to prevent proliferation. It is reported that the new export control regime would be established by October, 1994. Government continue to monitor developments in this regard and remain committed to the indigenous development of such technologies which are not available from foreign sources.

#### **Mineral Based Units in Rajasthan**

6683. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up any Public Sector Undertakings in Rajasthan in Eighth Plan for the exploitation and utilisation of mineral resources; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Feature Film on Dr. Ambedkar**

6684. PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any production of full length feature film on Dr. B.R. Ambedkar is under progress;



(b) if so, the funds allocated for this production;

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

(d) the details of the production unit?

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

(b) The total budget of the film is Rs. 6.60 crores out of which Rs. 1.00 crore is to be provided by the Government of Maharashtra and Rs. 5.60 crores by the Ministry of Welfare, Government of India.

(c) January, 1996.

(d) The National Film Development Corporation Limited (NFDC) is the Executive Producer of the film. Ms. Sooni Taraporevala has been engaged as the Script Writer. The film will be directed by Dr. Jabbar Patel. Shri Shyam Benegal has been appointed as the Advisor of the project.

### **Rise in SAIL Exports**

6685. SHRI C.P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an increase in steel exports by Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) in 1993-94; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI

SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Steel Authority of India Limited improved its exports of steel in 1993-94. Details are as follows:

| Year    | Quantity<br>(lakh tonnes) | % Growth over<br>Previous year |
|---------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1992-93 | 2.68                      | 51%                            |
| 1993-94 | 6.30                      | 135%                           |

### **Study on Mineral Export**

6686. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Federation of Indian Mineral Industries (FIMI) has conducted a study on the export potential of minerals in the context of the New Liberalisation Policy of the Government, particularly following the signing of GATT agreement;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to increase mineral exports in view of the FIMI study?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b). The Federation of Indian Mineral Industries (FIMI) in the study on the export potentials of minerals has evaluated the export potentialities of 26 minerals. The study *inter-alia*, seeks upgradation of infrastructural facilities, avoidance of frequent hikes in royalty rates, calls on producers to explore and invest in upgrading technology and management techniques and suggests the setting up of beneficiation and processing industries for every mineral.

(c) The steps already taken by Government to boost export include reduction in tariff level on import of machinery, rendering of marketing assistance by Indian mission increase availability of credit by banks to export sectors and reduction in interest rate on Rupee credit.

### **Limestone Reserves**

6687. SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated limestone reserves in the Assam hills;

(b) the quantity of limestone exploited annually from the hills of Assam;

(c) whether this limestone is marketed and utilised; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) The total recoverable reserves of limestone as on 1.4.1990 was 703 million tonnes.

(b) Annual production of limestone from Assam State for the last three years was:

|         |   |      |             |
|---------|---|------|-------------|
| 1990-91 | — | 2.64 | lakh tonnes |
| 1991-92 | — | 2.36 | -do-        |
| 1992-93 | — | 1.90 | -do-        |

(c) and (d). Total limestone produced in the State is being consumed by the Cement Corporation of India's Bokajan Cement Factory and Vinay Cement Plant.

[Translation]

### **Telegraph Offices in U.P.**

6688. DR. P.R. GANGWAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of telegraph offices functioning in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the number of such telegraph offices wherein the facility of sending telegrams in Hindi has been provided;

(c) whether the Government propose to open more such offices in near future; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) There are 101 Telegraph Offices and 6074 Combined Post and Telegraph offices functioning in Uttar Pradesh as on 31.3.1994.

(b) The facility of sending telegrams in Hindi has been provided in all the Telegraph Offices and Combined P&T Offices.

(c) As and when new demand is generated, offices will be opened subject to feasibility.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

### **Visit of Ambassadors to Kashmir**

6689. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have agreed to allow a delegation of Ambassadors from Islamic countries to visit Kashmir; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSEED): (a) and (b). Government had made an offer to several Heads of Missions accredited to India to facilitate a visit to Jammu & Kashmir. These included Ambassadors from Islamic and other countries. In pursuance of this, since February, 1994 three groups of Envoys, including Heads of Missions from some Islamic countries, have visited Jammu & Kashmir. Government arranged the logistics. A programme of briefings and visits was arranged in consultation with the State authorities. The Heads of Missions utilised the visit to meet a wide cross section of people in the State.

#### **Branch Post Office**

6690. SHRI ANADI CHARAN  
DAS:  
SHRI TEJ NARAYAN  
SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the emphasis on expansion of rural postal network and improvement of postal operations in rural areas is confined to the opening of 'Branch Post Offices' only; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the total number of branch post offices and departmental Sub-post offices

separately opened in rural areas, during 1991-92?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The emphasis on expansion of rural postal network and improvement of postal operations in rural areas is not merely confined to the opening of 'Branch Post Offices' only; but also include many other vital areas like upgradation of Branch Post Offices to Departmental Sub Offices, installation of letter boxes, extension of Savings Bank facility to all post offices, Saving certificate work in justified cases and daily delivery of mails to all villages.

(b) During 1991-92; 1348 extra Departmental Branch Offices and 36 Departmental Sub Offices were opened in the rural areas of the country.

[Translation]

#### **Power Projects**

6691. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to complete Narmada Sagar, Onkareshwar, Maheshwar and Bodhghat power projects during the Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the position regarding sanctioning of Onkareshwar and Bodhghat power projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V.

RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). The targets for completion of Narmada Sagar,

Onkareshwar, Maheshwar and Bodhghat Power Projects are given below:

| Name of the Project         | Commissioning Schedule (MW)                      |
|-----------------------------|--|
| 1. Narmada Sagar (8x125 MW) | 6x125 MW in 9th Plan<br>2x125 MW beyond 9th Plan |
| 2. Maheshwar (10x40 MW)     | 9th Plan   |
| 3. Onkareshwar (8x65 MW)    | 6x65 MW in 9th Plan<br>2x65 MW beyond 9th Plan   |
| 4. Bodhghat (4x125 MW)      | Beyond 9th Plan                                  |

Onkareshwar (8x65 MW) Hydro-electric Project was techno-economically cleared by Central Electricity Authority on 14.12.1993 and received Environment and Forest clearances on 13.10.1993 and 22.10.1993 respectively. The State Government has to obtain investment approval from the Planning Commission.

Bodhghat (4x125 MW) Hydro-electric Project was techno-economically cleared by Central Electricity Authority in November, 1978 and received investment approval from the Planning Commission on 24.2.1979. Environmental clearance was obtained on 20.2.1985. However, the State Government has not obtained Forest clearance for the project.

[Translation]

### Electrical Equipment

6692. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL  
KATHERIA:  
DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH  
SHAKYA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is short supply of electrical equipments in the rural areas resulting in delay in the execution of rural electrification programme;

(b) if so, the total requirement of electrical equipment for rural electrification, State-wise;

(c) the electrical equipment supplied by the Government for rural electrification during 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94, State-wise;

(d) the percentage of equipment stolen out of it during the above period, State-wise; and

(e) the corrective measures/steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e). Electrical equipment for rural electrification are not supplied by the Government of India but are procured by the State Governments/State Electricity Boards. The implementation of the rural electrification programme and the replacement of equipments due to damage or theft is the responsibility of the State Governments/State Electricity Boards.

[English]

### **Seat Belts**

6693. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA:  
SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO:  
SHRI K.G. SHIVAPPA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to use seat belts in passenger cars; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. As per Rule 125 of the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, with effect from 27th March, 1994, the manufacturer of every motor vehicle other than motor cycles and three wheelers of engine capacity not exceeding 500 cc, shall equip every such vehicle with a seat belt for the driver and for the person occupying the front seat.

### **M.T.N.L. Limits**

6694. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received communication from the residents of Thane district regarding extension of the MTNL limits to the whole of Bombay Metropolitan area for extension of three minutes call service;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action being taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Government have received representations from various quarters including Members of Parliament for provision of three minutes call facility to the whole of Bombay Metropolitan area.

(c) The representations have been duly considered. It is not possible to provide inter-dialling with Bombay on three minutes pulse rate to the whole of Bombay Metropolitan Region. As per the existing policy guidelines only the following telephone local areas adjacent to Bombay local area are eligible for 3 minute call facility:

- (1) Kalyan
- (2) Bassein (Vasai)
- (3) Mankoli
- (4) Kharbao
- (5) Juchandra
- (6) Sasuna vghar

## (7) New Bombay

Among these 3 minute call facility has already been give to the following:

(1) Kalyan

(2) Bssein (Vasai)

(3) New Bombay

**Processed Food**

6695. SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAO SAHEB TOPE: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state the employment generation capacity and export potential of food processing projects cleared for Maharashtra in 1993-94?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): As per the New Industrial Policy of July, 1991, most of the food processing industries have been delicensed except the brewing and distillation of alcoholic drinks and those reserved for Small Scale Industries. However, from August, 1991 till February, 1994, 346 Industrial Memoranda have been filed for establishment of food processing industries in Maharashtra envisaging direct employment of about 59,252 persons. Besides the above, various proposals requiring approval for setting up food processing units have been cleared for the State of Maharashtra during 1993-94 which envisages direct employment generation of about 2734 persons. Projected export earnings in respect of those approved projects would be about Rs. 1,21,547 lakhs in a five year period.

**Investment Approval in Private Sector by Foreign and Domestic Agencies**

6696. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI:  
DR. SUDHIR RAY:  
SHRI RAM NAIK:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether foreign investors have been induced to invest in the power sector as they have been guaranteed a handsome profit on their investment;

(b) the details of the investment decisions taken in private sector (foreign and domestic) after duly approved and cleared by the Government in terms of rupee value in each of such projects for augmenting power supply in the country;

(c) whether any target and time frame have been fixed for generating power to meet the immediate requirements of the different sectors of the economy; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) A list of projects which have been techno-economically, examined, and cleared by the Central Electricity Authority is given in the attached *Statement*. These project promoters have to now set up financing for these projects.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Do not arise.

**STATEMENT***Schemes cleared/appraised by CEA in respect of private sector*

| Sl. No.                | Name of the Project<br>Capacity, Distt. &<br>Name of the Promoter  | Estimated cost as<br>per PR<br>(Rs. in crs.)              |
|------------------------|--|---|
| <b>WESTERN REGION</b>  |  |   |
| <b>MAHARASHTRA</b>     |  |   |
| 1.                     | Dabhol GTOC TPS<br>-2015 MW (not at site)<br>-Distt. Ratnagiri<br>-M/s Dabhol Power Co.<br>(M/s Enron Development<br>Corpn.) | 9051.27<br>(Incl. IDC 1988 level)<br>US \$ 2828. 52 M     |
| <b>GUJARAT</b>         |  |   |
| 2.                     | Gandhar (Paguthan) CCGT<br>-655 MW<br>-Distt. Bharuch<br>-M/s Gujarat Torrent<br>Energy Corpn. Ltd.                          | 2298.14<br>(Incl. IDC 1996 level)<br>As appraised by CEA  |
| <b>MADHYA PRADESH</b>  |  |   |
| 3.                     | Pench TPS<br>-2x210 MW<br>-Distt. Chindwara<br>-M/s Century Power  | 1272.23<br>(Excl. IDC)<br>As appraised by CEA             |
| 4.                     | Maheshwar Hydro<br>Electric Project<br>-10x40 MW<br>-Distt.<br>M/s S. Kumar & Co.  | 1073.00<br>(Incl. IDC. 1993 level)<br>as appraised by CEA |
| <b>SOUTHERN REGION</b> |  |   |
| <b>ANDHRA PRADESH</b>  |  |   |
| 5.                     | Jegurupadu GTCC TPS<br>-216 MW (Site)<br>-Distt. East Godawari<br>-M/s Spectrum Power<br>Generation Ltd.                     | 827.00<br>(Incl. IDC 1996 level)<br>As appraised by CEA   |
| 3.                     | Godawari GTCC TPS<br>-200 MW (Site)<br>-Distt. East Godawari<br>-M/s Spectrum Power<br>Generation Ltd.                       | 748.43<br>(Incl. IDC, 1996 level)<br>As appraised by CEA  |

**Passport Office Campus**

6697. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to implement the concept of passport Office Campus, which includes passport office and residential accommodation, since passport offices handle a sensitive nature of work;

(b) if so, the time by which such complexes are proposed to be constructed and the passport offices selected for the purpose; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) to (c). The Government is making efforts to provide better office accommodation to all passport offices as also to acquire residential accommodation. In some places there would be office-cum-residential complexes.

[Translation]

**Allocation to Uttar Pradesh from  
Central Road Fund**

6698. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sought for by Government of Uttar Pradesh from the Central Road Fund during each of the last three years;

(b) the funds granted so far to the State during this period; and

(c) the time by which the remaining funds are likely to be granted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). The amount demanded and allocated to the Uttar Pradesh Government under Central Road Fund during the last three years is as follows:

| (Rs. in lakhs) |          |           |
|----------------|----------|-----------|
| Year           | Demanded | Allocated |
| 1991-92        | 745.83   | Nil       |
| 1992-93        | 103.44   | 79.50     |
| 1993-94        | 120.00   | 100.00    |

It is too early to indicate the time by which the remaining funds are likely to be made available.

[Translation]

**Post Office Building in Maharashtra**

6699. SHRI VILASRAO NAG-NATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to construct new post office building in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the location thereof; and

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



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

(b) The list of Post Office buildings proposed to be constructed in Maharashtra is given in the attached *Statement*.

(c) Construction of buildings for the post offices is dependent on availability of suitable land, completion of pre-construction formalities like approval of the competent authority and availability of funds. It is therefore difficult to indicate the time by which they are likely to be completed.

#### STATEMENT

*The List of Post Offices for which departmental buildings are proposed to be constructed is as follows:*

1. Kinwat Post Office, District Nanded
2. CIDCO Post Office, Aurangabad
3. Bhoom Post Office, Osmanabad District
4. Igatpuri, Nasik District
5. Tagore Nagar, Bombay City
6. Oshiwara, Lokhandwala Complex, Bombay City
7. Kandivali Industrial Estate, Bombay City
8. Charkoc, Kandivali (West) Bombay
9. Ulhasnagar, Camp-5, Thane District
10. Vartaknagar, Thane West
11. Bndra West, Bombay City
12. Bandra East, Bombay City
13. HPO Building, EDC Complex, Panaji, Goa
14. HPO Building, Margaon, Goa
15. Panhala, Kolhapur District
16. Gadhinglaj, Kolhapur District
17. HPO Building, Sawantwadi, Distt. Sindhudurg
18. Divisional Office Building at Kankavli, District Sindhudurg
19. Head Post Office Building, Khamgaon
20. Head Post Office Building, Yavatmal, Yavatmal District
21. Head Post Office Building, at Partwada, Amravati District
22. Head Post Office Building, Kamthi, Nagpur District
23. Post Office Building, Babhulgaon
24. Post Office Building, Barsitakli
25. Post Office Building Mowad
26. Post Office PCNTD, Pune City
27. Sahakar Ngar, Pune City
28. Sant Tukaram Nagar, Pune City
29. Kopargaon, Ahmednagar District
30. Vijayanagar, Pune City
31. Gurunanak Nagar, Sholapur City
32. Yerwada, Pune City
33. Lonand, Pune District
34. Ranjangaon Ganpati, Pune District
35. Mangalwedha, Sholapur District

[English]

### **Financial Corporation**

6700. SHRI BRAHMANAND  
MANDAL:  
SHRI TEJ NARAYAN  
SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a financial corporation for the telecom system in the country;

(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 COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The proposal of Department of Telecom to set up a Telecom. financial corporation has been dropped.

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

[Translation]

### **Telephones out of order in Delhi**

6701. DR. AMRIT LAL KALIDAS PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints received by Delhi Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited in Delhi from January to March, 1994 regarding the telephones remaining out of order;

(b) the Zone-wise details thereof; and

(c) the time taken for redressal of each complaint?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Sir, the number of complaints received by Delhi Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd. from January to March '94 regarding the telephones remaining out of order is 686929 which works out to 7633 complaints on an average per day, for a system of over 8 lakh working lines.

(b) Area wise details are given in the attached *Statement*.

(c) Around 75% of the faults booked were cleared on the same day and almost all by the following day. Telephone faults on account of underground cable breakdowns arising due to damage by other utility services or cable theft take a little longer to rectify. Most of these faults however got cleared within three days.

**STATEMENT**

*No. of complaints received in Delhi from January '94 to March '94  
details Area-wise*

| Area    | Jan. 1994 | Feb. 1994 | March 1994 |
|---------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Central | 20023     | 17496     | 19269      |
| East    | 63754     | 57044     | 61483      |
| North   | 50861     | 43443     | 45088      |
| South   | 57666     | 48385     | 44860      |
| West    | 52002     | 49883     | 55672      |
| Total   | 244306    | 216251    | 226372     |

[English]

(e) if so, the details thereof?

**Investment by Canada in Power  
Sector**

6702. SHRI BOLLA BULLI  
RAMAIAH:  
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY:  
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUD-  
DIN OWAISI:

Will the Minister of POWER be  
pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of  
Canada has shown keen interest to  
invest in power sector of India;

(b) whether any trade delegation  
from Canada have visited India;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any agreement have  
been signed between the two countries;  
and

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V.  
RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir.  
A six member Power Mission from Canada  
sponsored by Canada's Department of  
Foreign Affairs & International Trade had  
visited India from 22nd November to 3rd  
December, 1993.

(d) and (e). No Government to  
Government agreement has been signed.

[Translation]

**Construction of New Ports**

6703. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will  
the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT  
be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have  
received any proposal from Gujarat  
regarding construction of new ports;

(b) if so, the proposed locations and the date on which these proposals were received; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

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

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

[English]

#### **New Doordarshan Satellite Channels**

6704. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are several complaints and litigation against the proposed New Doordarshan Satellite Channels;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to improve the procedure and systems in allotting the time slots?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The complaints and litigation in the courts at Delhi, Bombay and Madras were mainly against the adoption of the 'first come first served' method of allotment of time slots on these channels under the scheme drawn up for this purpose.

(c) After the striking down of the said scheme by the Delhi High Court in

September, 1993, the programming on these channels is being done, from November, 1993, on sponsorship, commissioned and royalty basis as was being done in the past for the primary channel.

[Translation]

#### **Supply of F-16s to Pakistan**

6705. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:  
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:  
SHRI RAM SINGH KASHWAN:  
SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:  
SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the issue of US supply of F-16 fighter aircrafts to Pakistan was raised with the US Deputy Secretary of State during his recent visit to India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the US Official thereto?

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

(b) Government conveyed that the US proposal to transfer F-16 aircraft to Pakistan was a matter of deep concern for India. The F-16 aircraft would augment Pakistan's strike capabilities by providing extra delivery systems. Pakistan's acquisitions of sophisticated military equipment have been traditionally directed

against India. Government would have to reappraise India's defence requirements and take adequate steps to safeguard India's security.

US Deputy Secretary of State conveyed that the US proposal to seek a one-time waiver of the Pressler Amendment to allow supply 38 F-16 aircraft and other military equipment to Pakistan in return for a verifiable cap on Pakistan's production of fissile material was a bilateral proposal with Pakistan. Capping of Pakistan's fissile material production capability in the US perception would enhance India's security.

[English]

### **Ring Road in Delhi**

6706. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the Indian Express dated January 11, 1994 regarding the Ring Road in Delhi; and

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

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

(b) The condition of the ring road including its geometrics and riding quality does not justify its being described as "highway to hell". However, an improvement scheme for making Ring Road as free way has been drawn up which provides for construction of flyovers/

under-passes, development of inter-sections as well as widening of roads in some stretches etc. at an estimated cost of Rs. 475 crore at 1992 price level.

### **Publishing of India's map by US Company**

6707. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that M/s P.C. Globe, and US Computer company has published a map of India which does not include Jammu and Kashmir; and

(b) if so, whether the matter was taken up with the US Administration; and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (c). Information is being collected and answer will be laid on the Table of the House.

### **Allotment of timeslots in Doordarshan**

6708. SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any guidelines exist regarding allotment of time-slots on Delhi Doordarshan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether the Government propose to formulate such guidelines; and

(d) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b). Time slots are allotted for sponsored programmes of different kinds viz serials, sports events etc. based on Doordarshan's programme requirements from time to time. The guidelines laid down by Doordarshan in this regard require the submission of pilots by the applicants other than those for the live coverage of events, or their highlights, and their subsequent evaluation by a Committee consisting of Doordarshan officials.

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

[Translation]

#### Advertisements on Doordarshan

6709. SHRIMATI SAROJ  
DUBEY:  
SHRI AMAR  
ROYPRADHAN:

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

(a) whether the Government are aware that the advertisements shown on Doordarshan are extremely vulgar;

(b) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to check the telecast of such advertisements;

(c) whether the Government propose to amend its present Censorship Policy to make it more effective; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) No, Sir. It is Doordarshan's constant endeavour to telecast only such advertisements which conform to the laws of the country and do not, *inter-alia*, offend the morality, decency and the religious susceptibilities of the people.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The present Code for Commercial Advertising on Doordarshan, which is reviewed from time to time, is considered adequate.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

#### Crane service on National Highways

3710. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce crane service on National Highways to remove vehicles which break down on such highways; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Under National Highway Patrolling Scheme the Government have been providing financial assistance to the selected States keeping in view the intensity of accidents, for procurement of Cranes and Ambulances. During the last

financial year six States namely Rajasthan, U.P., Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab and West Bengal—were provided such assistance.

### **Night service of DTC Buses**

6711. SHRI SHIVLAL NAGJIBHAI VEKARIA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether only one night service DTC bus 011 operates between New Delhi Railway Station and Rohini;

(b) if so, whether the night service buses are plied to cover both the New Delhi and Old Delhi railway stations, I.S.B.T. and all the newspaper offices and cinema houses en-route;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to change the route of 011 night service bus covering Old Delhi Railway Station or divert the route of the bus 093 from Old Delhi Station to Sultanpuri to cover Naharpur;

(d) if so, by what time; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

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

(e) Routes No. 011 and 093 are well established routes. Moreover, route No. 094 is already serving the commuters of Naharpur en-route Old Delhi Railway Station to Sultanpuri.

[Translation]

### **Target for Post-Offices in Uttar Pradesh**

6713. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any target was fixed by the Government for the opening of Post-Offices in Uttar Pradesh during 1993-94;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b). A target for opening of 93 Extra Departmental Branch Post-offices and 12 Departmental Sub-offices was fixed.

(c) The number of Post-offices opened during 1993-94, district-wise is given in the attached *Statement*.

**STATEMENT***Post offices opened during 1993-94 in Uttar Pradesh, district-wise*

| Sl. No. | Name of District | No. of Post offices opened             |                               |
|---------|------------------|--|-------------------------------|
|         |                  | Extra Departmental branch post offices | Departmental Sub-post offices |
| 1.      | Allahabad        | 4                                      | —                             |
| 2.      | Agra             | 1                                      | —                             |
| 3.      | Aligarh          | 1                                      | —                             |
| 4.      | Almora           | 2                                      | —                             |
| 5.      | Azamgarh         | 1                                      | —                             |
| 6.      | Badaun           | 2                                      | —                             |
| 7.      | Bareilly         | 1                                      | —                             |
| 8.      | Bijnor           | 2                                      | —                             |
| 9.      | Basti            | 2                                      | —                             |
| 10.     | Ballia           | 2                                      | —                             |
| 11.     | Bahraich         | 2                                      | —                             |
| 12.     | Barabanki        | 9                                      | —                             |
| 13.     | Chamoli          | 1                                      | —                             |
| 14.     | Deoria           | 1                                      | —                             |
| 15.     | Fatehpur         | 2                                      | —                             |
| 16.     | Farrukhabad      | 1                                      | —                             |
| 17.     | Faizabad         | 4                                      | —                             |
| 18.     | Ghazipur         | 2                                      | —                             |
| 19.     | Ghaziabad        | 3                                      | 4                             |
| 20.     | Gonda            | 4                                      | —                             |
| 21.     | Gorakhpur        | 5                                      | —                             |



| Sl. No. | Name of District | No. of Post offices opened             |                               |
|---------|------------------|--|-------------------------------|
|         |                  | Extra Departmental branch post offices | Departmental Sub-post offices |
| 22.     | Jaunpur          | 3                                      | —                             |
| 23.     | Kheri            | 4                                      | —                             |
| 24.     | Kanpur City      | 2                                      | —                             |
| 25.     | Kanpur (M)       | 2                                      | —                             |
| 26.     | Lucknow          | 4                                      | 6                             |
| 27.     | Mirzapur         | 3                                      | —                             |
| 28.     | Mainpuri         | 1                                      | —                             |
| 29.     | Moradabad        | 2                                      | —                             |
| 30.     | Muzaffarnagar    | 1                                      | —                             |
| 31.     | Pratapgarh       | 1                                      | —                             |
| 32.     | Pithoragarh      | 4                                      | —                             |
| 33.     | Pauri Garhwal    | 1                                      | —                             |
| 34.     | Rai Bareilly     | 3                                      | —                             |
| 35.     | Sitapur          | 2                                      | 2                             |
| 36.     | Sultanpur        | 2                                      | —                             |
| 37.     | Tehri            | 4                                      | —                             |
| 38.     | Unnao            | 1                                      | 1                             |
| 39.     | Varanasi         | 1                                      | —                             |
| Total   |                  | 93                                     | 13                            |

[Translation]

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

**Iron Ore Availability**

6714. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated annual demand and supply of iron ore in Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) whether these States are facing a demand-supply gap problem in the availability of iron ore;

(d) the steps taken by Government to increase the production of iron-ore and sponge-iron in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The demand for iron ore in the State of Madhya Pradesh as estimated by the Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM), Nagpur, based on consumption data reported by the organised sector and its production during the last 3 years is given below:

| Year    | Demand              | Production          |
|---------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1990-91 | 5.76 million tonnes | 12.3 million tonnes |
| 1991-92 | 6.24 million tonnes | 13.8 million tonnes |
| 1992-93 | 6.44 million tonnes | 14.2 million tonnes |

No production of iron ore has so far been reported from Uttar Pradesh. Demand for iron ore in the State is also currently reported to be negligible.

(b) and (c). No specific problems relating to demand-supply gap in respect of iron ore in these two States have come to the notice of Government.

(d) Among the steps taken by Government to help increase the production of iron ore and sponge iron in the country are:

by the public sector) has been opened to the private sector.

- (ii) The mining law, which hitherto restricted foreign investment in the mining sector upto a maximum limit of 40%, has been amended so as to permit foreign investment without any upper limit.

**Iron Ore**

- (i) Mining of iron ore (as also of some other minerals earlier reserved for exclusive exploitation

**Sponge Iron**

- (i) Sponge iron has been included in the list of high priority industries for purposes of foreign investment.
- (ii) Customs duty on non coking coal has been reduced from 85% to 35%.

- (iii) Customs duty on iron ore pellets has been recently reduced from 10% to 5%.

[English]

### **Impact of Cable T.V.**

6715. SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is urgent need to take suitable measures to check the undesirable impact of Cable T.V. on the society;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to curb the proliferation of unauthorised video parlours and circulation of pirated or interpolated video cassettes; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken in this regard?

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

(b) and (c). Public exhibition of films (including video cassettes) is covered by the Cinematograph Act, 1952. The responsibility for enforcement of the penal provisions of this Act rests with the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations, who have been requested time and again to strictly enforce the provisions of the Act.

### **Doordarshan facilities in Sundargarh District of Orissa**

6716. KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the people residing in Lephripara and Hemgir Block of Sundargarh district of Orissa are still denied of Doordarshan facilities;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to install a low power T.V. transmitter at Hemgir during the current financial year; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

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

(b) and (c). Whereas, there is no scheme for setting up of TV Transmitter either at Hemgir or at Lephripara blocks in Sundargarh district of Orissa, the places are expected to receive TV service on augmentation of the power of the existing High Power (1 KW) Transmitter at Sambalpur to 10 KW, subject to terrain conditions.

[Translation]

### **Damages to National Highways in Gujarat**

6717. SHRI DILEEP BHAI SANGHANI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the length of the National Highways in Gujarat;

(b) the areas of National Highways in the State damaged due to natural calamities and having heavy density of traffic; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to protect the National Highways from natural calamities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER):  
(a) 1631 km including 93 km long Ahmedabad Vadodara Express-way which is under construction.

(b) and (c). Some heavy trafficked stretches of National Highway No. 8 and 8A get damaged occasionally due to floods and other natural calamities. These are, however, repaired and maintained in traffic worthy condition within the available funds.

[Translation]

#### **Damage to Information and Broadcasting Network in Maharashtra**

6718. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the damage caused to Information and Broadcasting network during the devastating tremors of earthquake occurred in Maharashtra recently; and

(b) the details of the steps taken by the Government to restart the damaged network in the State?

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

DEO): (a) and (b). There has not been any damage to the AIR and Doordarshan broadcasting systems due to the recent earthquake in Maharashtra. However, minor cracks were observed in the walls of the building at AIR Satara. This has not affected the working of the Station.

[Translation]

#### **Telephones to Panchayats in Gujarat**

6719. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Gram Panchayats having telephone facility in Gujarat, district-wise;

(b) the number of Gram Panchayats still without such facility, district-wise;

(c) whether any concrete steps have been taken to provide this facility to the remaining Panchayats; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) As on 1.4.1994, 9075 Panchayat villages in Gujarat were having telephone facility. District-wise details are given in the attached *Statement*.

(b) As on 1.4.1994, 4435 Panchayat villages were without telephone facility. District-wise details are given in the attached *Statement*.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. Government have adopted a policy of covering all the Panchayat villages with Public Telephone

facility by March 31, 1995 and, all the villages by 2000 A.D. subject to availability of resources. These public telephones are being provided mainly on Shared

Radio System working on wireless to ensure maximum coverage on optimum techno-economical basis.

### STATEMENT

*District-wise details of Panchayat Villages in Gujarat provided with and without telephone facility as on 1.4.94*

| Sl. No. | Name of District | Total Panchayat Villages | Panchayat Villages with telephone facility | Panchayat Villages without telephone facility |
|---------|------------------|--------------------------|--|---|
| 1.      | Ahmedabad        | 640                      | 470  | 170   |
| 2.      | Gandhinagar      | 70                       | 41   | 29  |
| 3.      | Baroda           | 906                      | 519  | 387   |
| 4.      | Surat            | 857                      | 433  | 424   |
| 5.      | Rajkot           | 840                      | 512  | 328   |
| 6.      | Bhavnagar        | 853                      | 408  | 445   |
| 7.      | Jamnagar         | 657                      | 363  | 294   |
| 8.      | Nadiad           | 899                      | 899  | -   |
| 9.      | Junagadh         | 921                      | 500  | 421   |
| 10.     | Bhuj             | 604                      | 448  | 156   |
| 11.     | Mehsana          | 1045                     | 877  | 168   |
| 12.     | Vaisad           | 688                      | 420  | 268   |
| 13.     | Dangs            | 70                       | 9  | 61  |
| 14.     | Himatnagar       | 673                      | 640  | 33  |
| 15.     | Palanpur         | 825                      | 590  | 235   |

| Sl. No. | Name of District | Total Panchayat Villages | Panchayat Villages with telephone facility | Panchayat Villages without telephone facility |
|---------|------------------|--------------------------|--|---|
| 16.     | Surendranagar    | 620                      | 544  | 76  |
| 17.     | Bharuch          | 712                      | 526  | 186   |
| 18.     | Godhra           | 1052                     | 489  | 563   |
| 19.     | Amreli           | 556                      | 370  | 186   |
| 20      | Union Territory  | 22                       | 17   | 5   |
| Total   |                  | 13510                    | 9075                                       | 4435  |

[English]

#### **Doordarshan Coverage**

6720. SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) Whether several State Government have urged the Union Government for the wider Doordarshan coverage in their respective States and also for more time for regional language programmes; and

(b) if so, the steps the Union Government have taken in this regard?

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

(b) In addition to Programme Production Centres and T.V. Transmitters

already functioning in the country, 30 new Programme Production Centres and 370 Transmitters of varying powers are under implementation envisaged to be set-up in various States/Union Territories for extension of National/Regional services in the country.

#### **Bridge on Trivandrum-Kanyakumari National Highway**

6721. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to renew or replace the old bridge across Kuzhithurai river on the Trivandrum Kanyakumari National Highway; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE

**TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER):**

(a) and (b). Reconstruction of bridge across Kuzhithurai is provided in the Eighth Five Year Plan. Estimate for acquisition of land required for approaches to the bridge has been sanctioned in first instance.

**Achievements of Lobbyists**

6722. SHRI SANT RAM SINGLA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the lobbyists firm appointed by the Government in the US has made any achievements;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Centre for Strategic and International Studies of Washington has requested for any grant to set up an Indian Chair; and

(d) if so, the response of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) and (b). The law Firm, M/s McAuliffe, Kelly and Raffaelli appointed by the Government in the US is supplementing the efforts of our Mission and Posts to counter motivated anti-India propaganda and thereby strengthen our publicity efforts in the US.

(c) The Centre for Strategic and International Studies of Washington has launched an effort to raise funds from private business organisations in the USA and India to establish an Indian Chair at the CSIS.

(d) Government of India have encouraged this effort.

**Ice-Cream**

6723. SHRI B. DEVARAJAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to produce and market ice-cream at subsidised rates; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

**Power Project in M.P.**

6724. SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of ongoing power projects in Madhya Pradesh and their estimated power generation capacity;

(b) the target fixed for the completion of these projects and the amount allocated to each power projects separately;

(c) the progress made towards the completion of these projects so far project-wise; and

(d) the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (d). Details of sanctioned/ongoing power generation projects are given in the attached *Statement*.

## STATEMENT

| Sl. No.        | Name of the project/<br>Unit                 | Capacity<br>(MW) | Commissioning<br>Schedule | Approved<br>Outlay<br>(Rs. in crs.) | Status  |
|----------------|--|------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Hydro</b>   |  |                  |                           |                                     |   |
| 1.             | Bansagar Tons<br>PH-II & III                 | 2x15 +<br>3x20   | 1996-97                   | 62.00                               | Executing agency of PH-II under finalisation. Civil works of PH-III and common water carrier under progress.  |
| 2.             | Bansagar Tons<br>Ph.IV                       | 2x10             | 1996-97                   | —                                   | Finalisation of executing agency is under progress.   |
| 3.             | Hasdeo Bango                                 | 3x40             | 1994-95                   | 12.00                               | Unit-1 Commissioned. Erection of Unit-2 & 3 under progress.   |
| 4.             | Narmada Sagar<br>(Indira Sagar)              | 3x125            | 2000-03                   | 151.84                              | Infrastructure works under progress. Execution of Dam PH, HRC and TRC are in progress and civil works for main dam and PH awarded. Tenders for Gen. units are under scrutiny. |
| 5.             | Bodhghat<br>(Indira Sarover)                 | 4x125            | Beyond 9th<br>Plan        | 0.10                                | Works on the project discontinued for want of forest clearance. World Bank assistance of US\$ 300.4M cancelled due to inordinate delay in clearance from MDEF.                |
| 6.             | Rajghat (50% share)<br>U.P./M.P.             | 3x15             | 1995-97                   | 25.00<br>(M.P. share)               | Civil works of dam in advanced stage and of PH in progress. Supply of embedded parts in progress.   |
| 7.             | Sardar Sarover (50% share)<br>Guj./M.P./Mah. | 6x200 +<br>5x50  | 1997-2000                 | 40.00<br>(M.P. share)               | Civil works of main dam VS dam & other civil works are in progress. Erection of CHPH units in hand.   |
| 8.             | Maheshwar (Private)                          | 10x40            | 9th Plan                  | —                                   | Civil works of D/s coffer dam completed by MPEB. Execution of the project has been given to M/s S. Kumar's, Bombay.   |
| 9.             | Tawa LBC (Private Sector)                    | 2x6              | 9th Plan                  | —                                   | Execution under private Sector.   |
| <b>Thermal</b> |  |                  |                           |                                     |   |
| 1.             | Sanjay Gandhi Extn.<br>Unit 3 & 4            | 2x210            | 1997-98<br>1998-99        | 48.04                               | Excavation in boiler area has started.  |
| 2.             | Pench Unit 1 & 2                             | 2x210            | —                         | —                                   | Posed for Private Sector participation.   |
| 3.             | Korba West Extn.<br>Unit 5 & 6               | 2x210            | —                         | —                                   | -do-  |



[English]

### **Immigration Rules**

6725. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to make immigration rule more strict and comprehensive as a result of labour standard being raised at the GATT agreement; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

### **Sale of Post Cards**

6726. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Dakghar ke bajai karmiyaon ke ghar se bikte hai postcard" appearing in the 'Dainik Jagran' dated April 13, 1994;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

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

(b) and (c). No instances of postcards being sold at the residences

of employees has come to notice. There was shortage of postcards in Fatehgarh Head Post Office during the first week of April, 1994. The shortage has been met by arranging adequate supplies from Circle Stamps Depot, Kanpur, while large quantities of postcards are used in various quiz contests on Doordarshan, the shortage cannot be ascribed to this alone. However, wherever shortages of postcards have come to notice on occasions, adequate replenishments have been made.

### **Attacks on Indian Fishermen by Sri Lankan Navy**

6727. DR. Y.S. RAJASEKHAR REDDY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Sri Lanka are implementing Kachatheevu Accord in order to solve the problems of Indian fishermen; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSEED): (a) and (b). Within the legal framework of the Maritime Boundary Agreements of 1974 and 1976 between India and Sri Lanka, the two countries have been discussing ways and means to solve the problems of fishermen in the Palk Straits. The last round of discussions at the level of senior officials was held in Colombo on 8-9 March, 1994. During these discussions, the two sides agreed to implement effectively the measures devised during Foreign Secretary level talks in October, 1993 to prevent incidents affecting Indian fishermen. These measures relate to (i) precautions to be observed by fishermen; and (ii) steps to

be taken by Sri Lankan Navy to avoid harassment of innocent fishermen. The issue was also discussed during the visit of the Foreign Minister of Sri Lanka to New Delhi from 21-22 April, 1994. The two Governments are agreed on continuing the process of bilateral discussions on this subject.

### **Marine Communication Centre**

6728. SHRI SULTAN  
SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:  
SHRI BOLLA BULLI  
RAMAIAH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a marine communication centre with facilities for shore to sea wireless communication with fishing boats proposed to be set up in Tuticorin fishing harbour; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No, Sir. There is no such proposal with the Ministry of Communications.

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

### **Electronic Exchanges in Kerala**

6729. SHRI THAYIL JOHN  
ANJALOSE:  
SHRI MULLAPALLY  
RAMCHANDRAN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of electronic exchanges commissioned in Kerala during 1992-93 and 1993-94;

(b) whether there is any proposal to set-up new electronic exchanges in the State during 1994-95;

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

(d) whether the Government propose to develop/modernise the telephone exchanges in Kerala during rest of the Eighth Plan period; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The number of electronic exchanges commissioned in Kerala during 1992-93 and 1993-94 are 218 and 57 respectively.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) District-wise details of new electronic exchanges proposed to be commissioned during 1994-95 are given in the attached *Statement*.

(d) 8th Plan objective of D.O.T. is to replace small and medium sized electro-mechanical exchanges (Line finder type) subject to availability of funds and equipment.

(e) All the small electro-mechanical exchanges have already been replaced by electronic exchanges. 27 medium sized electro-mechanical exchanges (Line finder type) have also been recognised for replacement in the Eighth Five Year Plan.

**STATEMENT**

*District-wise details of new Electronic Telephone Exchanges proposed to be commissioned during 1994-95*

|                    |    |
|--------------------|----|
| 1. Alleppey        | 2  |
| 2. Calicut         | 5  |
| 3. Malappuram      | 5  |
| 4. Wynad           | 1  |
| 5. Cannanore       | 10 |
| 6. Kasargod        | 3  |
| 7. Kottayam        | 2  |
| 8. Ernakulam       | 7  |
| 9. Idukki          | 2  |
| 10. Palghat        | 2  |
| 11. Pathanamthitta | 4  |
| 12. Quilon         | 3  |
| 13. Trichur        | 4  |
| 14. Trivandrum     | 6  |

**Regional Language Films on  
Doordarshan**

6730. SHRI PROBIN DEKA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the norms for telecast of regional language films on Doordarshan;

(b) whether some regional language films are given preferential treatment for telecast on Doordarshan;

(c) whether the Government propose to increase the number of Assamese films for telecast; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Doordarshan telecasts regional language films offered to it in its national network by rotation in alphabetical order.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. Since February, 1994, in addition to the primary channel, Assamese films are also now being telecast on one (DD-5) of the three satellite channels earmarked exclusively for regional language programmes.

**Purchase of Port RAX**

6731. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the basic objective of the procurement policy for purchase of 128 Port RAX, and other C-DOT switching equipments meant for providing communication facilities in rural areas;

(b) whether DOT had indicated purchase of 1500 Nos. of 128 Port RAX when the procurement policy was announced;

(c) if so, the reasons for placing order for 500 Nos. only;

(d) whether the above-mentioned order of 500 Nos. which was placed from DOT Headquarters is not being honoured by the Chief General Managers of various regions;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the details of the plans of DOT to procure RAX during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Basic objective of procurement policy, for purchase of 12 Port RAX and other C-DOT switching equipments is to induct reliable switching equipments in telecom. network; while RAX is normally used in rural areas, higher capacity C-DOT exchanges are usually used in towns.

(b) Yes, Sir. A tender was floated for 1500 Nos. of RAXs for commissioning 1,32,000 lines during 1993-94.

(c) Only 500 Nos. were actually ordered to be procured since at the time of ordering, after processing of the tender the requirement of the Circles was again reviewed and it was found that in view of the availability of switch of 256 Port capacity having additional facility of digital trunking, the requirement of 128 Port had come down. The ordered quantity was, therefore, distributed as 500 Nos. of 128 Port C-DOT RAX and 500 Nos. of 256 Port C-DOT RAX, keeping the total number of lines more or less at 1,32,000.

(d) and (e). A few of the Circles had not initially placed purchase orders on the firms allotted to them. This was mainly due to paucity of funds. However, after instruction from the Headquarters most of the Chief General Managers have placed Purchase Orders.

(f) Tentative plan for procurement of RAXs (128 Port and 256 Port RAX) during 1994-95 is about 1380 Nos. as shown below:

128 P – 216 Nos.

256 P – 1164 Nos.

[Translation]

### Allocation for Strategic Roads

6732. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government allocate special funds to those States for the maintenance of the roads where Defence work is undertaken by Army;

(b) if so, the details of the funds allocated for his purpose, State-wise;

(c) the year-wise funds allocated to Rajasthan for the maintenance of roads falling in the Western Areas of the State from 1989-90 till date;

(d) whether an amount of Rupees 1.25 lakhs has been provided to Rajasthan State so far this purpose;

(e) the time by which the remaining amount is likely to be provided; and

(f) whether the Union Government propose to enhance this amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (f). The Ministry of Defence projects its development requirements for strategic roads to Ministry of Surface Transport which gets the work executed through concerned States or B.R.D.B.

No funds are provided by the Central Government to the concerned States for the maintenance of such roads.

[Translation]

### Processing of Fish in Bihar

6733. SHRI PREM CHAND RAM: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state the quantum of processed fish produced in Bihar during the financial year 1992-93 and its rupee value thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): Fish production in Bihar in 1992-93 was 164070 MTs. Being an inland State, about 97% of the fish catch is marketed in fresh/iced condition. The remaining 3% of the catch is disposed of for miscellaneous purposes. There is no significant processing of fish in Bihar by canning, freezing, curing and reduction to fish meal etc.

[English]

### National Highways

6734. SHRI K. MURALEE DHARAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the measures taken for the development and maintenance of National Highways passing through Kerala during the last three years; and

(b) the details of steps taken to check accidents on National Highways in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). The development and maintenance of National Highways in the

country including the State of Kerala is a continuous process and National Highways are kept in traffic worthy condition within the available funds. During the last three years (1991-92 to 1993-94) a total allocation of Rs. 75.09 crore has been made for development and maintenance of National Highways. The improvements on National Highways help in reducing accidents.

[Translation]

### Cost of Gold Extraction

6735. SHRI HARCHAND SINGH: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of gold mines where gold extraction is not cost-effective; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) The only public sector undertaking under the administrative control of Ministry of Mines, which is engaged in gold mining operations is Bharat Gold Mines Ltd. (BGML). The gold mines operated by B.G.M.L. viz Mysore-Champion Amalgamated Mine and Nundydroog mine located in Kolar District, Karnataka; Yeppamana Mine located in Anantpur District, Andhra Pradesh and Chigargunta and Old Bisanatham Mines located in Chittoor District, Andhra Pradesh are resulting in losses.

(b) B.G.M.L. has now confined its mining operations at Kolar Gold Fields to shallow levels to cut down the costs. In addition, the Company has taken

measures to reduce the cost of production by cutting other expenditure.

[English]

### **National Highways in Karnataka**

6736. SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA:  
Will the Minister of SURFACE  
TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether estimate for the four  
laning of National Highways has been  
submitted by the Karnataka Government;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) when the estimate was  
sanctioned and the total cost thereof?

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

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

### **Passenger and Goods Transport between Paradip and Haldia**

6737. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI:  
Will the MINISTER OF SURFACE  
TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal to  
introduce passenger and goods transport  
in the waterways between Paradip and  
Haldia has been pending with the  
Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the  
steps taken to implement the above  
proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF  
THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE  
TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER):  
(a) The stretch between Paradip and  
Haldia forms part of the country's coastal  
waters. Cargo ships are already operating  
between Paradip and Haldia. The Ministry  
has not received any proposal for the

operation of passenger ships on this  
stretch.

(b) Does not arise.

### **Maritime boundaries with Pakistan and Bangladesh**

6738. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN:  
Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
be pleased to refer to the reply given to  
Starred Question No. 257 on December  
20, 1993 and state:

(a) the progress made in the  
demarcation of maritime boundaries with  
Pakistan in the Arabian Sea and  
Bangladesh in the Bay of Bengal;

(b) the exact status of negotiations;  
and

(c) the reasons for the delay in the  
conclusion of an agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
(SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED): (a) to  
(c). A *Statement* is laid on the Table of  
the House.

### **STATEMENT**

#### **Bangladesh**

(a) Eight rounds of talks have been  
held between the Government of India  
and the Government of Bangladesh on  
demarcation of maritime boundary in the  
Bay of Bengal from November, 1974 to  
January, 1982. Despite these talks, no  
substantial progress has been achieved  
so far.

(b) The issue is being pursued  
through diplomatic and other channels in  
order to seek resumption of the above-  
mentioned talks.

(c) No Agreement has been  
concluded because of differences of  
approaches and viewpoints of the two  
sides on substantive issues.

**Pakistan**

(a) to (c). Five rounds of discussions have been held with Pakistan to demarcate the India-Pakistan maritime boundary in the Sir Creek area. At the last round of talks on the issue held at New Delhi on November, 5-6, 1992, the two sides had a detailed exchange of views. However, differences in the interpretation of the boundary in the Sir Creek area persist.

Since the Foreign Secretary level talks between India and Pakistan held at Islamabad from 1-3 January, 1994. Government have conveyed to Pakistan constructive and specific suggestions which can form the basis of a comprehensive and meaningful dialogue on the issue.

**Damodar Valley Corporation**

6739. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Damodar Valley Corporation is planning to seek foreign funds for some of its new projects;

(b) if so, the details of these projects and the estimated capital outlay involved and whether any of them will be located in West Bengal; and

(c) the mode of its seeking international funding?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c). The Maithon Right Bank Thermal Power Project (4 x 210 MW) of the Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) to be set up in District Dhanbad in Bihar has been posed for Japanese financial assistance to the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF) for the year 1994-95. The

latest estimated cost of the project is Rs. 2486.23 crores based on prices in the fourth quarter of 1993.

[Translation]

**Use of NTPC Ash**

6740. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of ash out of the total ash emitted by the various power houses of the National Thermal Power Corporation used for different purposes;

(b) the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are formulating any long-term scheme for the maximum possible use of the N.T.P.C. ash;

(d) if so, the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard;

(e) whether the Government have any scheme for encouraging the private entrepreneurs to take up the work; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). The National Thermal Power Corporation Limited (NTPC) has utilised approximately 7% of the ash produced from its various thermal power stations during the year 1993-94. Out of approximately 15 million tonnes of ash produced during 1993-94, over one million tonne of ash was utilised for various purposes like development of low lying lands, raising of ash dykes, development of waste land, supply of ash to cement and asbestos industry, manufacturers of building products, etc.

(c) and (d). The NTPC has submitted a long term plan to the Government envisaging utilisation of 15% of ash produced by its various thermal power stations by the year 2000 AD. The Plan is being examined by the Government.

(e) and (f). The Government has issued guidelines to power utilities which envisage providing various infrastructural facilities to those entrepreneurs desirous of setting up ash based industries. In tune with the Government guidelines, the NTPC has also framed policy guidelines which envisage providing various infrastructural facilities like land on lease to such entrepreneurs.

[English]

#### **Disconnection of Telephones under Calcutta Telephones**

6741. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of telephones under Calcutta Telephones have been disconnected even after timely payment of telephone bills;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether representations from such subscribers have been received;

(d) if so, the facts thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (e). The information has been called for and the same will be placed on the Table of the House.

#### **Post Office Act Review Committee**

6742. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received the report of the Post Office Act Review Committee;

(b) if so, when;

(c) the recommendations of the Committee regarding courier services;

(d) whether the Government have accepted these recommendations without any change; and

(e) if not, the nature and extent of changes made by the Government and the reasons therefor?

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

(b) In February, 1993.

(c) The recommendation of the Committee regarding courier services was that while the Post should retain the exclusive privilege for carrying letters, it may introduce a system of licensing private couriers for carrying letters weighing over 200 grams and upto 1000 grams, on a fee and subject to terms that may be prescribed by rules.

(d) and (e). No decision has been taken by the Government on the recommendations of the Post Office Act Review Committee.

[Translation]

#### **F.M. station at Bhopal**

6743. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA: Will the Minister of



INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING  
be pleased to state:

(a) whether F.M. station has been installed in Bhopal;

(b) if not, the time by which it is likely to be installed there;

(c) whether the Programme Advisory Committee for Bhopal has been constituted;

(d) the names of the members of the Committee; and

(e) if not, the time by which it is likely to be constituted?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. The names of the members of Programme Advisory Committee for Bhopal are given in the attached *Statement*.

(e) Does not arise.

#### STATEMENT

*Programme Advisory Committee,  
All India Radio, Bhopal*

1. Shri Jagdish Saini  
967, Kamala Nehru Nagar,  
Gate No.4, Jabalpur,  
Madhya Pradesh.
2. Dr. Surendra Kumar Shukla  
Beohari,  
Distt. Shahdol,  
Madhya Pradesh.

3. Shri Hari Khedia  
AT & Post Bijuri,  
Dist. Shahdol,  
Madhya Pradesh.
4. Mrs. Pushpa Singh  
Ramnagar Colliery Bijuri,  
Distt. Shadol,  
Madhya Pradesh.
5. Ms. Mabel Rebello  
L/7, Triveni Complex,  
Roshanpur,  
Bhopal-462 003.
6. Dr. Lakhan Ahirwar  
F9/9, Char Imlī,  
Bhopal-16.
7. Shri Deep Chand Yadav  
45, Buglow Bhopal  
Ex-Chairman, MC,  
Bhopal.
8. Shri Kazim Ali Khan  
Shyamla Kothi,  
Shyamla Hills,  
Bhopal.
9. Shri P.C.Sharma  
S-1/7, 11 Qrs.  
Bhopal.
10. Shri Amrik Singh  
Ex-Chairman,  
Standing Committee Bhopal  
Municipal Corporation,  
Ranjit Hotel,  
Bhopal.
11. Smt. Indira Iyengar  
Arera Colony,  
Bhopal.
12. Shri Khalid Alim Khan  
Ex-Chairman,  
Standing Committee  
MC, Bhopal, Idgah Hills,  
Bhopal.

[English]

### Privatisation of Granite Mines

6744. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to privatise Granite mines in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether some mines have already been handed over to the private sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) Mining of Granite by Private Sector is already permitted.

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

### AIR / T.V. Kendras

6745. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state the criteria adopted for selection of sites for setting up of Radio Stations and Doordarshan Kendras?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): The criteria for selection of sites for All India Radio and Doordarshan include, *inter alia*, factors such as transmitter mode and technical suitability;

extent of resultant coverage to rural and urban population; provision of service to hilly, backward, tribal, remote sensitive and border areas; availability of basic infrastructural facilities. Locations with historical and cultural importance are also taken into consideration for selecting sites.

Establishment of TV programme production facilities at various places is governed by the following parameters:

- (i) Establishment of programme production facilities at the capital of each State.
- (ii) At selected places of cultural importance.
- (iii) At selected relay centres to cater to the local needs.

### Proposal of U.S. investment in India

6746. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN:  
SHRI RAM KAPSE:  
SHRI ANNA JOSHI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether he had visited United States of America and United Kingdom to discuss foreign investment in power sector;

(b) if so, the response he got from the investors and corporations in those countries; and

(c) the names of power plants proposed to be set up under the private sector involving foreign investment?

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

(b) As on date proposals have  
been received for setting up of 25 power  
projects from private companies based  
on UK and USA as detailed below:—

| Sl. No. | Name of the country | No. of projects | Installed capacity (MW) | Provisional cost (Rs. in Crores) |
|---------|---------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1.      | U.S.A.              | 22              | 11589                   | 38122                            |
| 2.      | U.K.                | 3               | 2050                    | 6525                             |

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

### STATEMENT

*Details of expression of interest by private companies based in USA & UK*

| Sl. No. | Name of Project/ State                     | Foreign/ Indian  | Capacity (MW)          | Prov. Cost Estimate (Rs. Crs.) | Name of the Company                          |
|---------|--|------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| 1.      | Jegurupadu GBPP/ (Godavari) Andhra Pradesh | Forgn. (NRI)     | 235.00 (Gas)           | 827.00                         | GVK Industnes, USA                           |
| 2.      | Kakinada GBPP/ (Godavari) Andhra Pradesh   | Forgn. (NRI)     | 208.00 (Gas)           | 748.43                         | Spectrum Power Generation Ltd., USA          |
| 3.      | Visakhapatnam TPS/ Andhra Pradesh          | Forgn. Indian JV | 1000.00 (2x500) (Coal) | 3000.00                        | Ashok Leyland & National Power (U.K.)        |
| 4.      | Amguri GBPP/ Assam                         | Forgn.           | 360.00 (Gas)           | 1280.00                        | Northern Engineering Inc USA/Agra Industries |
| 5.      | Hissar TPS/ Haryana                        | Forgn.           | 500.00 (2x250) (Coal)  | 1000.00                        | Cogentrix Inc. USA                           |
| 6.      | Hibra HEP/ Himachal Pradesh                | Forgn.           | 231.00 (Hydel)         | 708.50                         | Harza Engineering Co. USA                    |

| Sl. No. | Name of Project/<br>State              | Foreign/<br>Indian      | Capacity<br>(MW)            | Prov.<br>Cost<br>Estimate<br>(Rs. Crs.) | Name of the Company  |
|---------|--|-------------------------|-----------------------------|---|--|
| 7.      | Dhamwari HEP/<br>Himachal Pradesh      | Forgn.                  | 70.00<br>(Hydel)            | 245.00                                  | Harza Engineering Co.<br>USA.  |
| 8.      | Mangalore TPS/<br>Karnataka            | Forgn.                  | 1000.00<br>(Coal)           | 5088.00                                 | Cogentrix Inc. USA.  |
| 9.      | Mangalore TPS/<br>Karnataka            | Indian/<br>Forgn.       | 300.00<br>(Coal)            | 900.00                                  | Jaiprakash Industries Ltd./<br>National Power (U.K.)                           |
| 10.     | Almatti Dam HEP/<br>Karnataka          | Forgn./<br>Indian<br>JV | 600.00<br>(Hydel)           | 1800.00                                 | Asia Power Co. Ltd.<br>(TAPCO) USA, Karnataka<br>Power Corporation             |
| 11.     | Hospet TPS/<br>Karnataka               | Forgn.                  | 500.00<br>(1x500)<br>Cocal  | 1350.00                                 | Hok Intercontinental<br>Ltd. USA   |
| 12.     | Raichur St.-V TPS/<br>Karnataka        | Forgn./<br>Indian<br>JV | 500.00<br>(2x250)<br>(Coal) | 1000.70                                 | Public Power Int., Inc.<br>(North East Energy) USA,<br>Karnataka Power Corpon. |
| 13.     | Thrikkaripur TPP/<br>Kerala            | Forgn.                  | 420.00<br>(2x210)<br>(Coal) | 1480.00                                 | M.A. Al-Mazroui Gen<br>Trading Est. UAE<br>Scepture Power Co.,<br>USA.         |
| 14.     | Dabhol CCGT<br>(LNG)/<br>Maharashtra   | Forgn.                  | 2015.00<br>(LNG)            | 9051.27                                 | Enron Power Development<br>Corporation & General<br>Electric Corpn., USA       |
| 15.     | Talcher TPS/<br>Orissa                 | Forgn.                  | 500.00<br>(2x250)<br>(Coal) | 1500.00                                 | Spectrum Technologies<br>USA   |
| 16.     | Kamalanga<br>(Dhankanal TPS)<br>Orissa | Forgn.                  | 500.00<br>(2x250)<br>(Coal) | 1500.00                                 | International Equity<br>Partners, L.P., USA                                    |
| 17.     | Ib Valley TPS/<br>Orissa               | Forgn.                  | 420.00<br>(2x210)<br>(Coal) | 2025.60                                 | AES Corporation, USA   |

| Sl. No. | Name of Project/<br>State              | Foreign/<br>Indian      | Capacity<br>(MW)                     | Prov. Cost<br>Estimate<br>(Rs. Crs.) | Name of the Company  |
|---------|--|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| 18.     | Duburi TPS/<br>Orissa                  | Forgn./<br>Indian       | 500.00<br>(2x250)<br>(Coal)          | 1548.00                              | Kalinga Power Corp./North<br>East Energy Services Inc.,<br>USA/Govt. of Orissa |
| 19.     | Lapanga TPS/<br>Orissa                 | Forgn.                  | 500.00<br>(2x250)<br>(Coal)          | 1750.00                              | Pioneer Energy Inc. USA/<br>Duke Engineering Services,<br>USA                  |
| 20.     | Cuddalore TPS/<br>Tamil Nadu           | Forgn.                  | 1000.00<br>(2x500)<br>(Coal)         | 2000.00                              | International Contracting<br>& Marketing Corpn., USA                           |
| 21.     | Pillaiperumalnallur<br>CCGT/Tamil Nadu | Forgn.                  | 300.00<br>(2x100<br>+1x100)<br>(Gas) | 429.49                               | P Vijaykumar Reddy,<br>MAKOWSKI Associates,<br>USA                             |
| 22.     | Zero Unit (NLC)/<br>Tamil Nadu         | Forgn.<br>(NRI)         | 210.00<br>(1x210)<br>(Lig)           | 750.00                               | ST Power Systems Inc.<br>USA   |
| 23.     | Rosa TPS/<br>Uttar Pradesh             | Forgn./<br>Indian       | 750.00<br>(3x250)<br>(Coal)          | 2625.00                              | Indo-Gulf Fertilizers &<br>Chemicals/Power Genera-<br>tion, U.K.               |
| 24.     | Sagardighi TPS/<br>W. Bengal           | Forgn./<br>Indian<br>JV | 1000.00<br>(2x500)<br>(Coal)         | 2000.00                              | Development Consultant<br>Pvt. Ltd., CMS, USA<br>Generation & WBSEB            |
| 25.     | Dankuni GBPP/<br>W. Bengal             | Forgn.<br>(NRI)         | 20.00<br>(Gas)                       | 40.00                                | Spectrum Technologies<br>USA   |
|         |  |                         | 13639.00                             | 44646.99                             |  |

**D.T.C. Bus service from Gurgaon to Delhi**

6747. SHRI SHASHI PRAKASH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of DTC Buses running from Gurgaon to Delhi and vice-versa is very few;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the route of the DTC Buses, which were passing through Kendriya Terminal in recent past running from Gurgaon to Shivaji Stadium and vice-versa has been changed;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government propose to restore the old route keeping in view the problems of Central Government employees who are mostly working in nearby area of Kendriya Terminal;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) No, Sir. DTC has provided adequate services from various places in Delhi to Gurgaon and vice-versa.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. The route has been changed by DTC due to uneconomical operation.

(e) No, Sir.

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

(g) DTC can not afford to operate its buses on uneconomical Inter-State routes.

**Films shown on National Channel by Doordarshan**

6748. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether for sometime past the general public have adversely commented upon the quality of films shown by Doordarshan on the National Channel;

(b) if so, whether with a view to avoid public criticism, Doordarshan has evolved a new policy in regard to showing films on National Channel;

(c) if so, the main features of the new policy;

(d) when the new policy is likely to be implemented; and

(e) the details of other measures taken to improve the other programmes on the National Channel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) to (d). No, Sir. The Scheme of sponsored films introduced by Doordarshan in the latter half of 1993 has received a favourable response from the viewers. Now Doordarshan invites offers for films and then makes a selection instead of the earlier arrangement wherein *suo-moto* offers were considered by it in the order in which they were received.

(e) The programme format of the channels of Doordarshan including the primary channel, was revised in February, 1994 in order to cater to the diverse needs of the widest cross section of its viewers.

**Doordarshan announcement of extension of Parliament Session**

6749. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KAHNDURI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Doordarshan has announced that the Parliament Session had been extended upto 18 May, 1994;

(b) if so, whether an enquiry has been conducted as to how this incorrect and unauthorised announcement was made;

(c) the details of the findings of enquiry and action taken thereon; and

(d) if no enquiry was done, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. The said news item, which was subsequently corrected by Doordarshan, was based on newspaper reports. To avoid the recurrence of a similar mistake in the future, appropriate instructions have been issued for prior verification of such news from the authorised representatives before their inclusion in the news bulletins.

(d) Does not arise.

**Mineral deposits survey in Arunachal Pradesh**

6750. SHRI LAETA UMBREY: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Geological Survey of India has carried out any survey of mineral deposits in Arunachal Pradesh recently; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. During the Field Season 1992-93, Geological Survey of India carried out detailed investigations for lead-zinc mineralisation in Vasudhara-Amritganga, Mukatang and Shergaon blocks, West Kameng district, preliminary investigation for gold and platinoids in Vijaynagar area in Changlang district and for limestone in East Siang district, Arunachal Pradesh. Further work is in progress.

As a result of survey carried out by GSI, a total reserve of 93 million tonnes of good quality coal, with low ash and phosphorus content in Namchik-Namphuk area of Changlang district, 91 million tonnes of cement grade limestone near the confluence of Tidding and Tellu rivers of Lohit district and 185 million tonnes of dolomite of Rupa which extends further on either side towards Jamiri and Cheliepam have been proved.

**U.S. Assam State Electricity Board agreement in Power Sector**

6751. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Assam State Electricity Board has signed any MOU with an USA based Company to set up a gas-based power plant in Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time frame fixed for the completion of plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c). A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed on 10.6.1993 between the Assam State Electricity Board (ASEB) and M/s N.E.I. Agra Inc. (USA) for installation of a 360 MW gas-based combined cycle power plant at Amguri in Assam. As per, the MOU, the estimated cost of the project is US Dollars 400 million. The NEI shall prepare a Detailed Project Feasibility Report, arrange for financing of the project, sell the output of power under a mutually acceptable power purchase agreement. The ASEB, on the other hand, would arrange for necessary clearance/permits from the Government, gas supply pipeline of adequate capacity to the plant site and provide for power evacuation facilities. The time for completion of the project can be estimated after completion of all formalities and placement of order for plant and equipment.

#### **Appointment of Lobbyists**

6752. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the practice of lobbying is prevalent in any other country or groups of countries as in the case of the US;

(b) if so, the details thereof:

(c) whether the Government propose to appoint lobbyists in these countries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) No, Sir. While, in other countries, the role of pressure groups and NGOs is increasing, there is as yet no established culture of professional lobbyists as it exists in the USA.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Forces on Indo-Pak Border**

6753. SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indo-Pak negotiations have resulted in any withdrawal of the forces from the Indo-Pak border;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (c). At the seven rounds of Foreign Secretary-level talks held between India and Pakistan, in pursuance of the Confidence Building Package proposed by India in May 1990, there have been



discussions on Confidence Building Measures including those of a military nature.

As a result of these talks, the Director Generals Military Operations of the two countries are in regular touch with each other; two agreements have been concluded on Advance Notice of Military Exercises, Manoeuvres and Troop Movements and on Prevention of Airspace Violations by Military Aircraft; a joint declaration on total prohibition of the use, production, etc. of chemical weapons has been issued and a bilateral agreement on prohibition of attack against nuclear installations and facilities has been ratified.

- There have been no negotiations with Pakistan on the withdrawal of forces from the Indo-Pakistan border.

#### **New trading bloc in South Asian Region**

6754. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is not a member of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, European Economic Community and North American Free Trade Agreement;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to take some initiative to form a new trading bloc of the countries in South Asian Region; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) and (b). As a South-Asian country, India is a member of its own regional group *i.e.* South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC). India is not a member of the European Economic Community or the North American Free Trade Agreement. India has expressed its interest in joining the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC). The membership of APEC has so far been limited to certain littoral states of Pacific Ocean. The APEC Summit at Seattle in November 1993, has decided to freeze the admission of new members until 1997. However, India expects to be associated with some of the work programme of APEC.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Irregularities in selection of Doordarshan Serials**

6755. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether serious financial irregularities have occurred in the commissioned and sponsored programme produced for Doordarshan by private producers;

(b) if so, whether selected sponsored serials made by private producers fall in this category;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Public Accounts Committee had discovered such irregularities; and

(e) if so, the follow-up action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) to (d). While no financial irregularities have been reported in respect of Sponsored Programmes, the following inadequacies/short-comings have been mentioned in the Report of Public Accounts Committee in respect of commissioned programmes:

"Absence of planning regarding programme requirements, absence of procedure in the selection/empanelment of producers, defects in the costing techniques, delay in production, delay in telecast of security deposits and deduction of income tax at source, sharing of copyrights with the producers, absence of guidelines/instructions to regulate the administration of the scheme and lack of control of the Ministry over Doordarshan in this regard and certain lapses in maintenance of accounts of Doordarshan."

(e) The recommendations are being examined whereafter suitable remedial action will be taken.

### **Non-Proliferation Treaty**

6756. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the recent reports that the US has passed a new Foreign Assistance Bill which, in the name of repealing Pressler Amendment, empowers that country to impose sanctions against any country that rejects US non-proliferation demands;

(b) whether the Government has been pressurised by any foreign economic or other bodies to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes, Sir. Government have seen reports that the US Administration had put forward proposals to the US Congress aimed at modifying clauses of the existing Foreign Assistance Act relating to the Pressler Amendment. Subsequent reports indicate that US Administration efforts have been unsuccessful.

(b) and (c). No, Sir. Government has consistently maintained that it will not sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty in its present form because of its discriminatory characteristics.

### **Funds for Modernisation of IISCO**

6757. SHRI TARA SINGH:  
SHRI V. SREENIVASA  
PRASAD:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether inadequate availability of funds has brought the modernisation of IISCO to a standstill; and

(b) if so, the steps the Government propose to take to mobilise resources for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI

SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). It has not been possible for Government to take an investment decision for modernisation of Indian Iron and Steel Company Limited (IISCO) due to constraint of resources in Government and Steel Authority of India Limited (of which IISCO is a subsidiary).

Government have, therefore, decided to allow private sector participation in the equity and management of IISCO for the purpose of ensuring expeditious modernisation of its Bumpur Steelworks. Government proposed to introduce a Bill for empowering Government to allow SAIL to transfer its shareholdings in IISCO to private persons for this purpose. The Bill was under consideration of the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Industry which presented its report to Parliament recently.

#### **Telecast of a Film by CBS**

6758. PROF. UMMAREDDY  
VENKATESWARLU:  
SHRI RAM SINGH  
KASHWAN:  
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item appearing in "the Business India" March 14-27, 1994 in regard to telecast of a film on the safety of Indian Nuclear Power Stations, by the American TV network CBS; and

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

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

(b) CBS in its programme "Sixty Minutes" on 13 February, 1994 telecast a film alleging that the Indian nuclear programme was "ambitious, secret and potentially dangerous". It claimed there is high "secrecy and security" surrounding India's nuclear plants. It stated that India's nuclear power programme is "a dangerous failure". It claimed that 146 nuclear accidents had occurred in India last year and five of these had killed people.

Government have stated that the film telecast under the "Sixty Minutes" programme was "a deliberate misrepresentation of facts". A press release issued by the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) on February 15, 1994 said that the CBS team, during their visit to India, had been given detailed explanations on the working of India's nuclear regulatory system but these views seem to have given very little exposure or weightage in the finally aired version. The AERB reassured that the regulatory system and procedures to ensure safety of all nuclear activities in the country, including power generation, are well in place and implemented effectively.

The Embassy of India in Washington issued the above remarks through a press release and also wrote a letter to the Executive Producer of "Sixty Minutes" detailing the high international standards of public health and safety that India maintains at all its nuclear facilities.

#### **Meeting on Tibet**

6759. SHRI GEORGE  
FERNANDES:  
SHRI CHITTA BASU:  
SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY:

SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR  
PATEL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chinese Foreign Ministry has expressed its concern to the Government for not having prevented a meeting on Tibet held in Delhi recently;

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

(c) the impact thereof on the bilateral relations between the two countries?

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

(b) and (c). Government of India was in no way associated with the meeting on Tibet held in New Delhi by some parliamentarians, March 18-20, 1994. Government's position is that Tibet is an autonomous region of China. Under Indian laws, individuals have the right to express their opinion freely. It is Government's hope that non-official activities of certain individuals will not affect the ongoing process of improvement of India-China relations. This position has been conveyed to the Chinese Government.

#### **Mineral exploitation on forest land**

6760. SHRI ANAND RATNA  
MAURYA:  
SHRI N.J. RATHVA:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether mining is carried out in tribal areas;

(b) if so, the details of the number of mining leases granted in the tribal areas during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) if not, whether the Government have evolved any scheme to exploit mineral reserves in forest land;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether under this scheme, tribals would be given right to exploit these mineral reserves;

(f) if so, the conditions laid down therefor; and

(g) the time by which this programme is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) to (g). The information is being collected from various State Governments and will be placed on the Table of the House.

#### **Problems faced by Film industry**

6761. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received a representation from the Film Federation of India regarding various problems faced by the film industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government to resolve the problem;

(c) the details of action taken/ proposed in this regard to provide relief to the film producers, distributors and exhibitors;

(d) whether the Government propose to set up a regular forum/Apex body at the centre for concurrent review of various problems of film industry to evolve pragmatic policies and solutions for problems faced by film industry; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) and (c). Main demands raised in the representation dated 3rd August, 1993 of the Film Federation of India (FFI) were (i) abolition of Entertainment Tax; and (ii) concession in Electricity Tariff. Both the items fall within the jurisdiction of State Governments, Union Territory Administrations. The Minister of Information and Broadcasting has recommended the demands of the FFI to the State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations for sympathetic consideration and favourable decision.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

#### **Setting up of 100% EOU's in Visakhapatnam**

6762. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY:  
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUD-  
DIN OWAISI:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to involve private firms in the setting up of a 100% Export Oriented Aluminium Unit in Visakhapatnam; and

(b) if so, the proposed installed capacity, the expected time of commercial production and the potential for employment generation thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) Government has no proposal to set up 100% Export Oriented Aluminium Unit in Visakhapatnam by itself but will consider proposals for such 100% Export Oriented Aluminium Units from Private Parties.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Damodar Valley Corporation**

6763. SHRI D. VENKATES-  
WARA RAO:  
SHRI BOLLA BULLI  
RAMAIAH:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Damodar Valley Corporation has undertaken a massive programme for increasing power generation;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the present installed capacity of Damodar Valley Corporation including Thermal, Hydel and Gas Turbine generation; and

(c) the extent to which the generation of power will be increased under the programme?

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

(b) The Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) is at present executing the Mejia Thermal Power Project (3x210 MW) at an estimated cost of Rs. 1703.04 crores. Unit-I is scheduled to be commissioned in February, 1995, to be followed by Unit-2 in September, 1995 and Unit-3 in May, 1996. A proposal for setting up the Maithon Right Bank TPS Stage-I (4x210MW) is also under consideration. Further, the following existing power stations of the DVC are covered under a Renovation, Modernisation and Upgrading programme:—

- (1) Bokaro 'A' Thermal Power Station (3x50 MW + 1x55 MW)
- (2) Chandrapura Thermal Power Station (3x120 MW + 3x140 MW)
- (3) Durgapur Thermal Power Station (2x55 MW + 1x140 MW)
- (4) Maithon Hydel Station (3x20 MW)
- (5) Panchet Hydel Station (1x40 MW)

The present installed capacity of the DVC is 2241.50 MW comprising 2007.50 MW Thermal, 144 MW Hydro and 90 MW of Gas Turbine.

(c) Mejia TPP would give an additional generation capacity of 630 MW. The capacity addition proposed in Stage-I of the Maithon TPP is 840 MW. After the implementation of the renovation, modernisation and upgrading schemes the existing stations are also expected to give higher generation.

### **Tata Energy Research Institute**

6764. SHRI KABINDRA PURKA-YASTHA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from Tata Energy Research Institute to set up a branch of the Institute in the North-Eastern Region;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to allow the setting up of the branch for harnessing the energy potential of the region; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

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

[Translation]

### **Mineral Excavation and Export**

6765. DR. P.R. GANGWAR: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of minerals excavated in Bihar during each of the last two years;

(b) whether minerals excavated from the State are exported;

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

(d) the share of Bihar in the income earned through these export?

(b) and (c). The important mineral exported from Bihar are Mica and Iron Ore.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) Position is given in the *Statement* attached.

(d) State-wise details of minerals exported and income earned there from are not being maintained by Government and are therefore not available.

### STATEMENT

*Mineral Production during the years 1991-92 & 1992-93 in Bihar State*

(Value in Rs. '000)

| Mineral       | Unit   | 1991-92 |         | 1992-93 |         |
|---------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|               |        | Qty.    | Value   | Qty.    | Value   |
| Bauxite       | Tonne  | 1084268 | 91897   | 1109529 | 99667   |
| Copper Ore    | "      | 1187960 | 756752  | 1328067 | 849709  |
| Gold*         | Kg.    | 284     | 91267   | 291     | 105816  |
| Iron Ore      | 000 t. | 10049   | 1007414 | 9902    | 1095193 |
| Manganese Ore | Tonne  | 16821   | 3208    | 22960   | 5466    |
| Silver**      | Kg.    | 17173   | 122914  | 15610   | 106395  |
| Dolomite      | Tonne  | 149061  | 24935   | 184247  | 30687   |
| Felspar       | "      | 3226    | 345     | 4975    | 361     |
| Fireclay      | "      | 49506   | 3156    | 53089   | 3610    |
| Graphite      | "      | 5651    | 1113    | 8020    | 1606    |
| Kaolin        | "      | 38843   | 14418   | 29554   | 13998   |
| Kyanite       | "      | 10116   | 10707   | 5374    | 4946    |
| Limestone     | 000 t. | 1429    | 289051  | 1303    | 240481  |
| Mica (Crude)  | Tonne  | 1887    | 15197   | 1176    | 7195    |

| Mineral                   | Unit  | 1991-92 |       | 1992-93 |       |
|---------------------------|-------|---------|-------|---------|-------|
|                           |       | Qty.    | Value | Qty.    | Value |
| Mica (Waste and Scrap)*** | Tonne | 680     | N.A.  | 550     | N.A.  |
| Ochre                     | "     | 167     | 16    | 90      | 6     |
| Pyrites                   | "     | 130650  | 56833 | 130325  | 56691 |
| Quartz                    | "     | 953     | 98    | 2633    | 212   |
| Quartzite                 | "     | 21225   | 1832  | 6150    | 406   |
| Silica Sand               | "     | 79674   | 10389 | 73458   | 10824 |
| Steatite                  | "     | 4812    | 296   | 3600    | 214   |

\* Gold is recovered as by-product from copper slime.

\*\* In Dhanbad district it is recovered at Tundoo Lead Smelter of HZL from lead concentrates produced in Rajasthan. In Singhbhum district, it is recovered at Moubandar Smelter of HCL from copper slime.

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

[English]

rentals of phones in rural areas at present.

### Rental of Telephones

(b) Does not rise in view of (a) above.

6766. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA:  
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS  
be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government  
propose to reduce the annual rentals of  
telephones in rural area; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF  
THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS  
(SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No, Sir. The  
existing annual rentals of phones in rural  
areas are lower as compared to the  
rentals of phones in urban areas. There  
is also no proposal for reducing the

### Joint Business Council Agreement

6767. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will  
the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be  
pleased to state:

(a) the names of countries with  
whom India has already signed Joint  
Business Council Agreements;

(b) whether some more countries  
have approached India for entering into  
such agreements with them for promotion  
of trade, technology and investment; and



(c) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED): (a) Sir, a list of the names of countries with whom India has signed Joint Business Council Agreements is given in the attached *Statement-I*.

(b) A list of the countries that have approached the JBC in India for entering into such agreements is also given in the attached *Statement-II*.

(c) The Joint Business Council (JBC) is an independent and non-Governmental body that functions under the overall supervision of a Steering Group constituted jointly by Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) and Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry (ASSOCHAM). The JBC plays an important role in promoting India's trade. The primary objective of the JBC is to provide a forum for formal interaction between Indian and foreign private trade and industry organisations and individual entrepreneurs on business related issues. This Ministry and its Missions abroad facilitate such interaction.

#### STATEMENT-I

*Joint Business Council : New Delhi*

*Region-wise Break-up*

|              |             |   |  |
|--------------|-------------|---|--|
| Region I :   | America     | : | Indo-US<br>Indo-Canadian<br>India-Cuba<br>Indo-Argentina<br>Indo-Brazilian<br>Indo-Columbian<br>Indo-Mexican   |
| Region II :  | West Europe | : | Indo-Danish<br>Indo-French<br>Indo-Finnish<br>Indo-Italian<br>Indo-Netherlands<br>Indo-Portugese<br>Indo-Spanish<br>Indo-Swedish<br>Indo-Turkish<br>Indo-Cyprus<br>Indo-UK |
| Region III : | East Europe | : | Indo-Bulgarian<br>Indo-Polish<br>Indo-Hungarian<br>Indo-Romanian<br>Indo-Russian Federation<br>Indo-Yugoslav   |

|             |                            |   |   |
|-------------|----------------------------|---|---|
| Region IV : | West Asia &<br>Africa      | : | Indo-Arab<br>Indo-Ethiopian<br>Indo-Iranian<br>Indo-Kenyan<br>Indo-Nigerian<br>Indo-Mauritius<br>Indo-Bahrain   |
| Region V:   | South & South<br>East Asia | : | Indo-Japan<br>Indo-Korean<br>Indo-Australian<br>Indo-Afghanistan<br>Indo-Bangladesh<br>Indo-China<br>Indo-Indonesian<br>India-Malaysian<br>Indo-Singapore<br>Indo-Sri Lanka<br>Indo-Thailand<br>Indo-New Zealand<br>Indo-Taiwan |

**STATEMENT-II***[Translation]***Proposed JBSCS****National Film Development  
Corporation**

1. India-Morocco
2. India-Uganda
3. India-Philippines
4. India-Slovenia
5. India-Mozambique
6. India-Czech
7. India-Oman
8. India-Gulf Cooperation Council
9. India-Kuwait
10. India-Slovak

6768. SHRI GAYA PRASAD KORI:  
Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND  
BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of revenue which  
the National Film Development Corporation  
gets from the film industry each year; and

(b) the details of the revenue earned  
by N.F.D.C. during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF  
THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND  
BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH  
DEO): The National Film Development

Corporation Limited (NFDC) does not get any percentage of revenue from the film industry.

(b) The revenues earned by the Corporation on account of its business activities for the last three years are as under:—

|         |   |                                    |
|---------|---|------------------------------------|
| 1991-92 | — | Rs. 803.50 lakhs                   |
| 1992-93 | — | Rs. 885.71 lakhs                   |
| 1993-94 | — | Rs. 1475.00 lakhs<br>(Provisional) |

[Translation]

### Ship Repair Yards

6769. SHRI NITISH KUMAR:  
DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH  
SHAKYA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Asian Development Bank has presented any factual position with regard to Ship Repair Yards recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the foreign exchange earned by the Ship Repair Yards during 1993-94?

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

(b) A Study was carried out by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in 1991-

92 to ascertain the current status of the Indian Shiprepair Industry. In their report submitted to the Government in 1992, they have given the factual position as follows:—

- (i) There are 4 large sized Public Sector Shipbuilding/Repair Yards viz. Cochin Shipyard Ltd., Cochin (CSL), Hindustan Shipyard Ltd., Visakhapatnam (HSL), Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Ltd., Calcutta (GRSE) and Mazagon Dock Ltd., Bombay (MDL). Though the above Shipbuilding/Repair Yards own Graving Docks and Wet Repair Berths, currently only two Shipyards viz. CSL & HSL are carrying out repairs to merchant vessels as the facilities at MDL and GRSE are mostly used for building Defence vessels. Only HSL and CSL offer comprehensive Dry docking and repair facilities for merchant ships. They have modern equipment which include adequate workshop facilities, craneage and infra-structure.
- (ii) Among the 3 medium sized Public Sector Shipyards, Goa Shipyard at Vasco-da-gama, engaged in Defence shipbuilding, has no dry dock but undertakes repairs to the relatively smaller crafts at their slipways. Similarly at Calcutta, the Rajabagan Dockyard of CIWTC and Hooghly Dock & Port Engineers Ltd. (HDPE) carry out repairs to IWT vessels and other small crafts.
- (iii) An exclusive Shiprepair Yard with two Floating Dry Docks, alongside

Wet Berths and workshop facilities has been created at Madras Port by a private entrepreneur.

- (iv) In addition, there are a number of small ship-repairers with limited facilities but without owning any dry docks or wet repair berths. They offer their services to ships calling at the respective Ports.
- (v) The Ports at Bombay and Calcutta have dry docks which are very old. The Bombay Port has two dry docks and Calcutta Port has 5 dry docks available for repair of merchant vessels and port craft.

(c) The foreign exchange earned by the Public Sector Shipyards during 1993-94 is approximately US\$ 6.82 lakhs.

[English]

### **Sale of F-16**

6770. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "F-16s sold contrary to US Goals: Ray" appearing in the Observer, dated April 12, 1994;

(b) whether the Government have received any reaction thereon from the US; and

(c) if so, the facts thereof?

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

(b) and (c). US Government have conveyed that their proposal to transfer 38 F-16 aircraft and other military equipment to Pakistan in return for a verifiable cap on Pakistan's production of fissile material is a bilateral proposal. Following US Deputy Secretary of State Mr. Strobe Talbott's visit to Islamabad, the US and Pakistan agreed to proceed with further consideration of the US initiative, with a view to developing an approach acceptable to both the US and Pakistan.

### **Telecom. Equipment**

6771. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to acquire modern telecom equipment on lease basis from private agencies to meet the requirements of expansion programmes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any final decision has been taken in this regard; and

(d) the likely improvement in the telecom scenario as a result thereof?

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

(b) and (c). The Deptt. has finalised arrangement for procurement of 5.7 lakh

telephone lines of large Digital Switching System on lease basis.

(d) The expansion programme of the telecom. services is likely to get a big boost by acquiring equipment on lease basis.

### **Acquisition of Vessels**

6772. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the Government policy with regard to the acquisition of vessels;

(b) whether the Government are allowing shipping companies to acquire vessels; and

(c) if so, the details thereof including the norms fixed therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). Acquisition of ships is open to both private entrepreneurs and public sector companies. Government approval for the acquisition of all categories of vessels except Crude Oil tanker and OSV by private ship owning companies is automatic. This approval would, however, be given only for specific acquisition cases which conform to the age norms prescribed by the Government. Such approval would be valid for a period of 45 days.

In case of other proposals, the private entrepreneur would submit an application for the consideration of Ship

Acquisition Licencing Committee (SALC) which would convey the decision with regard to the issue of licence within 45 days time.

[Translation]

### **Electronic Exchanges in Bihar**

6773. SHRI LALL BABU RAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the electronic exchanges set up in Bihar during the last two years and the number of villages to which S.T.D. facility has been provided; and

(b) the number of such new exchanges proposed to be set up in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) (i) Number of electronic exchanges set up in Bihar during:

|         |   |     |
|---------|---|-----|
| 1992-93 | — | 304 |
| 1993-94 | — | 120 |

(ii) Information regarding number of villages to which STD has been provided is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) (i) Numbers of large capacity new Electronic exchanges planned to be set up during 1994-95 are 8.

(ii) Proposal for setting up of small capacity new Electronic telephone exchanges in future depend upon the availability of 10 minimum registered paid demands for telephone connections at a place. Tentatively 72 numbers of small and Medium capacity exchanges have been allotted to Bihar for 1994-95.

[English]

### **Haj Goodwill Delegation**

6774. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR:  
DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI:  
SHRI SYED  
SHAHABUDDIN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the composition of the Government Haj Goodwill Delegation for Haj 1993 including the names, designations, occupations and State of domicile of each member;

(b) the number of additional persons who accompanied them on Haj;

(c) the duration of their stay in Saudi Arabia;

(d) the total expenditure in Rupees with break up for accommodation, transport, telephone charges or DA, gifts and hospitality;

(e) the brief particulars of the work done by the delegation in Saudi Arabia in terms of personalities called on, Press

Conferences held, statements published etc;

(f) whether the delegation has submitted a report signed by all the members; and

(g) the brief particulars of suggestions and recommendations made for the improvement of Haj Service and whether they are being implemented for Haj 1994?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) The composition of the 18 member Government of India Goodwill Delegation for Haj 1993 including names, designations, occupations and state of domicile of each member is placed at *Statement-I*.

(b) 22 additional persons accompanied the Delegation.

(c) The duration of delegation's stay in Saudi Arabia was 23 days.

(d) Expenditure incurred on the Delegation for Haj 1993 was Rs. 92,25,650/-. Break up of expenditure is attached at *Statement-II*.

(e) The Delegation called on the Saudi Minister of Haj and Aukaf and discussed arrangements made for the pilgrims. Subsequently, the leader of the delegation attended a dinner hosted by the Saudi Minister in Makkah. The Delegation also called on the Governors of Makkah and Madinah. Invitations were extended to the Governors of Makka &

Madinah to pay an official visit to India. Some of the members met the Rector of Madinah Islamic University and visited the Quran Printing Establishment in Madinah. The leader of the Delegation addressed a press conference at the Consulate General of India, Jeddah at which representatives of English and Arabic newspapers were present. The Leader of the Delegation subsequently met individual reporters of some newspapers. Some of the members met eminent Saudi personalities like Imam of the Harsha in Madinah and Chairman of Moassasa.

(f) On return from Saudi Arabia, the Delegation submitted to the Government a report signed by the leader.

(g) The delegation has made a number of suggestions for the

improvement of Haj services. These include arrival of Goodwill Delegation in Saudi Arabia sufficiently in advance to interact with Saudi dignitaries before the Haj, greater cooperation between CHC and CGI, Jeddah, option to pilgrims to make their own arrangements for accommodation in Makkah/Madinah well in advance, better adherence to deadlines in the Haj Action Plan, increase in number of flights in order to reduce pilgrims' stay in Saudi Arabia to 30 days, provision of orientation courses to pilgrims before departure and various administrative suggestions for strengthening the Haj Establishment of the Government of India. These suggestions have been examined in detail and are being implemented on a continuous basis, keeping in view their practicality and necessity and where necessary, the consent of the Saudi side.

#### STATEMENT-I

##### *Composition of the Government of India Goodwill Delegation to HAJ 1993*

- |   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| 1. Shri P.M. Sayeed,<br>Minister of State for<br>Home Affairs       | <i>Leader</i>        |
| 2. Shri Salamtulla  | <i>Deputy Leader</i> |
| 3. Shri Mohd. Akbar Pasha,<br>Member of Parliament,<br>(Tamil Nadu) |                      |
| 4. Mufti Manzoor Sahib of Kanpur<br>(UP)                            |                      |
| 5. Shri Ghulam Rasool Matto,<br>Member of Parliament, Kashmir       |                      |

6. Shri Sayeed Ahmed,  
MLA and exMinister,  
Maharashtra.
7. Maulana Junaid Saheb of Benaras,  
UP
8. Qari Hifzur Rehman of Bihar
9. Shri T.H. Musthaffa,  
Minister of Food,  
Government of Kerala,  
Thiruvananthapuram.
10. Captain Ayub Khan,  
Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha)
11. Maulana Jameel Ahmed Ilyasi  
(All India Immams' Council)
12. Shri Shafaet Husain,  
Member, ZRUCC (NR)  
57, Nag Cinema Road,  
Lucknow.
13. Dr. Mohd. Fazal Rehman,  
Assistant Director,  
Indian Institute of Chemical  
Technology, Hyderabad.
14. Shri Motlur Rehman,  
General Secretary, Bihar, (PCC).
15. Shri Ghulam Rasool Kar,  
President,  
PCC Kashmir.
16. Mohammad Ilyas  
C/o Mohd. Yunus Saleem, MP
17. Shri E.T. Mohammad Bashir,  
Minister of Education,  
Government of the State of Kerala
18. Dr. Qazi Ghazanfar  
Ali  
Joint Secretary,  
Union Public Service Commission,  
New Delhi.

*Member Secretary*



**STATEMENT-II**

*Statement of expenditure incurred on Haj Goodwill Delegation for Haj-1993*

**In Foreign Exchange (Srls.)**

|                   |                     |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Accommodation     | 707,325.50          |
| Transport         | 192,245.00          |
| Telephone charges | 28,299.97           |
| Daily Allowance   | 101,579.00          |
| Total (a)         | <u>1,029,449.47</u> |
| Equivalent to Rs. | 87,50320.00         |

**Indian Currency**

|                    |                    |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Airfare            | 4,39,380.00        |
| Excessa Baggage    | 18,350.00          |
| Contingencies      | 4,600.00           |
| Entertainment      | 7,500.00           |
| Foreign Travel Tax | 5,400.00           |
| Total (b)          | <u>4,75,330.00</u> |
| Grand Total        | 92,25,650.00       |
| (a) + (b)          |                    |

**LPT at Bhadrak, Orissa**

6775. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Low Power T.V. transmitter functioning at Bhadrak in Orissa is not upto the mark;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to convert the said LPT into HPT; and

(c) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) The performance of the Low Power TV Transmitter at Bhadrak was not satisfactory some time back, because of a fault developed in the antenna system due to frequent interruptions in power supply. The fault has since been rectified and the Centre is reported to be functioning normally. However, power supply failures continue to affect the normal transmission from the Centre.

(b) and (c). No, Sir. With a view to strengthen TV service in Baleswar district, a High Power TV Transmitter is

under implementation at Baleshwar. The lead time involved in completion of the project of this magnitude is about 3-4 years after the commencement of civil works at site.

[Translation]

**Revenue and Expenditure on P & T Services in Maharashtra**

6776. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATH-RAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the revenue earned by the Government from the telephone, posts

and telegraph services in Maharashtra during 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 separately; and

(b) the extent of amount spent on these services during the aforesaid period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The Revenue earned by the Government from the Telephone, Posts and Telegraphs services in Maharashtra during the years 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 upto March (Preliminary) Accounts are as under:—

(Rupees in Crores)

|            | 1991-92 | 1992-93 | 1993-94<br>(upto March<br>(pre.) '94 |
|------------|---------|---------|--------------------------------------|
| Telephones | 317.75  | 401.38  | 447.67                               |
| Posts      | 165.38  | 204.00  | 204.15                               |
| Telegraphs | 22.53   | 18.89   | 13.80                                |

(b) The amounts spent on these services during the above period are as under:

|            | 1991-92 | 1992-93 | 1993-94<br>(upto March<br>(pre.) '94 |
|------------|---------|---------|--------------------------------------|
| Telephones | 107.88  | 126.62  | 152.02                               |
| Posts      | 206.8   | 218.44  | 236.58                               |
| Telegraphs | 18.22   | 20.25   | 20.83                                |

[Translation]

### **Expansion of A.I.R./Doordarshan Network in Gujarat**

6777. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for setting up and expansion of Akashvani and Doordarshan Kendras in Gujarat during the last two years and the target achieved in this regard and the names of places where the work has to be started; and

(b) the scheme formulated for the expansion and setting up of Akashvani and Doordarshan Kendras in Gujarat for the year 1993-94 and the arrangements made for each Kendra under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b). In the State of Gujarat, AIR targeted to set up four schemes for expansion of its network during the 8th Plan, of which, during the last two years, the Radio Station at Ahwa has been commissioned. The rest of the schemes at Junagarh, Vadodara and Ahmedabad (VB) are under various stages of implementation. During the 8th Plan, Doordarshan's schemes for expansion of its network include setting up of 4 HPTs, 16 LPTs and 2 VLPTs. During the last two years, 3 schemes at Bhuj (HPT), Khambhat (LPT), Ahmedabad (LPT) have been set up.

[English]

### **Relations with Bangladesh**

6778. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the major bilateral issues to be resolved with Bangladesh; and

(b) the steps taken to resolve those issues and to improve relations between India and Bangladesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED): (a) and (b). The major bilateral issues to be resolved with Bangladesh include sharing of waters of the common rivers, early completion of the repatriation of Chakma refugees, illegal immigration from Bangladesh, insurgency-related developments and further expansion of cultural, commercial and economic cooperation.

The Government remain committed to maintenance of friendly and cooperative relations with Bangladesh. For this purpose, our dialogue with the Government of Bangladesh to resolve all outstanding issues as also our endeavours to consolidate bilateral cooperation in future will continue.

### **Construction of National Highways and Bridges**

6779. SHRI C.P. MUDALA GIRI-YAPPA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether several proposals are pending for clearance with the Union Government regarding construction of National Highways and bridges;

(b) if so, the total number of such proposals received by the Union Government from the State of Karnataka;

(c) since when these proposals are pending with the Union Government for clearance;

(d) whether a substantial amount has been sanctioned by the Union Government for this purpose; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF  
THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE

TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER):  
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e). In all, 24 proposals were received during 1993-94 in respect of National Highway road and bridge works in Karnataka. The position is as under:

| Proposals     | Roads |                                  | Bridges |                                  |
|---------------|-------|----------------------------------|---------|----------------------------------|
|               | No.   | Approx.<br>Amount<br>(Rs. crore) | No.     | Approx.<br>Amount<br>(Rs. crore) |
| Received      | 21    | 22.00                            | 3       | 54.00                            |
| Sanctioned    | 19    | 17.00                            | 1       | 4.00                             |
| Returned      | 2     | 5.00                             | -       | -                                |
| Under process | -     | -                                | 2       | 50.00                            |

#### Transportation in Ganga

6780. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in regard to the scheme for running ships in Ganga;

(b) whether the Government propose to introduce such transport system in other stretches of national waterway; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF  
THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE  
TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER):  
(a) to (c). IWT vessels are being operated by CIWTC Ltd., Calcutta for transportation of cargo in Haldia-Patna stretches of the Ganga regularly. Instructions have been issued to IWAI to maintain 2m depth in

the entire National Waterway-I, i.e. the Ganga (Haldia-Allahabad).

A scheme for introduction of experimental-cum-promotional operation I.W.T. vessels by private operators was sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs. 84.00 lakhs. Under this scheme, 2 Nos. of 600 T capacity vessels to be hired by the IWAI from CIWTC would be given to the Goa Barge Owners' Association free of hire charges, for plying on National Waterway-I (The Ganga), after having been repaired/drydocked shortly, for a period of one year.

#### Publication of Passport Application Status in Newspapers

6781. PROF. SAVITHRI  
LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Passport Offices throughout the country release upto date

information pertaining to Applications for Passport to the Press for Publication in the main local Newspapers for general public information;

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) and (b). The passport offices issue a press release every week giving the date upto which the applications received by them have been processed in the previous week.

- (c) Does not arise.

#### **By-products produced by SAIL**

6782. DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the by-products being produced by the Steel Authority of India Limited, its subsidiaries and the Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited; and

(b) the norms/criteria laid down for their marketing and distribution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). Steel Authority of India Limited produces the following by-products:

- (i) Fertilizers (Ammonium Sulphate)
- (ii) Coal Chemicals
- (iii) Scrap
- (iv) Slag

Out of the above by-products, Scrap and Slag are sold directly by the Steel Plants of SAIL.

The distribution procedure being followed for Fertilizers and Coal Chemicals is as under:

#### *Fertilizers (Ammonium Sulphate)*

Pricing and Distribution of Fertilizers is under the Government control. As per the existing procedures laid down by the Department of Fertilizer, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, SAIL supplies Fertilizers on the accounts of different states on six monthly basis. Fertilizers are also marketed through a distribution net-work comprising Institutional Agencies/Cooperative bodies promoted by State Governments as also Private Wholesale Dealers.

#### *Coal Chemicals*

Few items of coal chemicals like liquid Ammonia and Anhydrous Ammonia, Ammonium Nitrate etc. are directly sold by the concerned Steel Plant. Balance chemicals are sold by SAIL either through the Long Term Contracts or through *ad-hoc* sales based on the availability.

#### *Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. (VSP)*

Produces the following by-products:

- (i) Fertilizers (Ammonium Sulphate)
- (ii) Coal Chemicals
- (iii) Slag
- (iv) Clacined Lime Fines

- (v) Calcium Carbide Sludge
- (vi) Oxygen, Nitrogen and argon in liquid/gaseous forms.

By-products of VSP are sold from head quarters at Visakhapatnam to actual users as well as through tenders. Demand registration of products is also done. Quarterly/half yearly/annual agreements are entered into for supply of material.

#### **Advertisements on Doordarshan**

6783. SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to issue separate guidelines to DAVP for regulating advertisements on Doordarshan sponsored by Government; and

(b) the extent of exploitation of this highly potent media by DAVP in terms of money spent during 1992-93 on Government advertisements?

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

(b) An expenditure of Rs. 344.44 lakhs was incurred by DAVP during 1992-93 on the production and telecast of programmes on Doordarshan.

#### **T.V. Transmitters in Maharashtra**

6784. SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the locations of low power and high power TV transmitters that were to be set up in Maharashtra during the Seventh Plan period;

(b) to what extent targets have been achieved;

(c) whether the Government have also sanctioned new Radio Stations apart from T.V. transmitters in the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and how many have been completed and the number of TV transmitters and Radio Stations being set up in the State during the Eighth Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) *Statement I* is attached.

(b) Projects mentioned in *Statement-II* have since been commissioned with the exception of the transposer at Junnar.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. The details of new radio stations which had been included in Seventh Plan are given in *Statement-II*.

During the Eighth Plan period, Doordarshan has under implementation/ envisaged 3 High Power transmitters, 19 Low Power transmitters/Very Low Power transmitters in the State of Maharashtra, besides the 3 Low Power transmitters already commissioned. All India Radio has during the Eighth Plan period, two schemes under implementation in the State of Maharashtra.

**STATEMENT-I***Locations of High Power/Low Power TV Transmitters*

| Sl. No.                       | Location    |
|-------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>High Power Transmitter</b> |             |
| 1.                            | Ambajogai   |
| 2.                            | Aurangabad  |
| <b>Low Power Transmitter</b>  |             |
| 3.                            | Achalpur    |
| 4.                            | Amalner     |
| 5.                            | Barshi      |
| 6.                            | Bir         |
| 7.                            | Buldana     |
| 8.                            | Diglur      |
| 9.                            | Gadhchiroli |
| 10.                           | Hingoli     |

| Sl. No.            | Location     |
|--------------------|--------------|
| 11.                | Ichalkaranji |
| 12.                | Karad        |
| 13.                | Yavatmal     |
| 14.                | Wardha       |
| 15.                | Kinwat       |
| 16.                | Manmad       |
| 17.                | Nandurbar    |
| 18.                | Osmanabad    |
| 19.                | Pandharpur   |
| 20.                | Pusad        |
| 21.                | Ratnagiri    |
| 22.                | Satara       |
| 23.                | Shahad       |
| <b>Transposers</b> |              |
| 24.                | Aurangabad   |
| 25.                | Junnar       |

**STATEMENT-II***The details of Radio Stations sanctioned in the 7th Five Year Plan (1985-90)*

| Sl. No. | Place      | Schemes                                       |
|---------|------------|---|
| 1.      | Betul      | 2 x 3 KW FM Tr., MP Studio Since Commissioned |
| 2.      | Ahmednagar | 2 x 3 KW FM Tr., MP Studio Since Commissioned |
| 3.      | Nanded     | 2 x 3 KW FM Tr., MP Studio Since Commissioned |
| 4.      | Kolhapur   | 2 x 3 KW FM Tr., MP Studio Since Commissioned |
| 5.      | Akola      | 2 x 3 KW FM Tr., MP Studio Since Commissioned |
| 6.      | Yavatmal   | 2 x 3 KW FM Tr., MP Studio Since Commissioned |
| 7.      | Satara     | 2 x 3 KW FM Tr., MP Studio Since Commissioned |
| 8.      | Chanderpur | 2 x 3 KW FM Tr., MP Studio Since Commissioned |

| Sl. Place No. | Schemes                    |                        |
|---------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| 9. Dhule      | 2 x 3 KW FM Tr., MP Studio | Since Commissioned     |
| 10. Nasik     | 2 x 3 KW FM Tr., MP Studio | Yet to be Commissioned |
| 11. Osmanabad | 2 x 3 KW FM Tr., MP Studio | Yet to be Commissioned |

Legend:MP Studio - Multi Purpose Studio.

### T.V. Coverage in Tamil Nadu

6785. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the places in Tamil Nadu which are not covered by Doordarshan Network;

(b) whether the Government have received representations from Tamil Nadu for extending Doordarshan coverage; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Whereas the entire state of Tamil Nadu is covered by satellite service, all the districts are wholly or partially covered by the terrestrial transmitters, providing TV service to 91.3% population and 91.2% area of the State.

(b) Yes, Sir. Representations have been received from time to time from various quarters for extending and strengthening of TV service in the State.

(c) With a view to strengthen TV service in Tamil Nadu, three high power

transmitters and fifteen low/very low power transmitters are presently under implementation/envisaged to be set up in the State. On the completion of these projects 96.1% of population and 96.2% of area of the State will be covered by terrestrial transmission.

[Translation]

### Outstanding against P.C.O. holders in M.P.

6786. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ISD/STD/PCOs in the Mandsaur and Ratlam districts of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the outstanding amount against the said PCO operators for 1993-94 and 1994-95; and

(c) the action taken to recover the outstanding amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) There are 80 and 130 ISD/STD/PCOs at Mandsaur and Ratlam districts of Madhya Pradesh respectively.



(b) The outstanding amounts for 1993-94 and 1994-95 are as under:—

|                   | 1993-94  | 1994-95 |
|-------------------|----------|---------|
| Mandsaur District | 3,60,000 | 46,000  |
| Ratlam District   | 47,890   | Nil     |

(c) The defaulting ISD/STD/PCOs in Mandsaur District have been disconnected. Disconnection notices have also been sent in respect of the PCOs in Ratlam District. Further, suitable action has been initiated to recover the outstanding dues from these ISD/STD/PCO franchisees.

[English]

#### **D.T.C. Bus service to Central Secretariat**

6787. SHRI SANT RAM SINGLA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the hardships being faced by the Government Servants to come to office (Central Secretariat) from Delhi Cantt. Railway Station;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to run a D.T.C. Bus between these two points during the rush hours of Morning and Evening so as to mitigate the hardships of these workers;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which this bus service is likely to be started; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) The Government servants bound for Central Secretariat from Delhi Cantt. Railway Station are adequately being served with regular and speical trips provided by DTC during peak hours.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Due to fleet constraint, it is not possible for DTC to provide additional bus service on Delhi Cantt. Railway Station — Central Secretariat route.

#### **Modernisation of Rourkela Airport**

6788. KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that there are no night landing and take off facilities at Rourkela Airport;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to modernise Rourkela Airport; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government are aware that there are no night landing and take off facilities at Rourkela Airport.

(b) At present, SAIL (RSP) have no plan to modernise the Rourkela Airport owned by them as a private Aerodrome.

(c) Does not arise.

**Power Plant by ABB**

6789. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Asea Brown Boveri has decided to set up 235 MW combined cycle power plant at Jegurupadu near Rajamundry in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether any agreement in this regard has been reached;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the work on the project is likely to be started; and

(d) the estimated total cost of the proposed plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir. ABB is associated with GVK Industries, the promoter of the Jegurupadu project only as a contractor.

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

**Exports by Aluminium producing Countries**

6790. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the major Aluminium producing countries have decided to cut exports to India;

(b) the impact of such a decision on the country's Aluminium Industry; and

(c) the precautionary measures adopted by the Government to curtail sharp increase in Aluminium prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) Government have no such information.

(b) No adverse impact is expected as India is an exporter of Alumina and Aluminium.

(c) Government have reduced Excise Duty on Aluminium in the financial year 1993-94 and have proposed further reduction in the budget proposals for 1994-95 to stimulate demand for Aluminium in the Country.

**AIR Stations in Kerala**

6791. SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of full fledged stations, relay centres and auxiliary centres of All India Radio in Kerala;

(b) whether the Government have a proposal for the upgradation of some of these radio stations in Kerala;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the proposals for expansion of AIR services in the State during the Eighth Plan Period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) There are 6 full fledged radio stations at Calicut, Trichur, Trivandrum, Cochin, Cannanore and Iddukki and a Relay Station at Alleppey working in the State of Kerala.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. The details of upgradation schemes of All India Radio Stations in Kerala is given below:

| Place                | Scheme  |
|----------------------|---|
| (i) Trichur          | 100 KW MW Transmitter in place of 20 KW MW Transmitter      |
| (ii) Calicut         | 100 KW MW Transmitter in place of 10 KW MW Transmitter      |
| (iii) Alleppey       | 2 x 100 KW MW Transmitter in place of 100 KW MW Transmitter |
| (iv) Trivnadrum (VB) | 2 x 5 KW FM Transmitter in place of 1 KW MW Transmitter     |
| (v) Trivandrum (VB)  | Studio IV in place of old studio.                           |

(d) The scheme of All India Radio for expansion of its services in the State during the Eighth Plan period are given below:—

| Place          | Scheme                   |
|----------------|--------------------------|
| (i) Trivandrum | 50 KW SW Transmitter.    |
| (ii) Cochin    | 2 x 5 KW FM Transmitter. |

#### **Telecast of Assamese Programmes**

6792. SHRI PROBIN DEKA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Assamese programmes telecast through Doordarshan Metro are repeated several times within a fortnight;

(b) if so, the number of times the same programmes were repeated during January 1994 and March 1994 and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to check the repetition of same programmes and to telecast new programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) The Metro Channel does not carry programmes in Assamese language.

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

#### **National Highways in Maharashtra**

6793. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount provided for developing and widening of National Highways in Maharashtra during 1992-93 and 1993-94;

(b) the number of National Highways in the State taken up for development and the progress made so far in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The funds allocated to the State of Maharashtra for the development including widening of National Highways

during 1992-93 and 1993-94 are given below:—

[English]

| (Rs. in lakhs) |                  |
|----------------|------------------|
| Year           | Amount allocated |
| 1992-93        | 3280.00          |
| 1993-94        | 3080.00          |

(b) and (c). The development of National Highways is a continuous process. The improvement works are taken up keeping in view the traffic intensity, condition of the road, soil and climatic conditions, *inter-se* priority of works and over-all availability of funds etc.

[Translation]

#### Power generation by Thermal/ Natural Gas Power Plants

6794. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of electricity being generated by each natural gas power plant at present;

(b) the per unit cost of electricity being generated by each of these plants;

(c) whether the cost of power generated by thermal power plants is comparatively less than the cost of power generated by natural gas plants; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Pig iron manufacturing plant in Andhra Pradesh

6595. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have approved a proposal for foreign investment in setting up a Pig Iron Manufacturing Plant in Chittur district of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, details of the agreement signed; and

(c) the likely time of completion of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir. The Union Government have approved the foreign collaboration proposal of M/s. Lanco Ferro Limited, for foreign equity participation amounting to Rs. 232.00 lakhs (10.15%) in the paid up capital of Rs. 2285.00 lakhs by Asian Finance & Investment Corporation Limited, Singapore for the setting up of a Pig Iron Plant in Chittur district of Andhra Pradesh.

(b) M/s. Lanco Ferro Limited, has signed a Subscription Agreement with Asian Finance and Investment Corporation Ltd. (AFIC), Singapore on 2nd March, 1994. As per the agreement, AFIC agrees to subscribe at a price of par for twenty three lakh and twenty thousand shares and pay in full Rupees two hundred and thirty two lakhs on the remittance date, upon receipt of the company's request.

(c) The Pig Iron Plant of M/s. Lanco Ferro Ltd. is scheduled to commence commercial production from July, 1994 onwards.

[Translation]

**High Power T.V. transmitter at Bhuj in Bihar**

6796. SHRI PREM CHAND RAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Bihar has submitted a proposal to the Union Government for the conversion of low power TV transmitter at Bhuj into high power TV transmitter and change of its location and also to set up a low power TV transmitter at Sambhat; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

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

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

**Research and Development in Steel Industry**

6797. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Steel Authority of India Limited has taken steps to improve its research and development programmes, and modernisation of its steel plants; and

(b) if so, the details of the research and development and modernisation

programme undertaken by SAIL during the Eighth Plan and the funds earmarked therefor in respect of different steel plants, plant-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Steel Authority of India Limited has taken up number of steps to improve its research and development programmes. Details are given below:—

- (1) Research and Development Centre selects and pursues such projects which would lead to maximum benefits in terms of improvement in productivity, quality and yield, reduction in rejection reduction in input cost as well as reduction in specific consumption of energy and materials and development of new products. To meet such requirements, projects taken up by Research and Development Centre have been classified in the following categories:—
  - Plant Performance Improvement (PPI) which accounts for the bulk of Research and Development efforts and are directed towards improvement in productivity, quality, yield and energy conservation and development of new products in steel plants of SAIL.
  - Basic Research (BSR) and Major Technology Development (MTD) for developing new steel technologies.
  - Investigation and Consultancy Assignments (ICA).

- (2) Annual Performance Plan (APP) for Research and Development Projects is prepared by RDCIS in the beginning of each financial year based on MICRO plans drawn for each project.
- (3) A Quarterly Review of Performance (QRP) of RDCIS is carried out with the objective of improving competence, creativity, quality of output, effectiveness and accountability.
- (4) Research and Development Centre also signs its MOU with SAIL.
- (5) Standing Committees have been constituted in each Plant/Unit of SAIL for evaluation and certification of benefits produced by Research and Development projects.
- (6) A Massive Quality Awareness Programme has been launched.

Modernisation of SAIL steel plants are currently under implementation in Durgapur Steel Plant, Rourkela Steel Plant and Bokaro Steel Plant. The details are as follows:—

#### *Durgapur Steel Plant*

The project of Durgapur Steel Plant modernisation was sanctioned in February, 1989 at a cost of Rs. 2667.60 Crores with a completion schedule of March, 93.

6 Nos. of packages are already completed out of total 16 turnkey packages and part facilities have been completed in 8 Nos. of packages.

The total work of the project will be completed by June, 95. The approved outlay for DSP Modernisation in the 8th Plan is Rs. 1810 crores.

#### *Rourkela Steel Plant*

In case of Rourkela Steel Plant, Government have approved the modernisation work at a total cost of Rs. 2461 crores inclusive of foreign exchange component of Rs. 396 crores on 12th October, 1989. Government have further sanctioned the revised cost estimate on 12th May, 1992 at a total cost of Rs. 3954 crores inclusive of foreign exchange component of Rs. 714 crores. The modernisation work is being implemented in 2 Phases i.e. Phase-I & Phase-II. The Phase I work is being implemented through 9 indigenous packages and the Phase II work through 20 packages (15 indigenous and 5 global). The modernisation work is under various stages of implementation. The total modernisation work is scheduled to be completed by Dec' 95.

The total fund allocated during 8th Plan for RSP modernisation is of the order of Rs. 3545 crores.

#### *Bokaro Steel Plant (BSL)*

Government has approved Stage-I Modernisation of Bokaro Steel Plant on 23.7.93. The project will be completed in 48 months from the date of sanction.

BSL Modernisation (Stage-II) envisages the following:—

- (i) Reconstruction of existing Steel Melting Shop No. 2 to increase its liquid steel capacity from 1.84 million tonnes per annum

to 2.25 million tonnes per annum.

- (ii) Installation of 2 Nos. Double Strand Slab Casters.
- (iii) Partial upgradation of 2000 mm Hot Strip Mill.
- (iv) Related service facilities.

The sanctioned cost of BSL modernisations is Rs. 1625.79 crores including FE of Rs. 283.50 crores, at a base date of 1st Quarter, 1993. Eighth Plan allocation for the project is Rs. 1446 crores.

[Translation]

#### **AIR/Doordarshan Kendras in Uttar Pradesh**

6798. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the locations in Uttar Pradesh where Akashwani and Doordarshan Kendras have been set up during the last six months;

(b) the percentage of area of the State covered under transmission programme of Akashwani and Doordarshan;

(c) whether the Government have received representation regarding increase in the transmission range of different transmitters; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to increase the transmission range of these transmitters in near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) During the last six months, one low power TV transmitter at Lucknow for relay of Metro Channel was set up in Uttar Pradesh. No All India Radio Station has been set up in Uttar Pradesh during this period.

(b) The area-wise coverage of the State of Uttar Pradesh is 88% by All India Radio and 79% by Doordarshan (inclusive of fringe areas).

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. Representations from various quarters are received from time to time for increasing the range of transmitters. The details of schemes for augmenting the power of existing transmitters are given in the attached *Statement*.

#### **STATEMENT**

*Schemes of All India Radio/Doordarshan for augmentation of power of existing transmitters in Uttar Pradesh*

| Sl. No.                | Place     | Scheme for Augmentation   |
|------------------------|-----------|---------------------------|
| <b>All India Radio</b> |           |                           |
| 1.                     | Allahabad | From 1 KW MW to 20 KW MW. |
| <b>Doordarshan</b>     |           |                           |
| 1.                     | MAU       | From LTP to HPT           |
| 2.                     | Almora    | From VLPT to LPT          |
| 3.                     | Haldwani  | From VLPT to LPT          |
| 4.                     | New Tehri | From Transposer to LPT    |

Besides, the power of the transmitters at Balrampur, Banda, Lakhimpur and Sitapur is also envisaged to be augmented by High Power Transmitter subject to availability of resources.

**Legend**

- HPT — High Power Transmitter  
LPT — Low Power Transmitter  
VLPT — Very Low Power Transmitter

[English]

**Telephone connections to employees of Telecom**

6799. SHRI BRAHMANAND  
MANDAL:  
SHRI TEJ NARAYAN  
SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken a policy decision to install one telephone connection any where in the country on priority basis to telecom employees during the entire service period provided they are registered in the OYT category;

(b) whether there is any proposal under consideration to provide telephone connection to the employees under Non-OYT category;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir. A serving telecom employee is entitled for

provision of a telephone connection on out of turn priority under OYT category at his/her normal place of residence or for the use of his/her family at some other station if his/her family is staying at that station.

(b) and (c). No, Sir. However the staff representatives have represented in the matter.

(d) Facility of out of turn sanction under Non-OYT category has not been extended to serving employees due to their large number of due to the long waiting list under Non-OYT category.

[Translation]

**Tariff for STD in Bihar**

6800. SHRI LALIT ORAON: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a provision to fix the rate considering twelve pulses between the radial distance of fifty to hundred kms. as one unit during ordinary period;

(b) if so, the basis on which subscribers in Gumla and Ranchi in Bihar are charged considering eight pulses a unit during ordinary period (from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.) for STD calls while the radial distance between Gumla and Ranchi is less than 100 Kms;

(c) whether the Government propose to refix the rate in this regard;

(d) if so, by when; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?



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

(b) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as early as possible.

[English]

#### **India-ASEAN Economic Cooperation Committee**

6801. SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAOSAHEB TOPE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India-ASEAN Economic Cooperation Committee is in rough weather;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the objectives for setting up of the Committee; and

(d) the steps taken to achieve the objectives so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The objective is to have a strong umbrella organisation of commerce & industry which could serve as a counterpart to the ASEAN Chamber of Commerce & Industry and actively involve our industry and business community in expansion of India-ASEAN bilateral cooperation in trade, investment, tourism and science & technology.

(d) The Committee has signed an agreement with the ASEAN Chamber of Commerce and Industry to set up an India-ASEAN Business Council. It has commenced its substantive work in promoting India-ASEAN cooperation in the four major areas identified by the two sides so far.

#### **Cable stayed bridged in Karnataka**

6802. SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a cable stayed bridge has been sanctioned on National Highway 4; and

(b) if so, when it was sanctioned and the total estimated cost thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

#### **News Revamp Plan**

6803. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Doordarshan has formulated News Revamp Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the idea behind this plan;

(c) the factors on the basis of which the Government have decided to start such a plan; and

(d) the steps being taken for its implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) to (d). Changes in the programme format of Doordarshan including its news bulletins, is an ongoing activity primarily aimed at bringing about a qualitative improvement in them so as to sustain the interest of its viewers. Some of the recent changes made in respect of the news bulletins are adoption of a new montage, increase in quantum of visuals used, segmentation into specific chunks viz. main, business, cultural sports and weather news and improvement in technical quality through the introduction of the latest state of art equipment.

[Translation]

### **Metal Scrap and Sponge Iron**

6804. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether metal scrap availability in the country is low as compared to its demand;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to meet the demand and supply gap; and

(d) the incentives given by the Government to encourage sponge iron production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

There is a domestic demand-availability gap of about 1.5 to 2 million tonnes per annum in respect of steel melting scrap.

(b) Generation of steel melting scrap in the steel industry and other industrial units is less than the requirement of the electric furnace units in the country. Modernisation of steel plants reduces the generation of scrap.

(c) Steel melting scrap can be freely imported. The import duty on steel melting scrap was reduced from 12.5% to 10% in the Budget for 1994-95 and has been recently further reduced to 5%. Government has also been facilitating the establishment of new units for manufacture of sponge iron which is a partial substitute for steel melting scrap. Production of sponge iron has increased from 12.8 lakh tonnes in 1991-92 to about 24 lakh tonnes in 1993-94.

(d) In order to increase production of sponge iron, various steps have been taken by Government. These includes:—

(i) The sponge iron industry was exempted from the provisions of compulsory licensing in the year 1985.

(ii) Sponge iron has been included in the list of high priority industries for purposes of foreign investment.

(iii) Customs duty on inputs for the sponge iron industry like non-coking coal and iron ore pellets has been reduced.

(iv) Government has set up a Linkage Committee to provide linkages of various raw materials to sponge iron units.

*[English]***Liner Shipping Services**

6805. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to lift the licensing restrictions on liner shipping services;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) its impact on the share of three India liner companies in the liner trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). The Government decided in May, 1992 to throw open, to all Indian Shipping Companies, those liner routes where the three Indian Shipping Companies (*viz.* Shipping Corporation of India, India Steamship Company and Scindia Steam Navigation Company Ltd.) are not operating. In the light of the Government's policy of liberalisation, the question of throwing open all liner routes to other shipping companies is being examined. This relaxation would subject the Indian and foreign shipping lines, operating in liner services, to open competition on commercial considerations.

*[Translation]*

**Song and Drama Division Unit in  
Madhya Pradesh**

6806. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of song and drama units set up in Madhya Pradesh and the locations thereof;

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

(c) the annual expenditure being incurred on these units, in Madhya Pradesh;

(d) whether there is any utility of these units; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) to (c). There is one Regional Centre of Song and Drama Division in Madhya Pradesh which is stationed at Bhopal and the territorial jurisdiction of this unit is Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. The unit presented 2696 shows in Madhya Pradesh during 1993-94. An expenditure of Rs. 22,72,996.00 was incurred by this Unit in Madhya Pradesh during 1993-94.

(d) and (e). Yes, Sir. The folk and traditional media are found to be very useful for inter-personal communication with the people, especially in the rural areas.

*[English]***Media Commission**

6807. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a growing demand to set up a Media Commission;

(b) whether the proposal is also under the consideration of the Government; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to implement the above proposal?

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

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Telephone to Gram Panchayats**

6808. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Gram Panchayats and additional villages separately connected with telephones as on March 31, 1991;

(b) the number of Panchayats, villages and additional villages connected with telephones as on March 31, 1994;

(c) the number of Gram Panchayats and other villages likely to be covered in the next two years; and

(d) the level of fulfilment of the Plan target by the end of the Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS

(SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) As on 31.3.1991, the total number of Panchayat villages and additional villages connected with telephones were 46,420 and 8,079 respectively.

(b) As on 31.3.1994, the total number of Panchayat villages and additional villages connected with telephones were 1,31,245 and 8,079 respectively.

(c) It is proposed to cover remaining 1,01,102 Panchayat villages and additionally 56000 other villages during next two years (1994-96).

(d) The plan is to cover 3,82,347 villages by end of Eighth Five Year Plan and the Department is trying to fulfil the same.

#### **Secretariat Travel**

6809. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the expenditure incurred by his Ministry under the Head "Secretariat Travel" during the last three years;

(b) whether there has been an abnormal rise in the expenditure on this account; and

(c) if so, reasons and justifications for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED): (a) The expenditure incurred by the Ministry of External Affairs under Major Head "2052-Secretariat Travel Expenses" during the

last three years (1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94) are as follows:—

(Rs. in Thousands)

| Sl. No. | Year    | Expenditure Incurred on Secretariat Travel ("Major Head 2052) |
|---------|---------|---|
| (i)     | 1991-92 | 5,00,11   |
| (ii)    | 1992-93 | 8,94,98   |
| (iii)   | 1993-94 | 11,68,77<br>(Provisional)*                                    |

\* Information on the expenditure incurred by the Missions on behalf of the Ministry during March 1994 is still awaited by Controller of Accounts (Ministry of External Affairs), New Delhi.

(b) and (c). The reasons for increase in Travel Expenses (Secretariat) are as follows:—

- (i) Upward revision of air fares.
- (ii) Depreciation of Indian Rupee in 1991.
- (iii) Opening of new Missions.

#### Post Offices in Arunachal Pradesh

6810. SHRI LAETA UMBREY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of post offices, category-wise functioning at present in each district of Arunachal Pradesh;

(b) whether the said post offices are as per the requirement; and

(c) if not, the steps taken by the government to set up new post offices in the State, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) As on 31-3-94, 283 post offices are functioning in Arunachal Pradesh, the category-wise and district-wise details of which are given in the attached *Statement*.

(b) and (c). At present, a post office in Arunachal Pradesh serves an average population of 3055 against the all India average of 5553. However, considering the fact that post offices are situated at considerable distance from each other, new post offices in Arunachal Pradesh are being opened in a phased manner. During 1992-93 and 1993-94, 17 extra departmental branch post offices and 2 departmental sub post offices were opened in Arunachal Pradesh.

#### STATEMENT

*Classified details of Post Offices in the districts of Arunachal Pradesh as on 31-3-94*

| Sl. No. | Name of District | HOs | DSOs | EDSOs | EDBOs | Total |
|---------|------------------|-----|------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1.      | Tawang           | --  | 1    | -     | 11    | 12    |
| 2.      | West Kameng      | —   | 7    | —     | 12    | 19    |

| Sl. No. | Name of District | HOs | DSOs | EDSOs | EDBOs | Total |
|---------|------------------|-----|------|-------|-------|-------|
| 3.      | East Kameng      | —   | 2    | —     | 12    | 14    |
| 4.      | Lower Subansiri  | —   | 1    | —     | 18    | 19    |
| 5.      | Upper Subansiri  | —   | 1    | —     | 12    | 13    |
| 6.      | West Siang       | —   | 5    | —     | 28    | 33    |
| 7.      | East Siang       | —   | 4    | —     | 26    | 30    |
| 8.      | Dibang Valley    | —   | 2    | —     | 20    | 22    |
| 9.      | Lohit            | —   | 5    | —     | 38    | 43    |
| 10.     | Tirap            | —   | 3    | —     | 27    | 30    |
| 11.     | Changlang        | —   | 6    | —     | 20    | 26    |
| 12.     | Papumpara        | 1   | 7    | —     | 14    | 22    |
| Total   |                  | 1   | 44   | —     | 238   | 283   |

### Quick Delivery of Telegrams by SFT

6811. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to commission shortly, and indigenously devised equipment called 'Store and Forward Telegraph' (SFT) switching system for quick delivery of telegrams in the four metropolitan cities of Bombay, Delhi, Madras and Calcutta;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the mechanism, functioning, cost, time-saving and the particulars of the manufacturer, etc. of the equipment;

(c) whether the equipment is proposed to be commissioned in other big cities also; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Store and Forward Telegraph (SFT) Systems have already been commissioned in four metropolitan

cities of Bombay, Delhi, Madras and Calcutta during the years 1982-84. Large capacity switching systems of 128 lines with redundancy are also commissioned in these metros during the years 1989-94.

(b) Microprocessor based Store and Forward Telegraph Systems are indigenously developed message switching systems for receiving, analysing and automatically routing the telegrams priority-wise to the intended destinations. By the introduction of these systems manual delays at intermediate stations

are substantially reduced and the telegrams reach the destination faster. Additional functions like pincode routing, town name routing, telex delivery, decoding code words etc. are also provided by these systems.

Cost of these systems vary on the capacity, year of procurement and other factors. Details are given in *Statement I*.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. These systems are installed at other big cities also as per details at *Statement-II*.

#### STATEMENT-I

| Systems          | Cost in lakhs | Name of Supplier             |
|------------------|---------------|------------------------------|
| SFT-141-16 Lines | 7.54          | M/s. ECIL                    |
| SFMS-128 Lines   | 77.27         | M/s. ECIL                    |
| SFMS-64 Lines    | 47.00         | M/s. ECIL, Keltron and TCIL. |
| SFMS-32 Lines    | 26.00         | M/s. TCIL                    |

#### STATEMENT-II

##### *Places where systems are working*

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| SFT-141 systems      | Hyderabad, Vijayawada, Gauhati, Silchar, Patna, Ahmedabad, Ambala, Shimla, Jammu-Tawi, Bangalore, Cochin-I, Cochin-II, Bhopal, Indore, Raipur, Jabalpur, Shillong, Cuttack, Chandigarh, Jaipur, Tiruchi, Coimbatore, Lucknow, Varanasi, Agra, Siliguri. |
| SFMS-32 Lines system | Chandigarh, Dehradun, New Delhi, Jaipur, Jodhpur, Ranchi, Cuttack, Tiruchi.   |

SFMS-64 Lines system

Thiruvananthapuram, Madurai, Coimbatore, Hubli, Vijayawada, Pune, Nagpur, Ahmedabad.

SFMS-128 Lines system

Lucknow, Ernakulam, Bombay, Bangalore, Madras, Hyderabad, Calcutta, New Delhi.

*Places where systems are planned*

Kanpur, Ambala, Tirunelveli, Jammu Tawi, Shillong, Bombay, Solapur, Rajkot, Allahabad, Agra, Patna, Gulbarga, Jalandhar, Raipur, Shimla, Salom, Nasik, Calicut, TTC Jabalpur.

**Campaign by INCA, US**

6812.. SHRI SHARVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian National Congress of America (INCA) has lately spearheaded a campaign named 'Defend Kashmir' in the US in reply to recent propaganda unleashed by Pakistan attributable to deliberate instigation of insurgency in Kashmir; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSEED): (a) The Indian National Congress of America (INCA) has started a signature campaign to oppose the sale of F-16 aircraft to Pakistan and is also active in countering anti-Indian propaganda on Kashmir.

(b) Government are in regular contact with Indian-American organisations and provide information regarding India's position on various issues to enable such organisations to counter negative publicity on India.

**Indian Families in South Africa**

6813. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian families have lost all their possession and properties when their homes were looted during the uprising in the homeland of Bophuthatswana in South Africa as reported in the Statesman dated March 21, 1994;

(b) if so, whether any steps have been taken by the Government to investigate the plight of Indian nationals there; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSEED): (a) In the erstwhile "independent homeland" of Bophuthatswana, certain Indians were affected following wide spread civil strife, riots and breakdown in the law and order situation leading to the toppling of the regime of President Lucas Mangope.

Three houses of Indian teachers on the compound of Tselelopele Government High School in Itsoseng were among several houses looted and burnt. The houses were Government property and the Indian families had insurance cover for their belongings, which also covered loss due to riots. A video-tape lending shop, owned by the wife of an expatriate



engineer, located in the Mega-City shopping complex in Mmabatho was looted. None of these events were targeted specifically at Indians. Adjacent houses and shops belonging to South Africans were similarly affected. In fact, South African neighbours came to the assistance of the Indians in putting out fires and in salvaging property. No Indian was injured.

(b) and (c). Consulate General of India, Johannesburg, upon receiving a few telephone calls from concerned Indian expatriate workers in the area, despatched an officer to Bophuthatswana for an on the spot assessment of the situation. He found that the area was returning to normal with South African Defence Force (SADF) patrolling the streets in armoured vehicles. Police and SADF personnel were also deployed at the entrances to all public buildings, banks and major shopping complexes. A meeting was organised with the Indian nationals which was attended by about 140 persons who apprised the officer of the situation described above. The Indian nationals who are estimated to number about 500 families in Bophuthatswana were urged to register themselves with the Consulate General of India in Johannesburg.

#### **Delicensing of Beer Industry**

6814. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose delicensing the beer industry;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any foreign companies have sought permission to enter the Indian Beer Industries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). The Fosters' Brewing Group, Australia has sought permission to enter the Indian Market.

The foreign company has been granted permission by the Government of India to form a Joint-venture company with an existing licence holder for the manufacture of beer.

The Fosters' Brewing Group would bring in foreign exchange worth Rs. 5.1 Cr. into the country.

#### **National Highway Act, 1956**

6815. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to amend the National Highway Act, 1956; and

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

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

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Media Advisory Councils**

6816. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA:  
Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to encourage the formation and active participation of media advisory councils and advertising bodies;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether no inter-action has taken place on the issue of corporate sponsorship; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b). No, Sir. The present arrangement is considered adequate.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

**Food Processing Units**

6817. SHRI GAYA PRASAD KORI:  
Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals to set up food processing units in Uttar Pradesh cleared in 1993-94 districtwise;

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

(c) the steps being taken for early clearance of these proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING, INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (c). As per the New Industrial Policy of July, 1991, most of the food processing industries have been delicensed except brewing and distillation of alcoholic drinks and those reserved for Small Scale Industries. However, from July, 1991 till February, 1994, 523 Industrial Entrepreneurs Memoranda involving an investment of Rs. 7882 crores and employment of 1,01,356 persons have been filed in Uttar Pradesh. Besides the above, seven projects in Uttar Pradesh requiring approval have been cleared during 1993-94 details of which are given in the attached *Statement*.

Action has been initiated in respect of three proposals for manufacture of beer and two for manufacture of potable alcohol. Similarly, action has also been initiated in respect of proposal for a poultry processing project.

**STATEMENT**

*Details of approvals granted during 1993-94 for setting up food processing units in Uttar Pradesh*

| Sl. No. | Details of approvals given                             | District   |
|---------|--|--|
| 1.      | Setting up of 2 units for manufacture of Beer          | Nainital, Dehradun                               |
| 2.      | One unit for manufacture of Indian Made Foreign Liquor | Meerut   |
| 3.      | One unit for manufacture of Mineral Water              | Nainital   |
| 4.      | 3 units for fruit and vegetable processing             | Export Processing Zone-Noida, Mathura, Nainital. |

[English]

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Family Pension**

6818. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:  
SHRI TARA SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of applications for family pension under the liberalised pension rules from the widows of erstwhile departmental employees have been pending for decision and finalisation in the Office of Chief Post Master General, Orissa, West Bengal and Bihar;

(b) whether some of the widows could not get the family pension during their lifetime;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government would direct the offices to expedite the process of finalisation of payment; and

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

**Commercial Exploitation of Land**

6819. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have cleared the proposal of Commercial exploitation of land belonging to Surface Transport Ministry;

(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) to (c). The matter is under consideration of the Government.

[Translation]

### **New talent for Akashvani**

6820. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any institutional arrangement with the Akashvani to provide opportunities to the new talent in order to improve the standard of programme and broadcasting; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b). All India Radio has a system of auditioning different categories of artistes, including new talent for improving the quality of programme to be broadcast. Besides Yuva-Vani service, All India music competition, Akashvani annual awards competition and competition for radio playwrights are some of the avenues provided by All India Radio for encouraging talented artistes to participate in programmes, subject to programme requirement of the station.

[Translation]

### **Advertisement on GATT agreement on Doordarshan/AIR**

6821. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the total expenditure incurred by the Government on advertisement on

Doordarshan and Akashvani to propagate the message that GATT agreement is not against the interest of the country;

(b) the time allotted on Doordarshan and Akashvani to propagate this message;

(c) the objective of the Government behind such advertisement; and

(d) to what extent the Government have been able to achieve this objective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) No advertisement on the subject was broadcast/telecast by AIR/Doordarshan.

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

[English]

### **Diesel subsidy to Trawler Owners**

6822. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to extend diesel subsidy and provide working capital requirements to deep-sea trawler owners in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b). Under the High Speed Diesel Price Reimbursement Scheme, the Marine Products Export Development Authority

reimburses a part of the cost of HSD consumed by deep sea fishing vessels exporting at least 25% of their catch. The

quantum of assistance released to Visakhapatnam based deep sea trawlers is as follows:—

| Year    | No. of Cos. | No. of Vessels | Amount Released (Rs. lakhs) |
|---------|-------------|----------------|-----------------------------|
| 1992-93 | 18          | 30             | 100.22                      |
| 1993-94 | 17          | 47             | 125.30                      |

There is no scheme to extend working capital assistance to deep sea trawler owners.

### **Declaration of National Waterways**

6823. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to declare Mandovi and Zuari rivers as national waterways;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). Concurrence of the State Government of Goa for declaring Mandovi-Zuari rivers and Cumbarjua Canal was sought. This issue is under consideration of the State Government.

### **Visit of Leader of Awami League**

6824. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Awami League Leader Ms. Sheikh Hasina recently met the Prime Minister and the Vice-President;

(b) if so, whether the issue of continuance of the Indo-Bangladesh Friendship Treaty of 1973 was taken up for discussion; and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED): (a) Yes Sir, the Awami League Leader Sheikh Hasina paid courtesy calls on the Prime Minister and the Vice-President on March 7, 1994 during a private visit to India.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

### **Green Post Boxes**

6825. SHRI C.P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether green post boxes are being used by the Department of Posts;

(b) if so, the details thereof with their objectives;

(c) whether the Government propose to introduce this facility in all cities and towns in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b). Green letter boxes are used in important cities for posting of inter-city mail. This enables segregation and expeditious sorting and delivery of the local mail within the city.

(c) and (d) Green letter boxes can be used at any city if the volume of local mail justifies separate collection and processing.

#### **Modernisation of RNI, DAVP and PIB**

6826. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:  
SHRI TARA SINGH:

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

(a) whether the Government have decided to modernise the Registrar of Newspapers of India, the DAVP and PIB during 1994-95;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the modernisation of these units also include overall computerisation; and

(d) if so, the allocations made for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND

BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) to (d). Detailed information regarding the three organisations is given below:

#### *Registrar of Newspapers for India*

This office is being modernised by introducing computerisation. The computer system at Headquarters has been upgraded and is being linked up with computers at the regional offices at Bombay, Calcutta and Madras. An amount of Rs. 7.00 lakhs each has been sanctioned for linking up regional offices with the Headquarters for 1994-95.

#### *DAVP*

Several areas within DAVP are being modernised in a phased manner. These are:

- (i) Computerisation of release of advertisements and payment of bills.
- (ii) Installation of colour monitors in the already existing DPT system which is used for composing and preparation of art works.
- (iii) Computerisation of data pertaining to agencies for production of Audio Visual Spots.
- (iv) Updating of the already computerised mass mailing list.

An allocation of Rs. 14.50 lakhs has been made in the Annual Plan of 1994-95 for computerisation and other modernisation schemes.

#### *PIB*

Computer Centres have been set up at PIB Headquarters at New Delhi and

8 Regional Offices of the Bureau. In the next phase of the computerisation project, similar computer rooms will be set up in the Branch offices of PIB which will be linked with the Headquarters and respective Regional Offices through National Informatics Centre Network (NICNET).

An allocation of Rs. 80.00 lakhs has been made for this purpose during the year 1994-95.

### **Vehicular Pollution**

6827. PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has made any request for financial assistance, for the purchase of pollution testing equipment for vehicular emission; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reactions of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Government of Kerala have made a request for financial assistance for the purchase of 14 Gas Analysers and 14 Smoke Meters to be used in the Regional Transport Offices at an estimated cost of Rs. 59.50 lacs during the year 1993-94. The Union Government have conveyed, in principle, approval to this proposal. However, Government of Kerala in March, 1994 have expressed their inability for purchasing the pollution testing equipments during the financial year 1993-94. Further, they have

requested to extend this assistance in the financial year 1994-95. According to the Scheme, Central assistance for the purchase of pollution testing equipments is provided after the purchase of the equipments by the State Governments.

### **Share holding by workers at IISCO**

6828. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY:

SHRI S.B. SIDNAL:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to involve the workers of IISCO in the revival of this premier steel unit, by allowing shareholding by them; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). The leaders of the five Central Trade Unions have, in the context of their opinion expressed before the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Industry that IISCO should be modernised by SAIL and should not be handed over to a private sector undertaking, written to the Prime Minister stating that, if the situation demands, the workers are prepared to take over IISCO as a Joint Venture provided SAIL will have 50 per cent ownership and workers will have 50 per cent ownership. The modalities of the take over could be negotiated with Government.

Government have sought further details in this regard from the Trade Unions.

**Purchase of Dumper by NMDC**

6829. SHRI TARA SINGH: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Mineral Development Corporation Limited is procuring 50 tonnes capacity BEML Dumpers at exorbitant rates; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). No, Sir. The National Mineral Development Corporation Limited (NMDC) has reported that it finalises purchase orders for dumpers after obtaining offers from the existing manufacturers of dumpers in the country and after detailed consideration of the techno-commercial aspects of the equipment.

**National Highway Authority**

6830. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to form a full-fledged National Highway Authority;

(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 SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). It is too early to indicate the details and time by which the Authority is likely to be activated.

**Mineral Exploration**

6831. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have given high priority to the search and evaluation of both high value and other non-ferrous minerals in the Eighth Plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Government has accorded high priority for exploration of selected mineral commodities during Eighth Plan period. Geological Survey of India has planned to carry out 146 new investigations/re-oriented programmes for exploration of Basemetals (46 investigations), Gold (40 investigations), Tin-Tungsten (15 investigations), Platinum Group of Metals (PGM) (9 investigations), Molybdenum (3 investigations), Multimetals (13 investigations), Diamond (8 investigations) and General Metallogenic studies (12 projects).

In addition, 21 investigations for Coal and Lignite are also planned.

**Quarters for P&T employees in Guwahati**

6832. SHRI PROBIN DEKA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether adequate number of quarters have been constructed for the



employees of Post and Telegraph and Telecommunications in Guwahati;

(b) if not, the extent to which the existing number of staff quarters are short of the requirement; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to construct adequate number of staff quarters for the purpose?

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

(b) *Department of Posts*

As per the demand, the shortfall in the number of staff quarters is 110. (One hundred and ten).

*Department of Telecommunications*

There is a shortfall of 102 (One hundred and two) staff quarters to achieve 14% satisfaction ratio (targetted).

(c) *Department of Posts*

Construction of 36 (thirty six) staff quarters has already been approved. More quarters will be constructed as per the availability of resources.

*Department of Telecommunications*

Shortfall is planned to be made up by the end of 8th Five Year Plan, i.e., by March '97.

#### **Rural Post Offices in Andhra Pradesh**

6833. DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Post Offices in various villages of Andhra Pradesh are functioning in small houses;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to construct buildings for these post offices; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b). The accommodation for Extra Departmental Post Offices in rural areas are provided by the Extra Departmental Postmasters in their premises and not by the Department. Out of 1335 departmental Post offices as on 31.12.93 in rural Andhra Pradesh, about 20% of them are functioning in small houses for want of suitable buildings.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. The Government proposes to construct building for these post offices subject to availability of suitable sites and funds. During the current financial year departmental buildings for 5 such post offices are under construction.

#### **Policy on Film Censorship**

6834. SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate a clear policy on Film Censorship after considering the recommendations of the National Film Policy Group;

(b) if so, whether the existing guidelines to C.B.F.C. in regard to censor of Indian and foreign films is proposed to be modified; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) The recommendations of the

working group on National Film Policy (1980) relating to film censorship and the action taken thereon are given in the attached *Statement*.

(b) and (c). The guidelines for certification of films were revised on 6.12.91 after consulting the film industry and taking into account the views of the Consultative Committee of the Members of Parliament attached to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

### STATEMENT

#### *Report of the working group on National Film Policy*

| Recommendations relating to censorship  | Updated action statement   |
|---|--|
| 189. Para 14.6 Statutory pre-censorship of films should continue.   | Accepted. Recommendation is in line with the existing policy of the Government.  |
| 190. Para 14.9 Government must lay down clear guidelines for the appointment of the Chairman and members of the Censor Board, which should keep in view the broad qualifications recommended by the Khosla Committee. The guidelines should provide for adequate representation of people drawn from the film industry including those involved in the creative aspects of film making. | Not accepted. Censorship and related issues are matters of continuous, ever evolving and changing social and ethical mores. It would not be correct to lay down rigid guidelines or qualifications for Chairman or the Members of the Board. The matter should be left to the discretion of the Government depending upon the prevalent situation. |
| 191. Para 14.12 & 14.13 in Section 5(B)(1) of the Indian Cinematograph Act which follows Article 19(2) of the Constitution the words "the Sovereignty and integrity of India" appear to have been left out. The Act should be suitably amended.   | Accepted. The words "the Sovereignty and Integrity of India" have been added to Section 5(B)(1) of Cinematograph Act, 1952 as per the notification dated 29.5.1984.  |
| 192. Para 14.15 & 14.16. The power of the Central Government to give detailed guidelines to the Censor Board erodes the independence and authority of the Censor Board. The Censor Board should have the freedom to evolve its own code   | Not accepted. The guidelines issued by the Central Government are within the ambit of Article 19(2) of the Constitution. Transferring of legal powers such as prescription of guidelines under Section 5(B) to the Board itself is likely to suffer  |

| Recommendations relating to censorship  | Updated action statement   |
|---|--|
| and guidelines within Article 19(2) of the Constitution as suggested by the Khosla Committee.   | from "excessive delegation" This is not favoured by the Court.   |
| 193. Para 14.19. The Cinematograph Act should be amended to take away the <i>revisional</i> and appellate powers of the Central Government over the decisions of the Censor Board in cases except where issues are involved which have a bearing on (i) the sovereignty and integrity of India, (ii) the security of the State, and (iii) friendly relations with foreign States.   | Not accepted. The Cinematograph Act is essentially an administrative Act and the final responsibility for administering the Act rests with the Government. It is, therefore, felt that revisional powers should continue to rest with the Government.  |
| 194. Para 14.20 Government should set up a Standing Tribunal to be headed by a person with judicial background to hear appeals against the decisions of the Censor Board. The Tribunal should include on eminent film maker while hearing appeals. Appeal should lie with the Tribunal in all cases except in the three specific areas mentioned in para 14.19 where the revisional and appellate powers will rest with the Central Government. | Accepted. Under powers conferred by Section 5(D) of the Cinematograph Act, 1952 a Film Certification Appellate Tribunal (FCAT) has been set up by the Central Government with its head office at New Delhi. The Chairman of the Tribunal is a retired Judge of a High Court and it has not more than four members appointed by the Central Government. |
| 195. Para 14.24. An intermediary censor classification should be introduced which may be designated as 'UA'. This will indicate that the film is approved for universal exhibition but contains material which the parents may not like children upto the age of 12 to see. This certificate will be purely advisory.   | Accepted. An additional Censor classification 'UA' has been added to Section 5(B) and elsewhere wherever considered necessary in the Act.  |
| 196. Para 14.25 & 14.26. In granting 'A' certificate a puritanical approach towards depiction of sex should not be adopted but a stricter view should be taken regarding the depiction of excessive, sadistic and debasive violence.  | Noted. The observations of the Group are within the scope of objectives and guidelines laid down for film censorship which <i>inter-alia</i> provide that the medium of film should be responsive and sensitive to the values and standards of society and responsive to social change.  |
| 197. Para 14.27. Censor Board has generally adopted a rigid approach regarding the exposure of corruption in relation to established authority such as  | The observations of the Working Group have been noted. Guidelines to the Censor Board are in line with Article 19(2) of the Constitution which provides for only   |

| Recommendations relating<br>to censorship  | Updated<br>action statement  |
|--|--|
| <p>police, political government etc. Cinema like literature has to be given the freedom for social and political comments.</p>   | <p>reasonable restrictions on the 'freedom of expression' and therefore, do not in any way specifically discourage social or political comment. Of late it is also seen that cinema of social and political comment is gaining recognition through National Film Awards.</p>   |
| <p>198. Para 14.28 &amp; 14.29. Censor Board should give a 'Q' certificate indicating that a film has definite artistic quality. This should be supported by exemption from entertainment tax and excise duty for such films. This certificate should be recommended by a separate committee attached to the Censor Board consisting primarily of film makers, film critics and people from allied arts. Only those films should be considered for 'Q' certificate where the producers specially request for such a consideration.</p>   | <p>This recommendations was considered in detail and the conclusion arrived at was that separate 'Q' classification for films would not be practicable. Since such a classification was very much likely to cut across or even militate against other such classifications like 'A' 'U' 'UA' and 'S'. The proposal was finally dropped.</p>  |
| <p>199. Para 14.30. All nominations to the Advisory Panel of the Censor Board should be made by the Censor Board itself and not by the Central Government and these should provide adequate representation to film makers and artists of other fields.</p>   | <p>Not accepted. As the nomination to the Advisory Panels is made in consultation with the Central Board of Film Censors, the present practice may continue.</p>   |
| <p>200. Para 14.32. The membership of the Censor Board should be suitably enlarged. Each Regional Office should be headed by a full time member to be called Regional Chairman and there should be atleast 2 or 3 non-official members in each region. Every Examining Committee should include either the Regional Chairman or a non-official member of the Board. The Regional Chairman should have full authority to grant censorship certificate so long as the decision is not contested by the applicant. In case the decision is contested, the present procedure of a Revising Committee should be followed.</p> | <p>Not accepted. Under the amended Cinematograph Act, 1952, the membership of the Central Board of Film Certification has been increased from "not more than 9" to "not less than 12 and not more than 25". Moreover, under Section 7-B of the Act, the Central Government has authorised one Board Member at each of the Regional Offices outside Bombay to exercise limited powers of Chairman of the Board in regard to certification of films.</p> |
| <p>201. Para 14.33. The Regional Officers of the Censor Board should not function in an insulated atmosphere. There should be an</p>   | <p>Not accepted. Since the CBFC itself performs the advisory and reviewing functions as well as acts as guide of the</p>   |

| Recommendations relating<br>to censorship  | Updated<br>action statement   |
|--|---|
| Advisory Committee largely drawn from the film industry, to assist the Regional Chairman in resolving procedural and policy problems.  | Advisory, Panels, the suggestion of Regional Advisory Committee to be drawn from the film industry is considered unnecessary.   |
| 202. Para 14.34. Considering the fact that Karnataka, Kerala and Andhra Pradesh are now producing a large number of feature films every year, there is need to set up Censor Board Offices in Bangalore, Hyderabad and Trivandrum. Similarly as and when film making activity expands in other regions, suitable expansion of the Censorship machinery should be considered. | Accepted. A Regional Office of the Board has since been set up each at Hyderabad, Bangalore, Trivandrum, Delhi, Cuttack and Guwahati. The Regional Office at Guwahati has not get started examining films.  |
| 203. Para 14.35. The autonomy of the Censor Board should be statutorily guaranteed and it should cease to function as a department of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. The Chairman and members should be appointed for a fixed minimum tenure or three years.  | Not accepted. The Censor Board already enjoys functional autonomy. It is not considered necessary to make any amendment to the Act regarding status of the Board. The Consequential recommendation No. 205 suggesting financial autonomy to the Board is also not accepted. |
| 204. Para 14.36. The status of the Chairman of the Board should be atleast of the rank of Secretary to the Government of India and of the full time members of at least Joint Secretary to the Government of India.  | Not accepted. This is linked with recommendation No. 203 which has not been found acceptable.   |
| 205. Para 14.37. The Board should be given a fixed budget and should be left free to manage its own affairs. The censorship function is basically in the nature of policing function and it is the responsibility of the Government to meet the expenditure of the Board.  | As in Recommendation No. 203.   |
| 206. Para 14.38 To discourage violation of censorship, the Censor Board should maintain a video copy of the censored films and have a nucleus cell of enforcement staff to carry out spot checks. It must be a legal responsibility of the labs that except for the print required for censorship no other prints of a film are prepared until the film has been censored.   | Accepted. A video copy of the censored version of each film obtained by the Board as one of the pre-conditions to the issue of censor certificate. Setting up of Enforcement Cells have been included as one of the 8th Plan Schemes of the Board.                          |

**Registration of Newspapers**

6835. SHRI BRAHMANAND  
MANDAL:  
SHRI TEJ NARAYAN  
SINGH:

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

(a) the number of applications for registration of newspapers pending with the RNI till date State-wise; and

(b) the steps being taken to clear the pending applications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) As on 15.4.94, 121 applications for registration were pending with the RNI. Their State-wise break-up is as under:

| State/Union Territory | No. of pending applications |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Assam                 | 1                           |
| Delhi                 | 3                           |
| Haryana               | 1                           |
| Karnataka             | 4                           |
| Manipur               | 1                           |
| Punjab                | 1                           |
| West Bengal           | 3                           |
| Uttar Pradesh         | 81                          |
| Madhya Pradesh        | 2                           |
| Rajasthan             | 2                           |

| State/Union Territory | No. of pending applications |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Bihar                 | 1                           |
| Maharashtra           | 20                          |
| Mizoram               | 1                           |

(b) Applications received for registration are scrutinised by RNI in terms of the various provisions of the Press & Registration of Books Act, 1867 and registration is a continuing process.

**World Bank Assistance to ports**

6836. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has stipulated improved performance of ports as a pre-condition for infrastructural development loan;

(b) if so, whether the Bank has sought a commitment on turn around time of ships at major ports;

(c) whether the loan is being given specifically for development of infrastructural facilities linking various inland container depot and ports;

(d) if so, whether World Bank team has also visited Bombay and Nehru Ports during January 1994;

(e) if so, to what extent the experts were satisfied with India's performance;

(f) by what time the loan is likely to be provided by the World Bank; and

(g) the time by which the work on the ports is likely to start?

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

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) and (e). World Bank Team was satisfied with the Rail arrangement at Bombay Port and at Rail Container Depot during their visit to Bombay Port in January, 1994.

(f) Since the loan negotiation is going on it is not possible to indicate a fixed time frame although it is expected to be finalised early.

(g) Since the loan is for logistics and not for Ports the question does not arise.

[Translation]

#### **AIR/Doordarshan Kendras in Gujarat**

6837. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have fixed any targets to set up Akashwani and Doordarshan Kendras in Gujarat particularly in tribal areas during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the locations thereof; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken for the expansion of Akashwani and Doordarshan network in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. During Eighth Plan period, Doordarshan proposes to set up 4 HPTs, 16 LPTs and 2 VLPTs

in the State of Gujarat including the rural, tribal and remote areas as given in the attached *Statement*.

Even though, the State of Gujarat is fully covered by AIR, an LRS at Vadodara, a Relay Centre at Junagarh and a 2x5 KW FM Transmitter at Ahmedabad are being set up to further strengthen the radio coverage in the State of Gujarat.

#### **STATEMENT**

*Details of the Doordarshan Schemes proposed to be implemented during Eighth Plan Period*

| S. No. | Scheme                      | Place   |
|--------|-----------------------------|---|
| 1.     | High Power Transmitters     | Bhuj<br>*Vadodara<br>Surat<br>Palitana  |
| 2.     | Low Power Transmitters      | Khambhat<br>Morbi<br>Dharangadra<br>Mahuva<br>Naktarana<br>Rapar<br>*Mangrol<br>*Idar<br>Palitana<br>*Deesa<br>Rajula<br>*Sanjeli<br>Khambalia<br>*Amod<br>*Jhagadia<br>*Mangrol<br>(Surat) |
| 3.     | Very Low Power Transmitters | *Netrang<br>*Devgarh  |

\* The scheme at these places will serve areas under the Tribal Sub Plan (TSP).

*[Translation]***Programmes in Bhojpuri**

6838. SHRI PREM CHAND RAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is persistent demand to telecast/broadcast news bulletin and other programmes in Bhojpuri language from Akashvani Stations and Doordarshan Kendras at Patna in Bihar;

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

(c) whether there is any decline in the standards of programmes being broadcast/telecast from Akashvani and Doordarshan Kendra at Patna; and

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

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

*[English]***T.V. Transmitter to N.D.D.B**

6839. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUD-DIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of

INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Government have recently taken a decision to handover a T.V. transmitter to National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) in Gujarat;

(b) if so, by when it is likely to be handed over to NDDB;

(c) the purpose of handing over the T.V. transmitter to NDDB;

(d) whether the Government propose to introduce such a proposal in other States also; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) to (c). Government have approved the proposal to allow the National Dairy Development Board to utilise the 1 KW TV transmitter at Pij in Khera District of Gujarat for the purpose of transmitting local broadcast for providing Rural Development and Educational programmes suited to the area covered by the transmitter on payment basis. NDDB will bear the cost of repair, rectification and operationalisation of the transmitter. Department of Electronics will extend technical assistance. After a Joint inspection and requisite payments to Doordarshan, the modalities of operation of the transmitter would be settled.

(d) There is no proposal at present to provide such facility in other States.

(e) Does not arise.



[Translation]

**Use of Income for Telecom Services**

6840. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total additional income earned by the Government upto January, 1994 as a result of the increase made in the registration fee of telephones;

(b) whether the Government utilised this additional income to modernise telecommunication services; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The required information is not readily available and hence is being collected from the field units and shall be submitted on receipt of the same.

(b) and (c). The additional income on account of (a) above is merged with the other Revenue Receipts of the Department. The surplus, after meeting the Revenue Expenditure, is utilised to finance the Plan Outlay of the department, which include various New Schemes/ Projects and also modernisation of Telecom. Services.

[English]

**Bridges on National Highway 48**

6841. SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any estimate has been submitted to the Union Government for the construction of bridges on National Highway 48; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including the cost of each bridge?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). A revised estimate amounting to Rs. 8.06 crores for construction of Netravathi Bridge on NH-48 was received from the State Govt. which was returned unsanctioned for modification.

[Translation]

**Post Offices buildings in U.P.**

6842. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated for the construction of departmental buildings for new post-offices in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) the number of buildings constructed during this period, year-wise;

(c) the number of post offices without departmental buildings in the State;

(d) whether the Government have made a time-bound scheme for construction of new buildings for such post offices; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The amount

allocated during the last three years is as under:—

|         |   |               |
|---------|---|---------------|
| 1991-92 | — | Rs. 166 lakhs |
| 1992-93 | — | Rs. 110 lakhs |
| 1993-94 | — | Rs. 150 lakhs |

(b) The number of buildings constructed year-wise is as under:—

|         |   |   |
|---------|---|---|
| 1991-92 | — | 3 |
| 1992-93 | — | 4 |
| 1993-94 | — | 4 |

(c) The number of post offices without departmental buildings in the state is 2592.

(d) The construction of post office buildings depends on the availability of land and resources. Therefore, no time frame has been fixed for construction of buildings for such post offices.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### **T.V. Kendra capacity in Bhopal**

6844. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the transmission capacity of T.V. transmitters set up in Bhopal and the number of other T.V. transmitters set up in various State-headquarters;

(b) whether there is any scheme for expansion of Bhopal Doordarshan Kendra

and if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) the time by which Metro Channel are likely to be introduced in Bhopal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) A 10 KW TV transmitter is functioning at Bhopal. 29 High Power Transmitters (HPTs), 10 Low Power Transmitters (LPTs) and 2 Very Low Power Transmitters (VLPTs) are set up in various State Capitals in the country.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Metro Channel service has been envisaged to be commissioned at Bhopal during 1994-95.

[English]

#### **NALCO stockyards in Delhi**

6845. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Aluminium Company (NALCO) has opened its stockyard at Delhi;

(b) whether the Government propose to open similar stockyards of NALCO at Bombay, Madras and Calcutta; and

(c) the other places where NALCO propose to set up its stockyard in the financial year 1994-95?

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

(b) and (c). NALCO has not opened stockyards at Bombay, Madras and Calcutta. The company intends to open *stockyards only at viable locations to make available NALCO's products at competitive prices and provide better customer service.*

### Cost of construction of National Highways

6846. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the average cost per kilometre of construction of four lane National Highways, of widening two lane highways to four lane highways, of repair and maintenance;

(b) the total allocations Statewise and for each category of the above work since 1991-92;

(c) the total length in kilometres for each category of works, sanctioned so far Statewise; and

(d) the names of works which have so far been undertaken by the National Highways Authority?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER):** (a) The cost of construction of 4 lane National Highway and widening from 2 lane to 4 lane and their maintenance varies depending upon the terrain, specifications, cost of material, traffic etc.

(b) Allotments are made for all the works in the State as a whole and not scheme/work-wise. However, the allocations for the development and maintenance of National Highways to various States since 1991-92 are given the attached *Statement-I*.

(c) A Statement showing State-wise position is given in the attached *Statement-II*.

(d) Nil.

### STATEMENT-I

(Rs. in lakhs)

| Sl. No. | Name of State     | 1991-92               |              | 1992-93               |              | 1993-94               |              |
|---------|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------|
|         |                   | Main-tenance & Repair | Develop-ment | Main-tenance & Repair | Develop-ment | Main-tenance & Repair | Develop-ment |
| 1.      | Andhra Pradesh    | 1279.42               | 2455.00      | 1249.44               | 2600.00      | 1716.42               | 4580.00      |
| 2.      | Arunachal Pradesh | 84.36                 | 48.00        | 35.41                 | 80.00        | 33.51                 | 80.00        |
| 3.      | Assam             | 1018.09               | 1225.00      | 1039.625              | 1275.00      | 1355.22               | 1400.00      |
| 4.      | Bihar             | 1012.30               | 1142.00      | 1072.66               | 1385.00      | 1276.45               | 1920.00      |
| 5.      | Chandigarh        | 16.00                 | 28.00        | 15.48                 | 25.00        | 14.00                 | 25.00        |

| Sl. No. | Name of State    | 1991-92               |              | 1992-93               |              | 1993-94               |              |
|---------|------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------|
|         |                  | Main-tenance & Repair | Develop-ment | Main-tenance & Repair | Develop-ment | Main-tenance & Repair | Develop-ment |
| 6.      | Delhi            | 163.00                | 550.00       | 171.80                | 700.00       | 208.21                | 550.00       |
| 7.      | Goa              | 191.97                | 930.00       | 208.308               | 850.00       | 245.05                | 570.00       |
| 8.      | Gujarat          | 918.89                | 4770.00      | 881.37                | 4650.00      | 1033.95               | 6350.00      |
| 9.      | Haryana          | 362.29                | 1060.00      | 380.83                | 1870.00      | 513.86                | 3200.00      |
| 10.     | Himachal Pradesh | 518.77                | 1140.00      | 529.55                | 1150.00      | 881.70                | 1200.00      |
| 11.     | Jammu & Kashmir  | 45.00                 | 50.00        | 143.39                | 50.00        | 94.54                 | 40.00        |
| 12.     | Karnataka        | 990.02                | 1775.00      | 1105.85               | 1880.36      | 1034.19               | 2900.00      |
| 13.     | Kerala           | 586.54                | 1120.00      | 587.82                | 1400.00      | 726.15                | 3050.00      |
| 14.     | Madhya Pradesh   | 1195.69               | 1850.00      | 1213.25               | 1915.00      | 1316.28               | 1850.00      |
| 15.     | Maharashtra      | 1620.00               | 3358.00      | 1506.677              | 3280.00      | 1815.54               | 3080.00      |
| 16.     | Manipur          | 51.67                 | 250.00       | 73.32                 | 250.00       | 130.47                | 300.00       |
| 17.     | Meghalaya        | 206.19                | 450.00       | 170.27                | 387.00       | 231.13                | 470.00       |
| 18.     | Nagaland         | 3.50                  | 48.00        | 3.50                  | 50.00        | 7.29                  | 45.00        |
| 19.     | Orissa           | 859.98                | 1384.00      | 738.52                | 1375.00      | 1016.11               | 1350.00      |
| 20.     | Pondicherry      | 6.83                  | 120.00       | 5.78                  | 44.64        | 16.02                 | 50.00        |
| 21.     | Punjab           | 579.98                | 2850.00      | 638.97                | 2800.00      | 661.30                | 2200.00      |
| 22.     | Rajasthan        | 1054.61               | 1800.00      | 1141.02               | 3095.00      | 1339.97               | 4200.00      |
| 23.     | Tamil Nadu       | 979.91                | 1422.00      | 1134.69               | 1600.00      | 1643.67               | 3150.00      |
| 24.     | Uttar Pradesh    | 1312.05               | 6025.00      | 1394.96               | 4995.00      | 1710.52               | 4750.00      |
| 25.     | West Bengal      | 1284.35               | 1634.00      | 1071.51               | 2230.00      | 1760.45               | 3500.00      |

**STATEMENT-II**

(Position as on 1.4.94 length in km.)

| Sl. State No.        | Construction of new 4-Lane road in progress or sanctioned | Widening from two lane to Four Lane |                         | Remarks |
|----------------------|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------|
|                      |   | Completed                           | in progress/ sanctioned |         |
| 1. Andhra Pradesh    | —   | 10                                  | 41                      |         |
| 2. Arunachal Pradesh | —   | —                                   | —                       |         |
| 3. Assam             | —   | —                                   | —                       |         |
| 4. Bihar             | —   | —                                   | —                       |         |
| 5. Chandigarh        | —   | 8                                   | —                       |         |
| 6. Delhi             | —   | —                                   | —                       |         |
| 7. Goa               | —   | —                                   | —                       |         |
| 8. Gujarat           | 93  | —                                   | 113                     |         |
| 9. Haryana           | —   | 77                                  | 216                     |         |
| 10. Himachal Pradesh | —   | —                                   | —                       |         |
| 11. Jammu & Kashmir  | —   | —                                   | —                       |         |
| 12. Karnataka        | —   | 30                                  | 25                      |         |
| 13. Kerala           | —   | —                                   | 37                      |         |
| 14. Madhya Pradesh   | 31  | —                                   | 16                      |         |
| 15. Maharashtra      | —   | 18                                  | 58                      |         |
| 16. Manipur          | —   | —                                   | —                       |         |
| 17. Meghalaya        | —   | —                                   | —                       |         |
| 18. Nagaland         | —   | —                                   | —                       |         |
| 19. Orissa           | —   | 3                                   | 28                      |         |
| 20. Pondicherry      | —   | —                                   | —                       |         |
| 21. Punjab           | —   | 102                                 | 73                      |         |
| 22. Rajasthan        | —   | —                                   | 86                      |         |
| 23. Tamil Nadu       | —   | —                                   | 43                      |         |
| 24. Uttar Pradesh    | —   | 30                                  | 106                     |         |
| 25. West Bengal      | —   | 7                                   | 35                      |         |
| <b>Total :</b>       | <b>124</b>  | <b>488</b>                          | <b>877</b>              |         |

**Complaints from Women Employees  
of Doordarshan Kendras**

6847. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints received from the women employees of the Doordarshan on charges of misbehaving with them by the male colleagues during the last three years year-wise and Kendra-wise;

(b) the number of women employees belonging to SC/ST; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in each case of misbehaviour?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Three complaints have been received in the Directorate General, Doordarshan, one each from Doordarshan Kendras at Guwahati, Shillong and Hyderabad, during the last three years, 2 in the year 1993 and one in 1994, wherein 4 women employees have complained against misbehaviour by their male colleagues.

(b) None of the 4 complainants belongs to SC/ST category.

(c) Investigations have since been completed in two of the three cases. While in one case, the complaint was not found to be correct and matter closed, the officer alleged to have been involved in the other case was transferred to another Kendra on the basis of the enquiry report. In the third case, full facts

are being ascertained and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Sponge Iron India Limited**

6848. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO:  
SHRI S.B. SIDNAL:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the funds allocated to Sponge Iron India Limited for 1993-94 were insufficient for the reorganisation plan being undertaken by it;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total plan outlay earmarked for SIIIL for 1994-95;

(d) whether the Government propose to provide additional funds to SIIIL; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). The funds allocated to Sponge Iron India Limited in 1993-94 were as per the requirements projected by the Company for its ongoing schemes and new projects.

(c) to (e). The total plan outlay approved for Sponge Iron India Limited in 1994-95 is Rs. 4.80 crores. The plan outlay approved meets fully the requirements of funds projected by Sponge Iron India Limited for 1994-95. No request has received for additional plan outlay for 1994-95.

[Translation]

**AIR Station, Kanpur**

6849. SHRI GAYA PRASAD KORI:  
Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND  
BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose  
to increase the transmission range of the  
Akashvani Kendra, Kanpur;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE  
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND  
BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH  
DEO): (a) to (c). No, Sir. The Vividh  
Bharati/Commercial Broadcasting Station  
at Kanpur is working satisfactorily. There  
is no proposal under consideration at  
present to upgrade its power.

[English]

**US Aid to India**

6850. SHRI MANORANJAN  
BHAKTA:  
DR. AMRIT LAL KALIDAS:  
DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL  
AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the  
Government has been drawn to the  
news-item captioned "demand to stop US  
aid to India" appearing in the Statesman  
dated February 13, 1994; and

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

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

(b) Congressman Roscoe Bartlett  
and 28 other Congressmen wrote to  
President Clinton in February, 1994 urging  
that the US link "developmental aid to  
India to its admittance of Amnesty  
International into Punjab Khalistan for the  
purpose of investigating human rights  
violations". The Congressmen alleged  
that without such investigation, human  
rights abuses against the Sikhs were  
likely to continue. Mentioning that the  
Indian Government claimed to have  
brought "peace" to "Punjab, Khalistan",  
the Congressmen stated that the Indian  
Government refused "to repeal draconian  
laws which deny even the most basic  
human rights" and using such laws, had  
"imprisoned tens of thousands of Sikhs".

US authorities as well as  
Congressmen have been apprised that  
the situation in Punjab has returned to  
normal. Government have also explained  
additional measures taken for the  
protection of human rights, including the  
setting up of the National Human Rights  
Commission. Government have conveyed  
that their foremost concern is to protect  
the human rights of innocent citizens of  
India.

**Diamond reserves in Gujarat**

6851. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will The  
Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Geological Survey of  
India has made a survey of Saurashtra  
for diamond deposits;

(b) if so, the findings thereof;

(c) whether prominent geologists have urged the Union Government to conduct another survey of this region to reassess the diamond reserves there; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No. Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Vehicular Pollution in Delhi**

6852. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the vehicular pollution in the capital has gone up tremendously;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether pollution control measures are not strictly applied to huge trucks and lorries in the capital;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken to check vehicular pollution in the capital?

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

(b) The vehicular emission generates 808.9 tonnes of Carbon Monoxide, 12.74 tonnes of particulate matter, 157.04

tonnes of oxides of Nitrogen, 310.05 tonnes of Hydro-Carbon, 7.47 tonnes of Sulphur dioxide per day. It has been estimated that Carbon Monoxide and Oxides of Nitrogen constitute 76% and 66% of the total air pollution load generated in Delhi.

(c) No. Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) (i) Central Government have issued Notification prescribing mass emission standards for petrol and diesel driven vehicles. These norms will be made stricter w.e.f. 1.4.1996.

(ii) Transport Department, Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi has been implementing a Plan Scheme "Control of Air Pollution from the Exhaust of Motor Vehicles".

(iii) 25.01 lakh vehicles have been checked for pollution level by the Transport Department and its authorised centres between March, 1990 and January, 1994. Out of which 4.41 lakh vehicles have been found polluting beyond the prescribed standards.

(iv) Regular checking is being carried out by the Department against the vehicles polluting beyond prescribed standards. So far 34,130 numbers of vehicles have been challaned between April, 1990 and February, 1994. In addition, Certificate of Fitness/Pollution Control Check Certificate of 1,00,651 number of vehicles have been cancelled during the same period.

(v) To strengthen the public transport system and to discourage personalised vehicles the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi have introduced



3000 Stage Carriage Permits to private operators.

(vi) Ministry of Urban Development have formulated a project for Mass Rapid Transit System for Delhi in consultation with RITES.

(vii) The steps taken by DTC to control pollution are given in the attached *Statement*.

### STATEMENT

1. All the DTC vehicles have been got passed from STA, Delhi and 'Pollution Under Control Certificate' are also being renewed after every three months to bring the pollution level of DTC vehicles within the permissible limit *i.e.* 65 H.S.U.
2. All the DTC vehicles are being checked at the Depot gate by a skilled workman for emission of smoke at the time of out-shedding. In case any vehicle is found emitting excessive smoke, the same is sent back to work shop and only after proper certification the vehicle is allowed to go on line.
3. DTC vehicles are also being checked on line by the STA-DTC Joint checking groups. The vehicles found emitting excessive smoke are being attended on priority by the unit concerned and got passed from STA-Delhi.
4. Speed limiting brackets have been fitted on engine blocks of

all the vehicles for ensuring that the vehicle does not run beyond the pre-determined speed, resulting therein the reduction of air-pollution.

5. Regular inspection of various preventive maintenance tasks particularly responsible for excessive smoke emission are carried out in the units under the supervision of Sr. Manager (PC) to ensure that all the tasks are completed as per desired quality level. Deficiencies observed, if any, during inspection, are communicated to the Depots for corrective action.
6. A Pollution Control Cell has been established in DTC. This Cell has been provided with mobile smoke checking van equipped with 'HARTRIDGE' smoke meter. The telephone numbers of the Pollution Control Cell have been printed in all buses for convenience of the public to report excessively smoking vehicles to the Pollution Control Cell. Public participation has also been requested in this regard through Press, T.V. etc.
7. Through public participation, vehicular pollution of DTC buses is also being controlled. As and when any member of public complains about emission of excessive smoke by the DTC vehicles, the same is attended on priority. The vehicle is sent on line only after getting a fresh Pollution Under Control Certificate from STA-Delhi.

8. Six vehicles using CNG-diesal dual fuel mode have started operating from OD-I of DTC. It is reported that the CNG-diesal mode vehicles conserves energy besides reduction in smoke level. In case the trial is found satisfactory, the other vehicles would be taken for conversion into the above system.

9. All the above measures are planned for maintaining pollution free environment in DTC's operational areas. Pollution control steps are further planned to be intensified by adding a few more hartidge type smoke meters. Further, any upgraded vehicle technology introudced by vehicle manufacturers for pollution control is also planned to be adopted by DTC as and when available.

### **Foreign/Private Investors in Power Sector**

6853. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:  
Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some experts on power sector have called for an independent parliamentary inquiry into the inflated installed cost and unreasonably favourable terms being offered to foreign and private investors in power sector;

(b) whether the Union Government have declined to explore the possibilities of lowering cost by inviting technical and financial bids globally for these power projects;

(c) whether the Government have exaggerated the power shortage in the country to justify foreign owned power plants;

(d) whether the Government have under-estimated the capacity of Indian investors to mobilise resources and thus creating an artificial resources crunch; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) A group of persons, who were earlier associated with the power sector, have brought out a paper in which such a demand has been made.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

### **Buckingham Canal**

6854. PROF. UMMAREDDY  
VENKATESWARLU:  
SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Inland Waterways Authority of India has sought information and project details from the Government of Andhra Pradesh regarding Buckingham Canal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Inland Waterways Authority propose to raise financial resources from the open market to develop the Canal; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). The Government of Andhra Pradesh submitted a combined project Report for the development of Buckingham Canal (316 kms.) and Commamuru Canal (113 kms.) connecting Vijaywada and Madras at a total cost of Rs. 37.18 crores under Centrally Sponsored Scheme. After discussions with the officials of Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu, it has been decided by the Inland Waterways Authority of India to carry out a Techno-Economic Feasibility study on the entire canal system connecting Kakinada and Madras. The study has been awarded to M/s. RITES and is in progress.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

### National Highways

6855. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the budgetary allocation and the actual expenditure incurred for repair, maintenance and construction of bridges on National Highways during each of the last three years, National Highway-wise and year-wise; and

(b) the provision of funds for broad categories of work to be taken up National Highway-wise and for National Highway No. 17 in particular during the Eighth Plan Period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). The allocation for Development and Maintenance and Repairs of National Highways are made to States/U.Ts as a whole and not project-wise/National Highway-wise. The allocations/expenditure for development/maintenance & repairs of National Highways during the last three years are given below:-

(Rs. in Crore)

| Year     | Development |             | Maintenance & Repair |             |
|----------|-------------|-------------|----------------------|-------------|
|          | Allotment   | Expenditure | Allotment            | Expenditure |
| 1991-92* | 374.84      | 408.93      | 163.41               | 177.02      |
| 1992-93* | 399.37      | 436.05      | 165.14               | 171.23      |
| 1993-94* | 528.69      | 380.33 (P)  | 209.82               | 170.76 (P)  |

\*Excluding BRDB.

### National Highway No. 47

SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

6856. PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of

(a) whether Asian Development Bank (ADB) had financed for four laning

and strengthening of (1) Alwaye-Vyttila and (2) Aroor-Sherthalai section on National Highway No. 47 in Kerala;

(b) if so, the fund financed by Asian Development Bank for these projects;

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

(d) whether there is any delay in commencing of these projects; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) US \$ 22.06 million has been provided for this work.

(c) September, 1997

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

#### **Violation by Deep Sea Vessels**

6857. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether deep sea fishing vessels often violate the 12-nautical mile limit demarcated for their operation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING

INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (c). Deep sea fishing vessels are not permitted to operate within territorial waters, where it is the exclusive right of traditional fishermen to fish. Recently, some fishermen's Associations have alleged that deep sea fishing vessels are encroaching in their area, though no specific instances have been mentioned. The Ministry has, however, constituted an Expert Committee for making an indepth study of the alleged violations in consultation with the concerned State Governments and to suggest remedial measures.

#### **Ship Building Sector**

6858. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Poland has offered its expertise in shipbuilding sector;

(b) if so, whether any agreement has been reached between the two countries in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) An offer for collaboration for building a certain type of ships has been received from a shipyard in Poland.

(b) No, Sir.

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

**Visit of High Power Delegations**

6859. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of foreign countries whose high power delegations led by their Heads of State or Government visited India during the period from January to April, 1994;

(b) the broad nature of talks held with them and the outcome thereof, country-wise; and

(c) the views expressed by them on Kashmir issue, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) The names of countries whose high power delegations led by their Heads of State or Government visited India during this period are as under:

Uzbekistan, Singapore, Czech Republic, Mongolia, Poland, Maldives and Argentina

In addition, the Heads of State or Government of the following countries visited New Delhi to attend re-convened G-15 Summit in March, 1994:

Indonesia, Zimbabwe, Nigeria, Senegal, Malaysia and Argentina

(b) Information, country-wise, is as under:

*Uzbekistan*

The talks centred on enhanced cooperation between the two countries in

the economic, political and cultural fields. Views were also exchanged on the regional and global issues of mutual interest. It has led to better understanding of each other's views.

*Singapore*

In addition to exchange of views on regional and global issues, bilateral issues of mutual interest, such as forgoing a strategic economic partnership between the two countries, increase in trade and investment, were discussed. The visit has enhanced cooperation between the two countries.

*Czech Republic*

The discussions focussed on bilateral relations as well as regional and international issues of mutual interest. While acknowledging that bilateral relations have been traditionally good, both sides recognised the need for developing new pattern of cooperation taking into account the ongoing changes in both countries. The Czech side was invited to invest in the infrastructure sector in India where areas of interest have been identified.

*Mongolia*

Discussions focussed on bilateral and regional issues and both sides felt that regional cooperation should be strengthened. Possibilities of cooperation in different areas such as mining and agriculture were also discussed and it was agreed that details would be worked out by the Joint Committee that was set up. A Treaty of Friendly Relations and Cooperation, an Agreement for establishment of a Joint Committee, an Agreement for the avoidance of double taxation, a Programme of Cooperation in

the field of health and medical sciences for 1994–96 and a Cultural Exchange Programme for 1994–96 were signed during the visit.

#### *Poland*

Issues concerning international and regional affairs as well as bilateral cooperation were discussed. Views were also exchanged on disarmament. On bilateral aspects, the two sides concurred on the need to strengthen trade and economic ties and activate the Indo-Polish Joint Business Council and Indo-Polish Joint Commission. It was also decided that the two sides would exchange views on restructuring of the UN Security Council and cooperate and coordinate efforts in GATT in relation to the follow up of the Uruguay Round and particularly the Multi-Fibre Agreement.

#### *Maldives*

Discussions covered the issues of mutual interest of bilateral, regional and international nature and the areas of existing and future cooperation between India and Maldives. The visit led to better understanding of each other's views and enhanced cooperation between the two countries.

#### *Argentina*

Wide-ranging discussions on international, regional and bilateral issues were held. Four Agreements—(i) Agreement on abolition of visas for diplomatic and official passport holders; (ii) Agreement on establishment of Indo-Argentine Joint Commission; (iii) Intent on signing of Cultural Exchange Programme; and (iv) Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation between

Exim Bank of India and its Argentine counterpart organisation—were signed.

#### *G-15 Summit*

However, discussions with the Heads of State or Government, who had come for the G-15 Summit Meeting, were mainly in the context of G-15, chalking out areas of concrete cooperation and reaffirming its continued relevance. There were also fruitful bilateral discussions held with these leaders.

(c) Country-wise position is as under:

#### *Uzbekistan*

Favoured resolution of any problem through negotiations.

#### *Singapore*

There was no occasion for the visiting delegation to express any views on Kashmir during this visit. However, their stand on the issue is one of not taking sides and preferring a bilateral approach to resolve the Kashmir issue.

#### *Czech Republic*

Reiterated their position that a solution should be arrived at through peaceful negotiations between the two countries and without one side internationalising the issue.

#### *Mongolia*

Considered Kashmir an integral part of India. Any outstanding issues between India and Pakistan should be resolved within the ambit of the Simla Agreement.

*Poland*

The outstanding issues between India and Pakistan should be settled bilaterally and that they were against the internationalisation of this issue.

*Maldives*

Kashmir problem should be amicably and peacefully resolved through a dialogue between India and Pakistan.

*Argentina*

Did not express any view on Kashmir issue.

*G-15 Summit*

Though there was no reference to Kashmir in Joint Communiqué issued at G-15 Summit, it highlighted the threat posed by terrorism in the following words:

"Terrorism has emerged as one of the most dangerous threats to the enjoyment of human rights. Terrorists and their organizations violate the human rights of innocent civilians while at the same time undermining the free functioning of democratic institutions. Terrorism takes on a particularly pernicious character when it is aided from abroad. The international community should cooperate effectively to prevent and combat terrorism."

**Bridge Across Yamuna in Delhi**

6860. DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to provide additional road linkages over Yamuna in Delhi and to augment the capacity of the existing bridges; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). One pontoon bridge at Bhairon Road has just been opened to traffic and another near Sarai Kalle Khan is likely to be completed by October, 1994. Further, an additional 4-lane bridge near I.T.O. is under construction and is likely to be completed by June, 1996.

**Modernisation of Shipping Industry**

6861. SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes proposed to be started for creating more ship repairing facilities in Indian shipyards during the Eighth Plan Period; and

(b) the details thereof including the augmentation of capacity in terms of dry dock days and repair berth days?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). No new Shiprepair facilities are proposed to be created by the Government during the 8th Plan Period. However, a number of schemes have been proposed for augmentation and modernisation of ship-repairing facilities in Indian Public Sector Shipyards during the Eighth Plan Period. These schemes include the following:-

- (i) Addition of certain balancing facilities, and Renewal & Replacement of ageing equipment;
- (ii) Augmentation of shiprepair facilities for faster repairs of ships such as High Pressure Water Jet, Air Spray unit, Chemical Cleaning Equipment etc.
- (iii) Modernisation and renovation of existing slipways and docks.

Since there is no proposal to create new shiprepair facilities, there will be no increase in the dry dock and repair berth days. This will, however, improve the turn-round of ships under repair in Shipyards.

#### **Embezzlement in Post Offices of Assam**

6862. SHRI PROBIN DEKA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been several cases of embezzlement in the Post Offices of Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years;

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted by the Government in this regard;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken against the persons found responsible therefor?

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

(b) Number of embezzlement cases detected during the last three years is as under:—

| Year | No. of frauds |
|------|---------------|
| 1991 | 53            |
| 1992 | 67            |
| 1993 | 64            |

(c) to (e). All cases of embezzlement have been enquired into and persons responsible for embezzlement and those contributing to its commission by their supervisory negligence have been identified for initiating disciplinary proceedings under appropriate departmental rules. Cases have also been reported to police. Recoveries have also been ordered for adjustment of loss from the persons found responsible.

#### **Phone Connections**

6863. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria adopted in determining the number of new phone connections to be allotted to any town or city;

(b) whether the commercial importance of the town is also given any consideration; and

(c) the details of such criteria being followed in allotment of new phone connections for towns in Andhra Pradesh?



THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Allotment for new phone connections to any town or city fully depends upon registered demand, availability of equipment, and other infrastructures facilities.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir.

As per the objectives of 8th Five Year Plan, telephone facilities on priority basis are given to the following places:

1. Industrial Towns/Growth Centres,
2. Tourist Places,
3. Pilgrim Places.

The above criteria is also followed in the allotment of new phone connections for towns of Andhra Pradesh.

[Translation]

#### **Inland Water Transport in Gujarat**

6864. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount provided to Gujarat by the Union Government for the development of Inland Water Transport during the Eighth Five Year Plan so far; and

(b) the details of work carried out so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). An out-lay of Rs. 2.47 crores was provided for in the Eighth Five-Year

Plan under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes for the development of waterway between Bhadbhut and Baharuch in the river Narmada in Gujarat. On account of delay in acquiring the land by the Government of Gujarat, the scheme is being reviewed.

[English]

#### **Cargo-Sharing between Ports**

6865. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the cargo handled by, the capacity utilisation and the infrastructural projects of the Bombay Port and the Jawaharlal Nehru Port for the last three years;

(b) whether both the ports are equipped with most modern infrastructural facilities and equipment to handle the increasing cargo traffic in coming years;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether a dispute had recently arisen between the Bombay Port and the Jawaharlal Nehru Port on handling container cargo and a committee has been set up by the Government to resolve the same;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Committee has since submitted its recommendations;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the reaction of the Government thereto?

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

last 3 years the cargo handled at Bombay  
and Jawaharlal Nehru Port and the capacity  
utilisation was as under:—

| Year    | Traffic handled<br>(in million tonnes) |      | Capacity<br>utilisation |       |
|---------|--|------|-------------------------|-------|
|         | BPT                                    | JNPT | BPT                     | JNPT  |
| 1991-92 | 27.2                                   | 2.8  | 99.7%                   | 55.3% |
| 1992-93 | 28.7                                   | 3.0  | 105.3%                  | 59.2% |
| 1993-94 | 31.0                                   | 3.4  | 113.9%                  | 66.9% |

The major infrastructural projects  
of the two ports are as follows:

(d) No, Sir.

*Bombay:*

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

(i) Replacement of Pir Pau Oil Pier

#### **D.T.C. Bus Service**

(ii) Installation of Vessel Traffic  
Management System (VTMS)

6866. SHRI SHASHI PRAKASH:  
Will the Minister of SURFACE  
TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

*JNPT*

(i) Approach to Multi-purpose Cargo  
Berth.

(a) whether the service of DTC  
buses running from Dhaula Kuan to  
Gurgaon is inadequate particularly  
between 6 p.m. to 12 p.m.

(b) Yes Sir.

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) There is increase in mainly the  
container traffic. The Bombay Port have  
two Quay Cranes at the berth, three  
Rubber Tyred Gantry Cranes at the yard  
and five Top Lift Trucks for container  
operations. The increased container traffic  
is handled at other general cargo berths,  
where containers are loaded/unloaded by  
ships' own gears. Jawaharlal Nehru Port  
Trust have three Container Berths with  
three Quay Cranes, 8 numbers yard  
cranes and three container Freight  
Stations having handling capacity of  
1,00,000 TEUs per annum.

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

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

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

**Alternative Employment to  
Purnapani Miners**

6867. KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO:  
Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether many contract workers at Purnapani Mines have been terminated;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to provide alternative employment to the retrenched workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Contract workers at Purnapani Mines of SAIL are still continuing in their employment with the contractor.

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

**Doordarshan coverage in Gujarat**

6868. SHRI N. J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the entire population of Vadodara, Bharuch and Panchamahals districts in Gujarat are covered by Doordarshan network;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the measures proposed to be taken by the Government to cover the entire population of these districts.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND

BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Whereas the Satellite programmes of Doordarshan are available in all parts of the country, expansion of terrestrial TV service in the country is being carried out in a phased manner depending upon availability of resources for the purpose.

(c) 6 transmitters of varying powers are under implementation/envisaged to be set-up in Bharuch, Panchamahals and Vadodara districts of Gujarat to provide substantial coverage to the area. These are LPTs at Amod and Jhagodia and a VLPT at Netrang for Bharuch; LPTs at Sanjeli and Santrampur and a VLPT at Devgad-Bavia for Panchamahals; and a HPT at Vadodra for Vadodra.

*[Translation]*

**TV Studio Centre at Gaya**

6869. SHRI PREM CHAND RAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up new TV Studio centre at Gaya or Navada or to increase the capacity of TV centre situated in this area;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Doordarshan studio facilities are presently available at Patna and Ranchi. Similar facilities at Daltonganj and Muzaffarpur are technically ready and will be commissioned shortly. Augmentation of TV studio centre at Patna is in progress. It is also envisaged to upgrade the existing studio facility at Ranchi. These studio centres, on commissioning, would provide ample opportunities and exposure to the local talent of Gaya and Navada and culture of the region as a whole.

[Translation]

#### **TV Transmitters in Uttar Pradesh**

6870. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased state:

(a) the locations where TV transmitters are proposed to be set up during 1993-94 and the proposed capacity of each TV transmitter State-wise;

(b) whether there is any proposal to set up TV transmitter at Firozabad; and

(c) if so, the action being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) The State-wise locations of the TV Transmitters proposed to be set up during 1993-94, is given in the attached *Statement*.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **STATEMENT**

##### *Locations of T.V. Transmitters proposed during 1993-94*

| State/UT<br>Location  | Capacity<br>of the<br>Transmitter |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Andhra Pradesh</b> |                                   |
| Warangal              | HPT                               |
| Bellimpally           | LPT                               |
| Markapur              | LPT                               |
| Kamareddy             | LPT                               |
| Mandassa              | LPT                               |
| Emmiganur             | LPT                               |
| Tambalapally          | LPT                               |
| L.R. Pally            | LPT                               |
| Santapally            | VLPT                              |
| Korangal              | LPT                               |
| Madhira               | LPT                               |
| Nagar Kumool          | LPT                               |
| Pasra                 | LPT                               |
| Paderu                | VLPT                              |
| Kosigi                | LPT                               |
| Wanaparthi            | LPT                               |
| Visakhapatnam         | LPT/XPR                           |
| Parwathipuram         | VLPT                              |
| Ichchapuram           | VLPT                              |
| Rayachoti             | LPT                               |
| Pedanandipadu         | LPT                               |
| Chintapalli           | LPT                               |

| State/UT<br>Location     | Capacity<br>of the<br>Transmitter | State/UT<br>Location           | Capacity<br>of the<br>Transmitter |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Arunachal Pradesh</b> |                                   | Netrang                        | VLPT                              |
| Miao                     | LPT                               | <b>Haryana</b>                 |                                   |
| Yomcha                   | VLPT                              | Meham                          | LPT                               |
| Tali                     | VLPT                              | Rewari                         | LPT                               |
| Minyong                  | VLPT                              | <b>Himachal Pradesh</b>        |                                   |
| Kalatang                 | VLPT                              | Rampur                         | LPT                               |
| <b>Assam</b>             |                                   | Joginder Nagar/<br>Chatarbhuji | VLPT                              |
| Sonari                   | LPT                               | Dalhousie                      | LPT                               |
| Lumding                  | LPT                               | Jahalma                        | VLPT                              |
| Hojai                    | LPT                               | Baijnath/Majheran              | VLPT                              |
| Tinsukia                 | LPT                               | Bharmour                       | VLPT                              |
| <b>Bihar</b>             |                                   | Sarkaghat                      | VLPT                              |
| Noamundy                 | LPT                               | Diar                           | VLPT                              |
| Kodarma                  | LPT                               | Daslani                        | VLPT                              |
| Phul Paras               | LPT                               | Holi                           | VLPT                              |
| Saraikella               | LPT                               | Parwanoo                       | VLPT/XPR                          |
| Simdega                  | VLPT                              | Bandla                         | VLPT                              |
| <b>Gujarat</b>           |                                   | Kharapathar                    | VLPT                              |
| Palitana                 | HPT                               | Kandaghat                      | VLPT                              |
| Deesa                    | LPT                               | Shivbadar                      | VLPT                              |
| Palitana                 | LPT                               | Veer                           | VLPT                              |
| Rajula                   | LPT                               | Bharathi                       | VLPT                              |
| Sandali/Sant Rampur      | LPT                               | Adighat                        | VLPT                              |
| Khambalia                | LPT                               | <b>Jammu &amp; Kashmir</b>     |                                   |
| Amod                     | LPT                               | Naushera                       | HPT                               |
| Mangrol                  | LPT                               | Kathau                         | LPT                               |
| Jhagadia                 | LPT                               | Katra                          | LPT                               |
| Devgadhi Baria           | VLPT                              | Buddhal                        | VLPT                              |

| State/UT<br>Location  | Capacity<br>of the<br>Transmitter | State/UT<br>Location | Capacity<br>of the<br>Transmitter |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Kalakot               | VLPT                              | Pakhanjore           | VLPT                              |
| Baramulla             | VLPT/XPR                          | Shingrauli           | VLPT                              |
| Dawar                 | VLPT                              | Kondagaon            | VLPT                              |
| Samba                 | VLPT                              | Budhni               | VLPT                              |
| <b>Karnataka</b>      |                                   | Shakti               | LPT                               |
| Kumta                 | LPT                               | <b>Maharashtra</b>   |                                   |
| Arsikere              | LPT                               | Chandrapur           | HPT                               |
| Hattihal              | LPT                               | Shirpur              | LPT                               |
| Hassan                | HPT                               | Mehekkar             | LPT                               |
| Bhatkal               | LPT                               | Morshi               | LPT                               |
| Harpanahalli          | LPT                               | Wani                 | LPT                               |
| Basava Kalyan         | LPT                               | Risod                | VLPT                              |
| Sagar                 | LPT                               | Raigarh Fort         | LPT                               |
| Hungond               | LPT                               | Deoruk               | LPT                               |
| Sakleshpur            | VLPT                              | Chikaaldhara         | VLPT                              |
| <b>Kerala</b>         |                                   | Karjat               | VLPT                              |
| Chengannur            | LPT                               | Khed                 | VLPT                              |
| Kanjirapalli          | VLPT                              | Rajapur              | VLPT                              |
| <b>Madhya Pradesh</b> |                                   | Chikhli              | LPT                               |
| Shahdol               | HPT                               | Khamgaon/Mhasle      | LPT                               |
| Ashoknagar            | LPT                               | <b>Manipur</b>       |                                   |
| Khurai                | LPT                               | Kangpokpi            | VLPT                              |
| Maihar                | LPT                               | <b>Meghalaya</b>     |                                   |
| Jashpurnagar          | VLPT                              | Baghmara             | VLPT                              |
| Bijaipur              | LPT                               | <b>Mizoram</b>       |                                   |
| Lahar                 | LPT                               | Saiha                | LPT                               |
| Bhander               | LPT                               | Champhai             | VLPT                              |
| Kalaras               | LPT                               |                      |                                   |

| State/UT<br>Location | Capacity<br>of the<br>Transmitter |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Nagaland</b>      |                                   |
| Satakhua             | VLPT                              |
| <b>Orissa</b>        |                                   |
| Dhankanal            | LPT                               |
| Kamakhyanagar        | LPT                               |
| Tangi                | LPT                               |
| Talchar              | LPT                               |
| Thuamal-Rampur       | LPT                               |
| Hindol               | LPT                               |
| Kabisurya Nagar      | LPT                               |
| Ath-Mallik           | LPT                               |
| Dasrathpur           | LPT                               |
| Bhuban               | LPT                               |
| Khandpara            | LPT                               |
| Sonepur              | LPT                               |
| Narsinghpur          | LPT                               |
| Lutherpunk           | LPT                               |
| Palna                | LPT                               |
| Nayagarh             | LPT                               |
| Aul                  | VLPT                              |
| Rai Rangpur          | LPT                               |
| Kendrapara           | LPT                               |
| Nuapara              | LPT                               |
| Durgapur             | LPT                               |
| Baudh                | LPT                               |
| Redhakhol            | LPT                               |
| Mohana               | LPT                               |
| Kuchinda             | LPT                               |
| Banapur              | LPT                               |

| State/UT<br>Location | Capacity<br>of the<br>Transmitter |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Baligurha            | LPT                               |
| Raj Ranapur          | LPT                               |
| G. Udaigiri          | VLPT                              |
| Tushara              | LPT                               |
| Paradeep             | LPT                               |
| Bhubaneshwar         | LPT                               |
| Patnagarh            | VLPT                              |
| Bonai                | VLPT                              |
| <b>Rajasthan</b>     |                                   |
| Bikaner              | HPT                               |
| Makrana              | LPT                               |
| Karauli              | LPT                               |
| Phalodi              | LPT                               |
| Rajgarh              | LPT                               |
| Abu/Mt. Abu          | LPT                               |
| Pratapgarh           | LPT                               |
| Nohar                | LPT                               |
| Basava/Bandikui      | LPT                               |
| Shahpura             | LPT                               |
| Bhim                 | VLPT                              |
| Naukha               | LPT                               |
| Rajgarh              | VLPT                              |
| Amet                 | VLPT                              |
| Lalsot               | VLPT                              |
| <b>Sikkim</b>        |                                   |
| Singtam              | VLPT                              |
| Rangpo               | VLPT                              |
| Zorethang            | VLPT                              |

| State/UT<br>Location | Capacity<br>of the<br>Transmitter |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Tamil Nadu</b>    |                                   |
| Dharmapuri           | HPT                               |
| Sankaran Kovil       | LPT                               |
| Attur                | LPT                               |
| Udagamandalam        | LPT                               |
| Pudukkottai          | LPT                               |
| Krishnagiri          | LPT                               |
| Vazapadi             | VLPT                              |
| Mettupalayam         | VLPT                              |
| Valpara              | VLPT                              |
| Udumalpet            | VLPT                              |
| Valliur              | VLPT                              |
| <b>Tripura</b>       |                                   |
| Kailasahar           | LPT                               |
| Teliamura            | LPT                               |
| <b>Uttar Pradesh</b> |                                   |
| Sitapur              | HPT                               |
| Balrampur            | HPT                               |
| Rudauli              | LPT                               |
| Kasganj              | LPT                               |
| Kamprayag            | LPT                               |
| Nanpara              | LPT                               |
| Etah                 | LPT                               |
| Basot/Bhikiasen      | VLPT                              |
| Lalganj              | LPT                               |
| Devprayag            | VLPT                              |
| Chamoli              | VLPT                              |
| Sashiya              | VLPT                              |
| Khait Parbat         | VLPT                              |

| State/UT<br>Location                 | Capacity<br>of the<br>Transmitter |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Gajja                                | VLPT                              |
| Bagokar/Barakot                      | LPT                               |
| Sirakot/Vaikunthdham                 | VLPT                              |
| Rajgarhi                             | VLPT                              |
| Fateh Parbat                         | VLPT                              |
| Lansdowne                            | VLPT                              |
| Kaljikhal                            | VLPT                              |
| Pratapnagar                          | VLPT                              |
| Binsar                               | VLPT                              |
| <b>West Bengal</b>                   |                                   |
| Balurghat                            | HPT                               |
| Kalna                                | LPT                               |
| <b>Andaman &amp; Nicobar Islands</b> |                                   |
| Katchal                              | VLPT                              |
| Baratang                             | VLPT                              |
| <b>Dadra &amp; Nagar Haveli</b>      |                                   |
| Silvasa                              | LPT                               |

[English]

### Widening of N.H. 13

6871. SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA:  
Will the Minister of SURFACE  
TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Karnataka  
Government has submitted any estimate  
for the widening of National Highway 13;  
and

(b) if so, when it was submitted and  
whether the Government has sanctioned  
the same?



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

(a) and (b). Eight estimates were submitted by the Karnataka Government during 1993-94 out of which seven estimates amounting to Rs. 5.45 crore have been sanctioned.

### **Conversion of SAIL Loans into Equity**

6872. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has decided to convert into equity a large chunk of its loans given to two of its joint ventures one with Karnataka and the other with West Bengal Governments, to help/avoid their possible referral to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction;

(b) if so, the amount which the SAIL has decided to invest in the two companies; and

(c) the control which SAIL and the State Governments will exercise in the working of the two companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c). SAIL and West Bengal Mineral Development & Trading Corporation Ltd. (WBMDTC), a undertaking of the Government of West Bengal are having joint venture in North Bengal Dolomite Limited (NBDL) in the ratio of 50:50 shares. Both SAIL and Government of West Bengal have agreed in Feb./ March '94 to convert their loan of Rs. 48.50 lakhs and interest accrued thereon of Rs. 25.90 lakhs (by each) into

equity and maintain the shareholding ratio of 50:50.

Government of Karnataka and SAIL are having shareholding in Visvesvaraya Iron & Steel Company Limited (VISL) in the ratio of 40:60. SAIL and Government of Karnataka have agreed in March, 1994 to increase their equity in VISL. Accordingly, Karnataka Government converted Rs. 18 crores due from VISL to Karnataka State Electricity Board into equity of VISL and correspondingly SAIL also converted its loan of Rs. 27 crores to VISL into equity to maintain the shareholding pattern of 40:60.

By this action the network of VISL and NBDL, would improve as also their working results.

### **Israeli Know-how for Indian Food Processing Industry**

6873. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Israel has offered its know-how for the modernisation of the Indian Food Processing Industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (c). An agreement has been signed between Government of India and Government of Israel for cooperation in the field of Agriculture which *inter-alia* includes areas of Agri

business, Post-harvest and Processing technologies and Joint ventures.

[English]

[Translation]

### ISD/STD/PCO in U.P.

6874. SHRI SURENDRA PAL  
PATHAK:  
SHRI PRABHU DAYAL  
KATHERIA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

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

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

(c) the time by which the remaining applications would be disposed of?

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

### SC/ST Percentage in NHPC

6875. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN:  
Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of executives from Engineer to General Manager level in the National Hydro Power Corporation Limited;

(b) the number and percentage of scheduled caste and scheduled tribe executives in each of these categories;

(c) whether the percentages of representation in each of these categories are matching as per the reservation policy of the Union Government; and

(d) the efforts NHPC has made so far to fill up the back log in each of these categories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). The number of executives from Engineer to General Manager level in the National Hydro-electric Power Corporation Limited and the number and percentages of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Executives in each of these categories, are as under:—

| Category of Post | No. of Executives in position | No. of SC/ST in each category |    | Percentage of SC/ST Executives |    |
|------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|----|--------------------------------|----|
|                  |                               | SC                            | ST | SC                             | ST |
| General Manager  | 7                             | -                             | -  | -                              | -  |
| Chief Engineer   | 39                            | 1                             | -  | 2.56                           | -  |
| Senior Manager   | 53                            | 4                             | -  | 7.54                           | -  |

| Category of Post | No. of Executives in position | No. of SC/ST in each category |    | Percentage of SC/ST Executives |      |
|------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|----|--------------------------------|------|
|                  |                               | SC                            | ST | SC                             | ST   |
| Manager          | 151                           | 8                             | 2  | 5.29                           | 1.32 |
| Dy. Manager      | 193                           | 11                            | 1  | 5.69                           | 0.51 |
| Asstt. Manager   | 193                           | 3                             | 1  | 1.55                           | 0.51 |
| Engr/Officer     | 318                           | 55                            | 3  | 17.29                          | 0.94 |
| Total            | 954                           | 82                            | 7  | 8.59                           | 0.73 |

(c) No, Sir.

in each of these categories and number of offers issued during these Special Recruitments and number of candidates joined in response of those offers, are given below:—

(d) NHPC had made 'Special Recruitment Drives' to fill up the backlog

| Year | Category  | No. of offers issued |    | No. joined |    |
|------|-----------|----------------------|----|------------|----|
|      |           | SC                   | ST | SC         | ST |
| 1989 | Group 'A' | 46                   | 2  | 21         |    |
| 1990 | Group 'A' | 73                   | 2  | 34         | -  |
| 1991 | Group 'A' | 63                   | 1  | 39         | -  |
| 1992 | Group 'A' | 6                    | -  | 1          | -  |

To clear left-over backlog in these categories, NHPC has recently issued 32 & 8 offers to candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes respectively and response from those candidates are awaited.

(a) whether the mining work in Chasnala coal mines Dhanbad is still under unsafe conditions;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

[Translation]

#### Chasnala Coal Mines

6876. SHRI LALL BABU RAI:  
SHRI RAM TAHAL  
CHOUDHARY:

(c) whether any concrete security measures including modernisation of the coal mines have been taken;

(d) if so, the salient features thereof; and

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF  
THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI  
SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). SAIL has taken several safety measures both on surface and underground at Chasnala Collieries. Some of them include the following:

- (i) Diversion of Main water jore (small stream) passing over the surface area of the mine.
- (ii) Construction of embankment on the banks of the River Damodar, to prevent flow of water to the low lying areas.
- (iii) Construction of a concrete plug dam per specifications duly approved by the Director General of Mines Safety.
- (iv) Construction of underground supports for which special steel yielding arches rolled at IISCO, Bumpur were used.
- (v) Survey of old workings which has been done jointly with Director General of Mines Safety.
- (vi) 5 bore holes with steel casing have been made to tap water from the old workings.
- (vii) As part of the modernisation plan of Chasnala, advanced technology to extract Coal from thick seams are being adopted with advice of expert foreign consultants.

(e) Does not arise.

### World Hindi Conference

6877. SHRI LALL BABU RAI:  
SHRI CHEDDI PASWAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether many official representatives have been sent to foreign countries to participate in the World Hindi Conference;

(b) if so, the details for the last three years thereof;

(c) the expenditure incurred on these foreign visits; and

(d) the details of the work done by the official representatives in the World Hindi Conference?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED): (a) and (b). During the period under reference only one World Hindi Conference namely the Fourth World Hindi Conference was held in Mauritius from 2-4-December, 1993. A 14-member official delegation led by Shri Madhukarrao Choudhury, Speaker, Maharashtra Legislative Assembly attended the Conference.

(c) Rs. 5,27,677/- was spent on the delegation in Mauritius in connection with the Fourth World Hindi Conference.

(d) The delegates actively participated in the deliberations of the Conference.

[English]

### Trade with Japan

6877A. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high level trade team of Japan visited India recently;

(b) if so, the main points discussed and the outcome thereof;

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to boost up the trade between the two countries in future;

(d) whether a similar mission from Japan visited India during 1992; and

(e) if so, the details of demands made by it and outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes, Sir. An economic mission from Japan visited India in March 1994 for discussions with the Government of India as well as representatives of Indian trade and industry.

(b) The discussion so focussed on India's economic reforms programme and the success achieved till date. The discussions also included issues such as creation of a single window for investment approvals, exit policy, special incentives for foreign investment, reduction in import duties, investments in infrastructure and further improvements in our investment policies and procedures. In the course of the discussions, the Japanese delegation reiterated their conviction that India's reform process was irreversible. They

also predicted a significant rise in investments from Japan into India in the near future.

(c) A number of steps are being taken to boost trade and investment between India and Japan. Different departments of the Government, the Export Promotion Councils, apex Chambers of Commerce and Industry and Indian Missions in Japan are working for the systematic dissemination of relevant information on opportunities available in India to the Japanese business community. Such information is being made available in the form of brochures, floppy diskettes, video cassettes, slide packages etc. A number of trade and investment delegations are being exchanged between the two countries. Several investment seminars have been organised in Japan and Indian agencies have been participating in trade fairs in Japan. All these activities will be continued and stepped up in future.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The Japanese economic mission which visited India in January 1992 made 21 requests for the consideration of the Government. Most of these requests have been addressed as a part of policy measures initiated by the Government to progressively liberalise different aspects of trade, investment, industrial and financial policy etc. over the last two years.

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12.00 hrs.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow): Mr. Speaker, Delhi which is a metropolitan city and is also the capital of the country is situated on both sides

of river Yamuna. Even then it faces shortage of drinking water from time to time.

At present also, Delhi is facing a water crisis. The reason is that Delhi is receiving less quantity of water from Haryana this year as compared to last year. Its share of water has been reduced. Population of Delhi increases by two lakh annually. Two lakh people come to Delhi daily from outside to earn their livelihood. They too need water. Requirement of water is increasing whereas its supply is decreasing day by day.

Delhi was given 550-700 cusecs of water during May-June 1993 whereas at present only 475 cusecs of water is being supplied to Delhi. It is a sudden and heavy reduction in the supply of water and we are facing its consequences. Delhi Administration will have to resort to water rationing if the supply of water is not increased immediately. You can well imagine the problems the citizens of Delhi are going to face in such a situation. This situation may turn critical.

Ambassadors of foreign countries are in Delhi. Parliament is also in the capital city. So, I would like to know whether any permanent arrangement cannot be made for supply of water to Delhi? Last year, during the month of May the Home Minister had convened a meeting in this regard. This time the Minister of Water Resources has taken initiative in this direction. He had invited the Chief Ministers of all the four concerned States at his home and discussed the matter. It was felt that some agreement will take place but it could not be done as Uttar Pradesh raised several objections in this regard.

I request that Central Government should interfere in this matter and convince Haryana and Uttar Pradesh to supply adequate water to Delhi. In the event of scarcity of drinking water, the citizens of Delhi will start drinking water of shallow wells and tube wells which will cause epidemics like cholera. In that event Delhi will face another critical problem. The Minister of Water Resources and the Home Minister is also sitting here. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I request you to give directives to them for taking this House into confidence and give assurance to the effect that Delhi will be given adequate water supply and water crisis will not be allowed to be created in Delhi.

SHRI B.L. SHARMA PREM (East Delhi): This matter relates to Delhi and I also have given notice in this regard, So I would like to say something in this regard.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, you might have read in today's newspaper that water shortage led to the murder of a sub-Inspector of Border Security Force. People are facing great difficulty in every street and block of Delhi...

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not dilute the issue. It has been presented in an effective and decent manner...

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI B.L. SHARMA PREM: Sir, for the last seven days, there is no water supply in Burari and Sant Nagar area of my constituency. The Prime Minister had interfered and assured the House that Delhi would be given adequate water supply.

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF

PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, keeping in view the urgency of this matter, the meeting was convened. There was a consensus on the issue that not only the matter regarding supply of water but agreement on distribution of water of river Yamuna should also be made. I am glad to say that all concerned parties are in favour of this agreement. As hon. Shri Vajpayee has pointed out, this agreement could not take place due to some reasons but I hope that it will be signed soon and I have discussed the immediate problem with Shri Madan Lal Khurana. Chief Ministers of Uttar Pradesh and Haryana have given assurance that Delhi will be given adequate supply of water and if need be water supply will be further augmented till this agreement takes place.

You might have read in today's newspapers that hon. Bhajanlal has started fulfilling his promise and the Chief Minister of U.P. and Haryana will render their full cooperation to solve this water problem.

[English]

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam): Sir, with the coming into power of a non-racial, democratic Government in South Africa, new opportunities have been opened for mutual cooperation between India and that country in social, cultural and economic spheres. The Government of India should pay special attention to the strengthening of our ties which have been sanctified by the Mahatma's moral, spiritual and political crusade against racial oppression in the soil of South Africa. Thus we have a special claim to the love and affection of the people of South Africa and their great leader Mr. Nelson Mandela. There are immense possibilities of economic and cultural cooperation between the two

countries. India should be able to participate in the economic reconstruction and in the process of social integration of South Africa without adopting a patronising attitude and also without giving it an exploitative thrust, which is the hallmark of all colonial ventures. At the cultural level, there should be frequent interactions between the two countries so as to enrich the cultural life of both countries. I would also like to suggest that a chair should be established in some prominent Indian universities in the name of Mr. Nelson Mandela. On doing this, we will be expressing our love and respect for a leader who in the true sense symbolises the aspirations of oppressed humanity.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on 28th April, the Supreme Court declared Section 309 of the Indian Penal Code which has been in our statute for nearly 100 years, *ultra virus* of the Constitution. This is a landmark decision which has generated much comment both in the press and among the people. The decision is based on the interpretation of Article 21 of the Constitution, the Right to Life. But opinions have been expressed that this decision may lead to encouragement for such customs like *sati* or even dowry suicide. It may open the floodgates of suicide among young people who are facing the difficulties of life out of depression, frustration or fatigue when they are engaged in the battle for survival.

This may even encourage politically motivated self-immolation which, as you know, is rampant in some parts of the country. In fact, I wonder, Sir, what the policeman would be supposed to be doing if a young man tries to immolate himself in public out of a political motivation? Will he be breaking the law or will he be serving it?

Sir, it also raises a basic philosophical question, whether the life of an individual is his own property, is his sole monopoly or does it also belong to the society which has invested in trying to polish that rough stone that he was into a diamond. Is a suicide not a loss to the nation?

And therefore, Sir, this order which has, as I said, invited a number of comments particularly because some aspects of it have been sought to be justified on religious considerations. The Supreme Court has every authority to interpret the law; nobody can question it. But the Supreme Court has also taken up a religious argument that suicide is not against religious principles. Well, but that is not quite a fact, Mr. Speaker, Sir, because religious respect life and many religions consider suicide to be a sinful act, in fact, as an affront to the Giver the life, to the Creator.

And, therefore, I feel that this judgement which, as I said, is a landmark judgement needs to be reviewed and I would request the Government to consider whether it should approach the Supreme Court for reviewing this decision regarding the legality and constitutionality of suicide. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SHRI R. ANBARASU (Madras Central): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the lottery trade today has become synonymous with gambling. Once regarded as a charitable business, lotteries are wrecking families in addiction which has roped in millions into the game of single digit lottery. All private lotteries and those sponsored by other State Governments have been banned by some State Governments. In Karnataka, already the single digit lottery is banned. It is the single digit lottery that poses the gross

nuisance since there are draws on these lotteries almost every half-an-hour and those indulging in them, tend to get addicted and once the addiction sets in, the office, home and everything else are forgotten.

Lottery being in the Union List, the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Government of India should bring in a comprehensive Bill to ban single digit daily draw lotteries and private lotteries which are affecting the lower income groups in towns and metropolitan cities.

I received a lot of complaints that many private lottery owners are printing fake lottery tickets and the innocent poor people are cheated by this. Many private lottery owners are given permission by the State Governments especially in the North-East States like Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Meghalaya and Sikkim. The private lottery people are operating in these areas and they are looting the public. Unless a stern action is taken against these unscrupulous elements, the poor people will be the victim.

Fortunately, the Home Minister is present here. I, therefore, urge upon the hon. Home Minister to ban the private lotteries and also to bring forward a comprehensive legislation to completely ban the sale of private lotteries to save the innocent poor people from this menace.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South): Sir, the Central Government also is doing the same thing. It should be banned.

[Translation]

SHRI RABI RAY (Kendrapada): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your



attention and the attention of the House towards a constructive question. But before that I would like to remind that about a week ago the hon. Finance Minister had assured the House that the Government would not create any hindrances and will provide full cooperation to the labourers of the sick mills, whose workers want to run them on cooperative basis. The assurance was given by the Finance Minister last week.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to bring to your notice an awful incident. The Ashok Paper Mill of Darbhanga district in Bihar was closed down in 1982 and 56 of its workers have died of hunger and poverty.

MR. SPEAKER: This mill belong to the public sector or private sector?

SHRI RABI RAY: This is a Government mill. The other day hon. Manmohan Singh took 15-20 minutes to reply to the questions of Members and said that the Government would provide assistance to workers who wanted to work on cooperative basis. Now the Supreme Court has given direction that Rs. 20 crore is required for revival of this mill and ordered the labour union to run it. All the Cabinet Ministers are present here and, therefore, I would like to raise this important and human question. This mill has two units, one at Jogiyappa in Assam and the other at Darbhanga in Bihar. Hon. Finance Minister had given assurance to provide assistance that the workers can run this mill on cooperative basis if they so desire. The workers are now willing to do so. The Supreme Court has directed that State and the Central Government to provide Rs. 20 crore to run this mill. 56 workers of this mill have already died and several others have crossed the age of supernation. Therefore, I urge the Government to provide Rs. 20

crores to run this sick mill as ordered by the Supreme Court. The Government should accept the suggestions given by the workers and act according to the direction of the Supreme Court.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): I am thankful to Rabi Rayji for raising this issue once again. As you all know, we have been asking for the revival of Ashok Paper Mills. There have been assurances also. But unfortunately they have not been kept. You kindly recall, on the floor of this House the hon. Prime Minister had said he would let us know about the efforts made to revive many of these sick industries which can be made viable. The Finance Minister had said, if I am not mistaken, I am quoting his words "at my level Somnathji, we shall do it". But unfortunately nothing is being done. Many important industrial units in the public sector, apart from private sector, are languishing or they have become sick, they are being closed down. The Renewal Fund has become almost a joke—I am sorry to use this strong comment because nothing is being done. A situation of explosive proportion has already been reached. I would request the Government with all sincerity that not only they should deal with it as a matter of industrial sickness, but also a matter where a human element is involved. After all they are citizens of India. For no fault of theirs they are suffering today. They are on the streets; people are dying. No tangible effort is being made. Whenever we go to the hon. Prime Minister or some other Ministers, they say we shall look into it. But this is not helping. There are senior Cabinet Ministers sitting here. I am making an appeal. Please treat this on a war footing. I am sure I can satisfy the Government, if they have a little time

to spare, to sit with us, individually, unitwise, which of them can be revived, what steps have to be taken. But unfortunately nothing is being done. You are only obsessed with somehow improving your balance of payments and foreign exchange reserves. This is your only criterion. That is why a very serious situation has already been reached. I appeal to the Government. I do not want to make it a matter of confrontation. But I appeal to the Government to please look into this with all sincerity and seriousness and try to save thousands and thousands of citizens of this country.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deograh): Sir, presently, various parts of the country are reeling under the severity of a prolonged dry spell which is causing problem to the people. All wells are dried up. There is acute scarcity of water in various parts of the country, including the State of Orissa. On the other hand, fire accidents are on the increase. Several villages are gutted and this multiplies the sufferings of the people.

I know that it comes under the jurisdiction of the State Government, but the States are not being provided with the required fund to meet the situation. On that plea, the State Governments are not taking up the required measures. I, therefore, request the Central Government, through you, Sir, — judging the seriousness of the situation and the increasing sufferings of the people — to augment the fund position of some of these States which are really in need of it and to immediately deploy fire brigades, tankers, etc. in sufficient number in these States.

SHRI PETER G. MARBANIANG (Shillong): I wish to draw the attention of the Government to the reign of terror

that has been unleashed in the State of Tripura where the Congress (I) Members and the workers and also the workers and the Members of TUJS have been murdered. As per the information that we have received in a meeting held on Friday, almost 500 such murders have been committed.

MR. SPEAKER: There is a Legislature in the State. Let it discuss such matters, otherwise, we will be discussing all such problems relating to all the Governments here in the House.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO (Trichur): Sir, a very unusual incident has happened.

SHRI PETER G. MARBANIANG: The hon. Minister is here in the House.

MR. SPEAKER: He is not likely to have the information.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Ferozepur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to an important issue. The standard of Education in the Government schools is deteriorating day by day. Poor parents only send their children to the Government schools. Does the Government propose to take certain steps for improvement? The state of education is deteriorating day by day in the Government schools.

MR. SPEAKER: We have just now discussed the demands of the Ministry of Human Resource Development and the Members are aware that the issue of primary schools relates to the State Governments and not to the Central Government.

**SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Ferozepur):**

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given a notice.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Giving notice alone is not enough; one should keep in mind the subject of discussion also.

**SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA**

(Junagarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the situation arising out of the famine and no rainfall in Gujarat. The Government of Gujarat is making all out efforts to provide famine relief on a large scale but Rs. 85 crore is the target fixed for relief work of which the Central Government has to pay Rs. 63.75 crore. I urge that this amount be released forthwith in the month of May itself so that relief work could be undertaken immediately.

**DR. P.R. GANGWAR (Pilibhit):** Mr.

Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention to the situation arising out of the storm that engulfed Uttar Pradesh, particularly my Constituency, Pilibhit in 1989-90 for which some assistance should have been given by the Central Government because the electric poles were fallen, the electric wires were torn but this restoration work was not completed in the rural areas whereas poles were again erected and electric cables connected in the urban areas. I urge upon the Government to provide some relief to the people there as it is a matter of natural calamity.

**MR. SPEAKER:** You must know that it is a matter related to the State Government.

**SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN**

(Indore): Mr. Speaker, Sir, discussions on the atrocities committed on women have taken place in this House several

times earlier also but it seems that there is a manifold increase in such offences everytime we discuss them here. It seems as if the women of the whole country including those belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and lower, poor strata of society are in peril.

I would like to draw your attention to the recent incident of maltreatment meted out to an air hostess at Calicut airport. One who commits an offence, be it a male or a female, should be punished. But I demand a clarification why and how did this incident take place in the presence of women security personnel at the airport. I would like the Government to come out with a clarification as such incidents are committed time and again.

*[English]*

**SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN**

(Cooch Behar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to raise a very important point.

Bangladesh is our neighbouring country. We would like to have good and friendly relationship with our neighbouring countries but certainly not at the cost of our sovereignty or by appeasement policy.

Sir, very recently, the Bangladesh Government had started construction of a barrage and a canal just about 20 metres away from Zero Point Border Line in village Burimari, District Lalmonirhat, Bangladesh. The said place is named as Changra Bhandha and is hardly 15 kms. away from Tin Bigha. The construction started on 22.3.94 and after that a number of joint sittings were held between the officials of both the Governments, but no proper heed has so far been paid to stop the work by Bangladesh.

MR. SPEAKER: Why don't you discuss this matter with the Minister of External Affairs?

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: It is a very important matter. The entire area will be submerged into water.

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER: First listen carefully. It is better to talk to the Government about any issue related to a foreign country. You may raise such matters only when you have concrete information.

*[English]*

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: It is a question of national interest.

MR. SPEAKER: But it has to be a matter about which you must have full information. Had you been there?

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: Yes. I had travelled the entire area.

MR. SPEAKER: Had you been to this place?

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: Yes.

Sir, on 21.4.94, in a high level joint sitting, our representatives made a strong protest by asking the Bangladeshi representatives not to proceed further with the construction work. After that Bangladesh had constructed one dozen bunkers and deployed cannons and machine guns there. A lot of intrusion of Bangladeshi planes into the Indian airspace over Changra Bandha had also been noticed.

The representatives of Bangladesh had told our representatives in the said joint sittings that they are ready to face any consequences, but the construction work would not be stopped by them because, from Zero Point onwards, the territory belongs to Bangladesh and they can do construction work as per their will. Hence, the situation has already deteriorated and is going to deteriorate further. The firing from their end is expected any moment. Moreover, the rainy season is likely to commence from the next month. If the barrage is allowed to be constructed or allowed to be completed, then a large area, namely, Changra Bandha, Panishala and Bhotbari, etc., will be badly affected by floods. More than 50,000 people will be affected by floods.

Bangladesh is our neighbouring country, so we want friendly relations with them but certainly not at the cost of our sovereignty or by endangering the lives of the Indian citizens.

I would, therefore, like to draw the attention of the Government, the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. External Affairs Minister, through this House, so that they may intervene in the matter personally in order to have a peaceful solution to the problem in such a way that the construction work of the barrage be stopped by Bangladesh at once. Not only this, but I would also like to insist that the problems of Indian Enclaves, sharing of Ganga water, and New Moore Islands be taken up with Bangladesh as a package deal.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV (Sahasra): Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a Kunouli bazar, a very old one, that

existed during the British era, situated on the Indo-Nepal border in district Saharasa of Bihar. It is in a dilapidated condition. Being a transit point for Nepal, electric supply to this Kunouli bazar is maintained by the Government of Nepal. The Government of Nepal is ready to supply electricity to Kunouli bazar. As lakhs of people can be benefited by this facility, I would like the Government to take an early decision on this offer of the Government of Nepal and make arrangements for supplying electricity to the people there.  
(Interruptions)

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR (Faridkot): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would also like to make a submission. I have given a notice for this ten days in advance.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You may have given it, but I am not expected to give a chance to all the Members. You should know that. You are a new Member. You should know this rule.

We have all decided that this matter will be taken up only for half-an-hour. You must be knowing that. Why do not you hear me?

(Interruptions)\*...

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing is going on record.

(Interruptions)\*...

MR. SPEAKER: You should understand that Members are giving their notices 20 days in advance for a question. You are giving it 15 minutes in advance and yet after one hour is over we are

not allowing a single Member to ask a question. I am sorry, I am not able to help you. Okay. I will allow you next day. Please sit down now.

12.32 hrs.

## PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

**Annual Administration Report and Review on the working of the Calcutta Dock Labour Board for 1992-93 alongwith the Statement showing reasons for delay in laying these papers**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Calcutta Dock Labour Board for the year 1992-93, alongwith Audited Accounts under section 5E of the Dock Workers (Regulation of Employment) Act, 1948.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Calcutta Dock labour Board, for the year 1992-93.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5861/94]

**Annual Report and Review on the working of Power Engineers Training Society, New Delhi, alongwith the Statement showing reasons for delay in laying the papers**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual report (Hindi and English versions) of the Power Engineers Training Society, New Delhi, for the year 1992-93, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Power Engineers Training Society, New Delhi, for the year 1992-93.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5862/94]

12.33 hrs.

**MATTERS UNDER RULE 377**

- (i) Need for early replacement of bridge at Kuzhithurai across Thamparavarni River in Kanyakumari, Tamil Nadu**

[English]

SHRI N. DENNIS (Nagercoil): The bridge at Kuzhithurai across the Thamparavarni river in the busiest Kanyakumari Trivandrum National Highway No. 48 is in a dilapidated condition posing grave danger to the vehicular and passenger traffic and at any moment it could collapse. It is one of the oldest bridges in the country. The condition of the bridge is repeatedly brought to the notice of the National Highways authorities. In 1989, on inspection by authorities concerned, it was found that the bridge would not withstand the heavy traffic movements on the road and it has to be replaced immediately with a new bridge. As a temporary arrangement angular pillars were erected to support the bridge. But subsequent heavy rains and floods in the river particularly in November 1992 completely washed away the supporting angular pillars and also caused damages to the basement of the original pillars. Moreover, there are leakages through the cracks found in the bridge. The side walls of the bridge are also damaged.

I urge upon the Central Government to take urgent and immediate steps.

- (ii) Need for immediate conversion of Hospet-Hassan-Mangalore Line into Broad Gauge**

SHRI K. G. SHIVAPPA (Shimoga):  
M/s. Jayaprakash Industries Limited, New

[Shri K.G. Shivappa]

Delhi have now proposed to set up an integrated steel plant at Mangalore with a capacity of one million tonnes, which is estimated to be about Rs. 2000 crores. The State Government has decided to provide all necessary support and assistance to this ambitious project.

This steel plant will depend on imported coal, making use of the port facilities at Mangalore. However, the entire iron ore requirement will have to come from Bellary-Hospet area. This would mean movement of around 1.2 million tonnes of iron ore from Bellary-Hospet.

Presently, Mangalore is connected to Bellary-Hospet area by metre-gauge line via Chitradurga and Hassan. Large quantities of iron ore transported from Bellary-Hospet to Mangalore have to be transhipped from broad gauge to metre gauge at Hassan. This would explain the difficulty posed to the Railways as well as to the operation of the steel plant. It is felt that with such constraints an integrated steel plant may not really become viable.

I, therefore, urge upon the Union Government to take immediate steps to convert the Hospet-Hassan-Mangalore line to broad gauge on top priority basis which be a boon to the many large industries proposed at Mangalore.

- (iii) **Need to open one Gas Agency each in Syana and Jahangirabad of Bulandshahr district in Uttar Pradesh**

[Translation]

DR. CHATTARPAL SINGH  
(Bulandshahr) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there

is Syana tehsil headquarter under my Constituency with a population of more than 40,000. It is a famous trade centre. Jaggery is being sent for different parts of country from here and there are three prominent towns around it. Jahangirabad is another trade centre having a population of 50,000. The people of both the places have to face many difficulties in the absence of a gas agency there and have to fetch gas cylinders from far off places incurring a wastage of both time and money.

Therefore, I urge upon you to kindly issue orders for opening a gas agency each at Syana and Jahangirabad of Bulandshahr district immediately so that the people of the area may get respite from this problem.

- (iv) **Need to accord sanction to the proposal for constructing a Bye-Pass to National Highway No. 24 in Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh**

[English]

SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN  
(Amroha) : National Highway No. 24 passes through Moradabad city. This results in congestion, traffic jams and delay to long distance travellers and delivery of goods. Besides it is causing great hardship to the local residents of the city & wastage of precious fuel. Proposal of Bye-pass to the road is pending with Central Government for some time. The said proposal was recommended by the State Government of Uttar Pradesh and submitted to the Union Government, the land for the Bye-pass is already acquired by State Government.

I request the Central Government to sanction the proposal and release the

funds so that construction of the Bypass can start immediately.

**(iv) Need to consider revision of emoluments of employees of State Governments in the light of Constitution of the Fifth Central Pay Commission**

SHRI AJAY MUKHOPADYAY (Krishnagar) : The Central Government has set up the Fifth Pay Commission under the Chairmanship of Justice S.R. Pandian for the Central Government employees. The reasons for which the Government felt is justified and necessary to appoint another Pay Commission for their employees equally hold good in respect of the State Government employees, teachers and other semi-Government employees under the purview of different State Governments, of the country.

The most important reason for revision of emoluments is the galloping hike in Consumer Price Index, it cannot also be denied that a uniform policy should be followed in respect of revision of emoluments etc. at least for the Government sector *i. e.* for the Central and State Government employees and necessary guidelines to that effect are required to be issued by the Central Government alongwith necessary allocation of money to all the States.

I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to issue general guidelines to all the State Governments for taking suitable measures for revision of emoluments of their employees with the declaration that necessary financial assistance would be provided for the purpose.

12.39 hrs.

**RE : SPECIFIED AREAS (ISSUE OF IDENTITY CARDS TO RESIDENTS) BILL**

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now Item No. 5 of the Legislative Business. What do we do?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): I want to make a small submission. This Bill was referred to the Standing Committee and the Standing Committee has also submitted its report. The amendments, which they have suggested, are under the consideration of the Government. Unless we were to finalise our views about all those amendments, it would not be possible for me to go ahead with this Bill. That is why I request you to postpone the discussion on this Bill.

MR. SPEAKER: Is it the wish of the House?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Certain obvious points are here. We are awaiting the report of the Standing Committee. We have got certain suggestions to make. We can make here or we can wait. However, as the hon. Minister wishes to have it postponed, it is O.K.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack): Hon. Speaker, Sir, I think at the last moment the hon. Home Minister is postponing the Bill.

MR. SPEAKER: He had informed it two days back also.



SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Did he inform two days back? Since the discussion about the electoral process has been going on and the issue of multipurpose identity cards is under consideration, has he linked it with it or is it separate?

MR. SPEAKER: This Bill was referred to the Standing Committee. The Standing Committee has made certain suggestions. They are being considered. After they consider those suggestions it will come up for consideration. We will take it up afterwards.

*[Translation]*

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (Garhwal): Mr. Speaker, Sir, many days have passed since the Standing Committee returned the Bill and the Government is postponing it. It seems that the Government is not serious about it. It is an old Bill and the Government had enough time with it. Still, it is being postponed. This is not good.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Standing Committee submitted its report on 8th March and today it is 9th May. Two months have passed and the Ministry of Home Affairs surely had an ample time of two months to consider all those suggestions and recommendations and improve the Bill accordingly. The most important thing today is that there has been a nation-wide debate during the period that all the citizens should be given an identity card. There seems to be no logic in giving a separate card to some citizens in the specified area when all the citizens will be given such cards. To my mind, the hon. Home Minister

should reconsider the Bill threadbare and if they are willing them the Bill should be withdrawn.

MR. SPEAKER: All right, first permit me to adjourn the House.

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is to check the illegal immigration particularly in the interest of the national security in the specified area... *(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: By and large there is an agreement.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: As a member of Parliament I cannot enter that area if this Bill is passed.

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: You will have an identity card.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I am not a Government servant.

That is what is proposed here. I am not delinking it for internal security considerations.

*[Translation]*

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: We request you to bring it in soon.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: We will discuss all those things.

Now we will take up Item No. 6.

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12.42 hrs.

**BANKING COMPANIES  
(ACQUISITION AND TRANSFER  
OF UNDERTAKINGS)  
AMENDMENT BILL**

*[English]*

**THE MINISTER OF FINANCE**  
(SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH): On behalf  
of Shri M.V. Chandrashekhara Murthy, I  
beg to move—

“That the Bill further to amend the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970 and the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1980, be taken into consideration.”

Mr. Speaker, Sir, following the recommendations of the Committee on the Financial System (Narasimham Committee), the Reserve Bank of India has laid down certain norms for income recognition and provisioning and also for capital adequacy in relation to risk weighted assets of banks. These norms have been designed to put the financial accounting standards of Indian banks on a sound footing in line with current international practice. Following the introduction of these norms, all the nationalised banks will have to build up their capital base substantially over the next three years. All the banks have to ensure that their total capital equals at least eight per cent of their risk weighted assets by 31st March, 1996. The Banks having overseas operations had to achieve this norm by 31st March, 1994 which has since been extended upto 31st March, 1995 by Reserve Bank of India.

Achievement of the prescribed capital adequacy norm is essential for the basic financial health of the banking system. It is also essential for its international credibility as banks all over the world are adopting the norm laid down by the Committee on Banking Regulations and Supervisory Practices set up by the Bank of International Settlements.

At present the entire paid up capital of the nationalised banks stands vested in and allotted to the Central Government. The Central Government have been contributing to the paid up capital of these banks during the last few years. During the period 1985-1986 to 1993-94 Government have contributed Rs. 9700 crore to the paid up capital of these banks. A sum of Rs. 5600 crore has been provided in the current year's budget. Since resources of the Government are limited and funds are required for other priority areas, it will not be possible for the Government to contribute the substantial amounts now required by the nationalised banks for meeting the new prudential norms. Government have, therefore, decided that the nationalised banks which are in a position to do so may be allowed to approach the capital market to raise fresh equity to meet their shortfall in capital requirements.

The additional capital thus mobilised will help the banks to expand their lending. The Government will, however, continue to retain majority ownership and therefore effective control in the public sector banks.

Sir, in order to give effect to the above decision, it has become necessary to amend the Banking Companies

[Shri Manmohan Singh]

(Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970 and the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1980. The proposed amendments *inter-alia*, provide that the Board of Directors of the nationalised banks may, after consultation with the Reserve Bank of India and with the previous sanction of the Central Government, raise their paid up capital by public issue of shares subject to the condition that the Central Government shall at all times hold not less than 51 per cent of the paid up capital of the bank. It is also proposed that the authorised capital of every nationalised bank shall be divided into 150 crores fully paid up shares of Rs. 10/- each. No shareholder other than the Central Government shall be entitled to exercise voting rights in respect of any shares held by him in excess of one per cent of the total voting rights of all the shareholders of the bank. There are also amendments dealing with the composition of Board of Directors providing for election of shareholders' Directors, and also empowering the Board of Directors to frame regulations on various matters such as maintenance of shareholders' registers, particulars to be entered in the registers, the manner in which the shares may be held and transferred, convening of general meetings of the shareholders, etc.

The Standing Committee of Finance, to which the Bill was referred to, have also made certain recommendations relating to ceiling on foreign investment, composition of the Board of Directors, etc. The Government have decided to accept most of the recommendations of the Committee and necessary official amendments are being moved separately in this regard.

With this I commend the Bill for consideration of the august House.

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970 and the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1980 be taken into consideration."

[Translation]

SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN (Amroha): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Bill moved by the hon. Finance Minister is pushing the whole of the banking industry backward. 14 banks were nationalised in 1969 and later on 6 more banks were nationalised. In this way, total 20 banks have been nationalised. Through this Bill the Government is going for privatisation of the banks. The shares are being issued to the public. This Bill was also discussed in the Standing Committee. I was also a member of the committee. It was discussed in detail there. I would not like to go into the details. We had expressed our apprehensions. These should be paid due attention in the wake of the bank scam last year. It was a scam of 8 thousand crores. No action has been taken against those who were found to be involved in it.

The people's faith in the banking system has shaken. I am not saying that they have lost faith completely. Today, when the Government is heading towards privatisation of the banks, the confidence of the people has shaken. We will have to pay more attention towards it. Reserve Bank of India will have to be given more powers and its control will have to be increased. We may increase the share

capital by private resources but the cardinal question is of bank administration. Unless, the administration is improved, faulty policies are rectified, the present structure is improved, the customer services is improved, and the bad debts of 30 thousand crores are brought into control the money brought from the private sources or the Government sources will go waste. I would like to know from the hon. Finance Minister through you as to what steps are likely to be taken to improve the banking structure.

As I have already said, if a person goes to the bank for withdrawal of some amount this process takes 45 minutes to one hour. The cheques are not cleared in one or two months and the entries are not made in the pass books. The common man is annoyed at it and this is the reason that he is running towards foreign banks or private banks leaving aside nationalised or the Government banks. Therefore, unless we improve our services, improve the administration and streamline the banking system, our investment will go waste whatever may be the amount.

An hon. Member rightly pointed out last week that even after passing of one year only one recovery tribunal has been set up. So what would be the state of recovery? Rs. 30,000 are in bad debts or are doubtful debts. How would these be recovered? The number of the wilful defaulters, who do not want to pay the loans and those who take the loan from one bank and declare the unit sick and later approach another bank for loan, is on the rise. From the second bank they go to the third one. New companies are set up or new groups are formed, the number of persons is on the increase. Not only this, there are people who have

the company on paper alone and even then they enter the share capital market to raise the funds. They do not have even land or other set-up. Attention should be paid towards it so that such people do not take loan from banks.

I would like to submit one more thing through you that this year the provision is of Rs. 5600 crores while during last year it was of Rs. 5700 crores. Since the hon. Finance Minister is moving this Bill and giving permission to the banks to raise money from the market, I would like to submit that 5600 crores is a huge amount. Therefore do not give Rs. 5600 crore to the bank immediately. First of all the banks should be allowed to raise as much money as they can from the market. I am sure that not all the 20 banks will be able to raise money from the market but permission should be granted at least to the banks to raise the capital from the market. As the State Bank had raised the issue, which had been very good and the issue was over-subscribed heavily. The nationalised banks should be given permission in the same way so that these can raise money. If this Rs. 5600 crore can be saved, it should be saved and invested somewhere else. ...*(Interruptions)* 5600 crore or 7000 crore whatever it is. It should be saved, so that it can be invested in development projects. The hon. Finance Minister need not be advised that this money can be utilised for deficit financing so that the burden on the budget or the Ministry of Finance can be reduced.

I would like to submit that after privatisation, when the 49 per cent will be in the hands of the public, the Government should not concentrate on profit only, otherwise the poor, the farmers, the labourers, the small scale

[Shri Chetan P.S. Chauhan]

[English]

industries and rural industries will suffer. The hon. Minister of State for Finance had recently said that about 110 branches of banks are likely to be closed. Only earning profit should not be the sole aim and the banks in the rural areas or non-banking areas should grant loans to the poor and the farmers.

I would like to submit one more thing that there are many such banks which are not fulfilling the target of 40 per cent of priority sector. Steps should be taken in this regard and 40 per cent funds should be given to priority sector compulsarily by each bank. It must be completed since it is a social objective. Priority sector is deprived and if, the people living in rural areas or in small towns, do not get loan, the problem of unemployment will increase. With these words, my submission is that if privatisation is to be done, please do it cautiously. The Reserve Bank of India should have full control and the thousands of crore rupees in the banking industry should be utilised properly and as far as these shares are concerned, I would like to submit two things. Firstly there should be no director's quota in it and secondly the recommendations made by the Standing Committee regarding the directors are very important these are unanimous recommendations and not based on party lines.

Sir, my submission is that the unanimous report of the Standing Committee should be implemented properly. However, the assurance has been given that maximum recommendations would be implemented but my submission is that wherever there is no dissent, the whole report should be implemented. With these words I thank you.

DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, so far as this amendment that is going to be brought about is concerned, there are so many provisions in it, which are quite obnoxious and highly objectionable from social point of view.

So far as capital adequacy is concerned, nobody will dispute that there should not be adequate capital at the disposal of the banking institutions because these institutions are the lifeline of the economy and the backbone of the economy. That is why proper amount of money must be kept at the disposal of all these banking institutions in order to make investment in different productive channels. The Government of India has placed sufficient amounts of money during various periods of time. Right from 1985-86 to 1992-93, Rs. 4,000 crore were placed at the disposal of the banking institutions. Similarly, in the current year's budget also, Rs. 5,700 crore have been put at the disposal of the banking institutions for their proper functioning. But the Government has now refused to provide adequate amount of funds to the banking institutions in the light of privatisation or liberalisation or whatever policy this Government is going to adopt in this respect. I think this is as a result of certain pressures from abroad also that they are yielding to such type of things. This is not in consonance with the recommendations of the Narasimham Committee or other committees but these ideas might have been borrowed from abroad.

All the banks were nationalised during the year 1969 which was a historic period, and whatever steps were taken

by the then Government, headed by the Congress Party, were quite applauded and appreciated in louder terms by all the people from all the corners of the country. Before nationalisation, funds were just located in different important cities and industrial areas and centres. These benefits and these deposit and borrowing facilities were not available to the remote corners of the rural areas and that is why in view of all these shortcomings and drawbacks, these banking institutions were nationalised by the Government of India at that time.

This was a historic decision at that time.

Now, the ideas prevailing upon the Finance Minister or the sort of views being expressed by the Finance Minister are going against the farming class and all the rural areas and all the poorer classes of people. You have to please everybody. At the same time you are telling that whatever amounts are released to these nationalised banking institutions are entirely vested in the hands of the Government and they are entirely at the disposal of the Government itself. Then what is the propriety?

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ansari, you may continue after the lunch break.

The House stands adjourned for lunch to reassemble at 2.00 P.M.

13.00 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the clock.*

14.06 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Six Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock*

(MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

BANKING COMPANIES  
(ACQUISITION AND TRANSFER  
OF UNDERTAKINGS)  
AMENDMENT BILL—(Contd.)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It is necessary that I should announce the time allotted to the subject, which is two hours. It is not necessary to say what the time allotted to each political party. Anyhow, I would say, Congress - 54 minutes, BJP - 25 minutes, Janata Dal - 8 minutes and CPI - 7 minutes.

Mr. Mumtaz Ansari may continue his speech.

DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI: The provisions of this Amendment Bill 1993 are very much obnoxious and objectionable. That is why, I am telling you, when those banking institutions were nationalised in 1969, it was a very historic time and it was appreciated all around, all over the country and by all sections of the society.

But nowadays, I find, that the whole cycle is being reversed and the historic decision of the then Government has been reversed and relegated to the background. I think, this is very objectionable. This will adversely affect various sections of the society. Whatever benefits percolating to different sections of the society by nationalisation of these banking institutions will not be available to all the sections of the society.

[Dr. Mumtaz Ansari]

For example, the Reserve Bank of India has fixed up priority sectors to which 40 per cent of lending should go. I fear that once this amendment Bill will be brought into effect, all these benefits for the priority sectors like small scale industrialists, farmers, transporters, will be badly neglected because the shares will be floated in the open market. All these nationalised banks will be just open to float their own shares in the open market. In that case, the shares will be purchased by the private members and individuals and they will be holding some sort of control over the banking institutions. A large chunk of funds will be apportioned to different important cities and important industrial centres. In that case, rural areas and the remote corners of the country will be neglected and the poor farmers and the small scale industrialists and all these small people will be badly neglected.

So, I fear that this provision should not be here in the Banking Amendment Bill, 1993 and they should not be allowed to float their own shares in the open market and whatever was done by the Government earlier, the same practice should be followed because once they are asked to float their shares in the open market, a large number of individuals shall become the owners of the nationalised banks and they will put pressure though there is a provision in the Amendment Bill that the Directors will not be from the private owners and 51 per cent of the equity will be held by the Government itself and the rest 49 per cent will be held by the private individuals. Twenty per cent will be held by foreign entrepreneurs which is highly objectionable because they are also having some sort of control over the banking system. In that case, the whole healthy

atmosphere will be vitiated and the whole cycle will be reversed. My request is that these banking institutions should not be allowed to float their shares in the open market and whatever funds the Government was granting to all these banking institutions should be continued.

So far as the Directors are concerned, my suggestion is that they should be in proportion to the number of shares. But at the same time, the majority of shares must be held by the Government and the Directors from the private persons or the individuals or the private entrepreneurs should not have any power in this respect though this has been provided that the voting power will not be available to all these persons who are making investments but I fear that once they will be having their own approaches to all these banking institutions and once they make investments in such banking institutions, they will have some sort of handle in their own hands and they will divert the funds from rural areas to urban areas and these funds will be utilised by these entrepreneurs or private persons for their own private ends.

So, this Bill must be withdrawn by the Government and the provisions contained in this Bill must be revised to the satisfaction of all cross-sections of this House and then this Bill should be brought forward before the House because this banking institution should not be allowed to the private institutions. I think this idea has been borrowed from the World Bank and IMF because these ideas are not originally from our country. These ideas are not by the Members of the Congress party also earlier, that the banking institutions must run in the Government sector. These are very sensitive sectors. You might have seen that such a security scam has taken place in this country and not even a single person

has been punished for whatever has been done against the norms of these securities to ensure the bonds issue. They have made a scandal of these important and very scarce funds of the country.

Such a scam has taken place in this country. In spite of that, these are being left to the banking institutions that they can float their shares and debentures and assets and all these issues in the open market. If a scandalous thing happens again in this country, no power can stop the scandals which are floundering all the norms are standards of finance.

At the same time, I would like to say that whatever provisions you are making in the Amendment Bill, 1993, you must see that whatever fund is available to the banking institutions, the management must be improved. This must be seen by the hon. Minister and they must try to improve the working conditions so that the limited funds at the disposal of these banking institutions may be used for the welfare of the country. If you leave it to these banking institutions, again such type of scandalous things can happen. Till now, whatever has taken place in the security scam, no person has been brought to book and no punishment has been inflicted upon.

No deterrent action has been taken against all those persons involved in it. If you just allow floating of shares, floating of these issues in the open market, what will happen? What is happening in foreign countries? We are losing our credibility. Whatever issues have been raised in foreign countries, we are not showing our credibility in that respect. So, this goes against the prestige and position of our own country. If you

want to have financial soundness and financial health of the country, this sort of a Bill should not be put forward and should not be passed by this august House. Therefore, I would like to request the hon. Finance Minister that such type of an objectionable Bill should be withdrawn and it must be discussed again. All the consensus views and dissenting views of all the Members of Parliament should be taken into account.

It is generally said that the Standing Committee has okayed this Bill and it has given the green signal to this Bill. But I just discussed with my friends from the Left Parties. They say that there are certain provisions which are highly objectionable in respect of the shares which will be left to and just given to all those foreign enterprises. You can see that so many banking concerns are coming to our country. They are also floundering all the norms and standards of the finances here also. Naturally, once these issues are also given to all those foreign enterprises, again some scandals will take place. So, I request that whatever dissenting views have been expressed by the Members of the Standing Committee belonging to different parties, those dissenting views should also be taken into consideration. After arriving at a complete consensus and after having complete agreement over all these aspects of the banking institution, then such type of a Bill should be put forward before this House. In that event, all the different aspects of the Bill can be discussed here. After that, if it looks very good and desirable keeping in mind the interests of the country, in that case it can be passed by the whole House.

With these words, I conclude. Thank you



SHRI P.C. CHACKO (Trichur): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to speak.

I rise to support this Bill moved by the hon. Finance Minister for amending the Banking Companies Act. There is a criticism that this Bill is reversing the nationalisation of banks which was announced by the former Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi in 1970 and it is reversing the subsequent amendments made in 1980.

Sir, I would like to say that this amending Bill is for the purpose of furthering the decisions taken in 1970 and 1980. This is a progressive legislation going further and further from the concept of nationalisation of banks made in 1970. This is not a retrograde step. The Government is not going back. Unfortunately, some interested people are trying to create an impression that the Government is going back on all its promises made when the banks were nationalised. The fact remains that the nationalised banks have grown in size and strength. After the nationalisation of banks in 1970, the number of bank branches has gone up substantially. Today, an average 12,000 people have got a bank branch in the country. It is a very good level. This was one of the objectives of nationalisation of banks. At the same time even though the bank branches have gone up in size and number, yet we cannot claim that we have improved our banking service to the people of this country. The objective at the time of nationalisation of banks was to make available the best service to the common man of this country through the nationalised banks. But the fact remains—whatever one may say—that the service of the nationalised banks has

gone down in quality. This aspect should be borne in mind when we are thinking of any further reform in the banking sector. Now, the private sector banks and the international banks are going to come to this country. They are all working in this direction. If the service in the nationalised banks is not up to the standard, then, naturally people have got the option to opt for the private banks or the foreign banks which are going to come. The important point is that the nationalised banks in India are playing a very important role. They have got a very major role to play in our economy. So, the quality of service of the nationalised banks, which was expected by the people of this country at the time of nationalisation, should be achieved.

The criticism that the objective of nationalisation is being diluted is totally false and it is without any basis. This Bill seeks to amend the ownership of the bank, dilute the shareholding of the bank by giving 49 per cent of the shares to the public. I do not understand how, if 49 per cent shares are given to the public, the control of the bank is given up by the Government. Everyone who knows the Company Act and the Company Law knows very well that 51 per cent shares is as good as having one hundred per cent shares. The absolute control is with the Government. My friend Shri Ansari was expressing some anxiety and some fears about this clause. It is very specifically mentioned in this amendment that 51 per cent of the shares of the banks will be vested with the Government. When new shares are being issued this aspect will also be taken care of and the absolute control of the bank will be with the Government. In giving 49 per cent of the shares to the public, we have to analyse in the background of this Bill what are its motives and intentions.

In the current year's budget a huge amount of Rs. 5600 crore is earmarked for strengthening the capital base of the nationalised banks. As rightly said by my hon. friend, Rs. 5600 crore is not a small amount. The resource crunch which we are facing today for the social sector especially for the poverty alleviation programmes, for the employment programmes, we are finding it extremely difficult to raise resources. At such a situation we cannot have this luxury by setting apart Rs. 5000 crore every year for strengthening the capital base of the nationalised banks. An equal amount, or a little more than this, Rs. 5700 crore was earmarked and set apart for strengthening the capital base of the nationalised banks in the last year. Last year it was Rs. 5700 crore and this year it is Rs. 5600 crore.

In this context I would like to bring to the attention of this House an amendment suggested by the Standing Committee. Different party representatives are in this Standing Committee. During our discussions we had almost come to an agreement to request the Government to see whether this is extremely unavoidable because if Rs. 5000 crore can be saved the Government can do a lot for the other social welfare measures. But the situation has come to a stage where we have no other way but to provide money from the budget for strengthening the capital base.

The Narasimham Committee report is very well known to everybody. International decision is that the capital adequacy should be eight per cent of the risk weighted assets. Nobody has got any dispute on this point. Nobody can say that this capital adequacy is not necessary. There are some opinions that because the Central Government is giving

the guarantee, the capital adequacy is not necessary. When we are working in an international environment, it is necessary that our banks should be respected, our banks should be honoured by the other banks in other countries also. Otherwise if we are opening an LC, nobody in the other countries is going to honour that. So an international arrangement is necessary because we are aiming at a higher growth in the exports. When we are thinking in the context of exports and imports, any commitment or any offer or any guarantee from the Indian banks should be acceptable to the international banks. There is no conditionality from the IMF or the World Bank or from anybody. Unfortunately some friends are always finding some strange relation between World Bank and the IMF for all kinds of such things without any basis.

For the Indian banks to survive, for the Indian banks to attain credibility in the international banking industry we must have this basic condition. It is in our interest and not in the interest of anybody else that we attain an eight per cent capital adequacy norm and an eight per cent of the risk weighted assets. After the Narasimham Committee report was accepted by the Government, the Government also made it mandatory and new provisions and norms are being introduced for provisioning and also for other accounting practices.

So now sufficient provision is being given for doubtful debts. After the eight per cent of the risk weighted assets is fixed as the capital adequacy, to reach this eight per cent, the target date given is 31.3.1996. The banks having an international operation, having branches outside the country should reach this capital adequacy norm by 31.3.1994. So that

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time is almost over. By 1996 all other nationalised banks working inside the country also should reach this eight per cent capital adequacy.

The capital of the nationalised banks as on today is totally insufficient. How are we going to raise this? Anybody who opposes this Amendment Bill may kindly give suggestions. In the Committee it did not happen. In the House I expected that but that suggestion is also not coming. Opposing anything for the sake of opposition alone will not help to solve the problem. Nobody is making suggestions. How can we reach this 8 per cent capital adequacy norm? For that we have to allow the nationalised banks to go to the public to raise their capital from the share market or from the open market.

There are banks which are having good health. There are banks which are in the red. Out of these 22 nationalised banks, some banks are not in good condition. Such banks, at least, can go to the public. There is large amount of money in the share market today. If the banks are allowed to go in for public issue and raise their funds, they can produce good results. There are number of banks which are working in a profitable manner. They can, at least, collect their capital from the share market. That is why mainly this Bill is brought before this House.

This amendment, I think, is one which should be supported by all parties because this is not something connected with the policy of the Government alone. If the Capital strength of a bank, specially of a nationalised bank has to be increased, we should allow them to go to public. So 49 per cent share can be

sold and 51 per cent will be vested with the Government. In that case there is absolutely no danger as far as the ownership of the banks is concerned.

There is an apprehension being expressed that the priority sector lending will be diluted. In India today, banks whether they are private sector banks, nationalised banks or international banks, all these banks are guided by the guidelines of the Reserve Bank of India.

There are instances where these guidelines were flouted when the scam was analysed by the JPC and also when it was discussed in the Parliament. We have found to our surprise that many of the guidelines were not followed properly by the banks in this country. That does not mean that the law is not sufficient or the Act is not sufficient. It is the implementation agency, the supervising agency or the supervisory mechanism of the Reserve Bank of India, which has failed because it is their duty to see that the guidelines which they are issuing as far as the functioning of the banks is concerned that is being implemented and that is not being flouted.

Now we are saying that 49 per cent shares are being given to the private hands. So the banks control will go. Even if 100 per cent share holding is with the private sector, it will not be the case because the private sector banks in the country in their functioning are strictly following the guidelines of the Reserve Bank of India. No shareholder can take undue advantage of the ownership they are having in the bank shareholding. When these strict conditions or the guidelines from the Reserve Bank of India are there, when these are implemented, there is no room for any fear of this kind.

This priority sector lending is also according to the guidelines of the Reserve Bank of India. So the self-employment programmes, the lending for the farmers, the lending for the rural artisans, the lending for the small scale industry, the lending for the rural sector, this is all very specifically stipulated, very specifically mentioned in the existing guidelines which are being in force as far as all these banks are concerned. So there is absolutely no truth in the criticism that the priority sector lending will go down.

Banks can make profits, if they are allowed to work as they like. But that is not the situation in the country today. Banks are not allowed to lend the money as they like and in whichever area they want. They should be very specifically told that 40 per cent should go to the priority sector. So if any bank is violating or flouting any guidelines of the Reserve Bank of India regarding the priority sector lending, action should be taken against that. The Reserve Bank of India is empowered to take action against any existing bank.

Some of the major amendments being proposed in this Bill are welcomed by the Standing Committee which analysed the Bill in general. Of course, there was some difference of opinion. That is quite natural. We can understand that in a Standing Committee consisting of all the party members, there may be some amendments in the Bill moved by the Government. I am not saying it in a different angle, I am not criticising that also. But by and large there was an agreement on this proposed amendment. There were fears and there were anxieties, but that will be proved wrong subsequently when this Bill is being accepted and adopted.

I remember, as a Congress Party Member we were all very proud for recalling 1970 and 1980 amendments. It is not that we are going back from nationalisation but the situation has changed a lot. From 1970, from 1980 two major amendments have taken place and after that upto 1994, in these 14 years so many things have happened.

The economy of the country has undergone a sea change. We have to see what is good for the present day economy, for the economic development. This is a Bill which furthers the nationalisation which was announced in 1970 and also in 1980. When the last nationalisation was announced in 1980 a limit was fixed. After 1980 we did not continue with nationalisation. So the aim of the nationalisation to an extent was achieved by those two Acts which were passed in 1970 and 1980.

What is the intention today? We are attracting a higher growth rate in exports. For that money should be available with the banks. They should be in a position to open L.Cs when these exports are expected. For this the international banks in their meetings have decided that the capitalisation norm is a must. For that we should make the Indian banks capable of reaching that level. That is why this amendment is brought forth.

About the number of directors in the banks it was proposed that there should be 15 Directors and discussions also took place in the Committee on this. The Members expressed the opinion that there should be a clear majority of Government Directors and that it should be provided in the Bill. It is very clearly specified in the Bill that seven directors will be nominated by the Government

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and the Reserve Bank and only six will come from the private shareholders. So, this 49 per cent shareholders will have only six directors on the Board and the majority will be with the Government. In view of this, no single party even after accepting this can bring in private shareholders.

There is an unfortunate misunderstanding that anybody who is a shareholder of a bank can take undue advantage of it. The fact of the matter is that a shareholder cannot take even a loan from the bank, even if it is a private bank. Then I do not understand why this apprehension should be there. Anybody who is associated with a bank in some capacity or other or a major shareholder is disqualified even from taking a loan from the bank. In such a situation, when such a guideline is there, when the number of directors provided is 13, which is a majority for the Government, this 49 per cent or whatever is the allocation or a total limit, there should be no apprehension. Even that 49 per cent, subsequently will be approved by the Board of Directors.

Special care is being taken to see that all the categories are represented on the Board. Small farmers, the farming community as a whole, small entrepreneurs and experts in different fields like Chartered Accountants and experts in the various aspects of banks, All are given sufficient representation in the Board of Directors. When there is a majority of 13 Directors in the Board of Directors where the Government is having absolute majority, they will all be protected.

There are certain amendments regarding capital also. The minimum limit

was Rs. 1500 crore and the maximum was Rs. 3000 crore. This kind of safeguards and practices have been taken care of when this amendment is brought forth. I think this is one of the Bills which should have been accepted by the House *in toto*. Therefore, from the political angle one can say that the ruling party is going back on nationalisation and all those things. We are very very conscious and we are very well aware of the intentions and the decision we have taken at the time of nationalisation. The people of this country have accepted it and now the Indian banks have to be modernised. After putting some money in a nationalised bank—I am saying generally—if one goes to the bank to know the balance one has to wait for half-an-hour. I am not blaming any political party, not even mine. The bank employees and officers should be more responsive. Still token strikes are going on. For unfounded reasons they are going on a general strike. Recently there was a token strike for one day. For one day if the banks go on strike how far is the economy paralysed? Now-a-days the unions are also acting like that. A continuous strike also is being announced. A token strike is also being undertaken again on another day. The people who were working, the workers and officers who are responsible for running the banks should also understand that these unfounded apprehensions should be given up and they should see that the Indian banking industry and the system improves. For that if we are not cooperating, it will be very unfortunate.

This is a very comprehensive Bill and I support these amendments.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, I call Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee to speak. The time allotted to CPI(M) is only seven minutes. Only one name has been given

by your party. This time has been fixed by the BAC after taking into account the opinion of the leaders of the various political parties and also many other business, which have to be transacted.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dum Dum): Sir, this is an unfortunate experience for me. As soon as I stand up to speak, I am reminded about the time allotted to my Party. In fact, this Bill is a very important Bill, for which only two hours have been provided by the BAC. I do not think its perception was a valid one.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, I have heard the speech of my friend, Shri P.C. Chacko and we are all together in the Standing Committee on Finance also. Shri Chacko is also a member of that Committee. I am also a member of that Committee. Shri Chetan Chauhan is also a member of that Committee. Some of us—Shri Chetan Chauhan is not a party to that and in fact the BJP is not a party to that—have submitted a note of dissent. We have stated therein that the Bill should be withdrawn and in case it is not withdrawn, we will totally oppose the Bill. Let me state that.

Let us try to remind ourselves about the scene before the nationalisation of banks. What was the credit structure? On the one hand, there were banks which were controlled by the large business houses of the country. The Tatas had a bank, that is, Central Bank of India and the Birlas has their own bank, that is, United Commercial Bank of India. In the towns, the credit institutions were in the private sector and they were controlled by the big industrialists of those days. That was one part of the scene. And the other part of the scene in the country was that in the countryside,

the credit institution was that of money lending. The moneylenders were ruling the roost. They were charging high rates of interest. They were clogging the properties of the poor and they were devastating and because of them, Indian agriculture was unable to play its relevant role in the development of the economy. So, in the city, it was the big business houses which controlled the banks and in the countryside, it was the moneylenders, who controlled the banks. That was the scene when we had to intervene and nationalise. You will all agree to this. And at one stroke, it was felt that both the influence of the big houses on the urban credit institutions and the influence of the moneylenders in the countryside would be curbed via this Banking Nationalisation Act.

In order to serve the purpose of economic development, it was postulated from then onwards that public sector banks were charged with at least two kinds of responsibilities. One is the branch expansion in order to curb the moneylenders in the countryside. In popular or understandable term, we say that the feudal hold over the agriculture had to be broken, the feudal hold which was represented by the hold of the moneylenders had to be broken, and, therefore, the branch expansion had to take place.

The second leg of the instruction or the guideline was that lending would be to the priority sectors and the priorities would be in terms of needs of the society, needs of the economy and needs of the country. And it was stipulated that at least forty per cent of aggregate credit would be given, would be provided to this priority sector. There was an additional rider, that is, that very poor people should be offered various

[Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee]

advances at very low rate of interest. This is known as DRI, Differential Rate of Interest.

At least one per cent of the credit was supposed to go to them. This was happening. In fact, it is to the credit partly of the Government and mostly of the employees of the banking sector against whom he said that they are very frequently going on strike. They did not mind it. They went to the rural sector from the comforts of the urban areas and they allowed themselves to be transferred to the rural sector and lived with them and spread bank branches throughout the country. Let us greet them. Instead of greeting them, we are complaining why they are indulging in strikes today when they were not doing that in the past. It is the twin policy that should be pursued with as much vigour as possible. And if there was any lack in that policy, the bank employees stood up to fight. After that the Indian economic picture changed somewhat. What was happening is that the big industrial groups fearing initially that they may not be able to control the credit structure in the urban areas as before went in for direct deposit taking bypassing the banking sector. They felt that the public sector banks might be too scrutinising for them and, therefore, they thought they should reach the public directly, offer them a higher rate of interest then was being offered by the banking sector and collect deposits. That was the initial scene. This was going on. After that so many things happened particularly in the 80s after the second round of nationalisation in 1980 and from mid-80 onwards the large houses began feeling that they need not fear as much because after all what was inserted in the Constitution as 'socialism' does not really mean or may not really

mean 'socialism'. Therefore, they were trying to impose their control over the public sector banks instead of the public sector banks imposing their control on the credit structure by so many dubious means. One such dubious means was to borrow and not to repay. It is known—I am sure Shri Chacko also knows—a very famous economist by name John Maynott Kins, who later became Lord Kins, once stated wonderfully well that if you borrow from a bank and if you are a small borrower, the banks control you and if you borrow from a bank and if you are a large borrower you control the bank. That was a very famous saying of Lord Kins, who is supposed to be the godfather of modern economy.

Sir, so many things are happening. FERA and MRTP Acts are being passed. Initially they were afraid how the public sector banks were growing. But, it is not the profession that matters. Shri Chacko will admit that it is the practice that matters. In the course of practice they discovered that despite there being strength of the MRTP Act, nothing prevented the large industrial houses to grow at a fantastic pace compared to the growth of national income and nothing prevented the foreigners from exploiting the foreign banks in this country. But even then they needed protection.

That protection the Indian big industrialists were offered via the amendment of the banking Act by inserting the clauses which say that banking secrecy would be kept such that no thief can be mentioned in public. That was after the realisation that after all socialism is in words, after all MRTP Act is in words, after all, the growth of the large industrial houses could not be prevented. Therefore, to protect their position, the secrecy clauses in the Banking Act were provided.

Today, we are told that the Reserve Bank of India would give publicity to the names of defaulters. When? It is very simple. They will give publicity when they have gone to the court. You cannot prevent the publicity in any case if it goes to the court. Therefore, you come back as if you are accepting this proposition as if you are championing against bad debts that the particulars of such debts would be given to the Parliament and to the public. Now, what did we discover in the JPC? We discovered that whom we wanted to control, in fact, were controlling the banks. The entire scandal was led by those who are supposed to be controlled by FERA, who are supposed to be controlled by the retained enthusiasm of 1947, when it struck freedom. The entire scandal was led by these foreign banks, and they were aided and abetted by the management of the public sector banks. They were led by their nose. By whom? We know of Harshad Mehta. We know of so many other players also in the share market. We know not only them, once again the industrialists were there. Mr. Chacko would justify it, the names of industrialists did emerge in the JPC report. This is what was happening from, say, 1984-85 up-till now, that is, for 9-10 years, and they became so powerful. My leader reminds me exactly as they did not care. One of the reports on banks mentioned that the retiring Chairmen would advance loans in such a manner that those need not be repaid. This was the report on frauds by one of the Deputy Governors of the Reserve Bank of India who himself was indicted by the JPC. He knew everything and he described that this is what is happening. That was the power of big money within the country even when banks remained nationalised, remained in the public sector. This is not what exactly they are saying. The power was such that it went beyond the

management of the public sector. It reached those who are expected to supervise the operations of the banking sector—the Reserve Bank of India, the Ministry of Finance and other Ministers of the Government. Since this is known, that is what delays the Action Taken Report on JPC which was promised to be done in ninety days' time, as mentioned in the Annual report of the Ministry of Finance. This is the background and this was the practice.

In the course of this practice he denied all that. I have quoted during my speech on Finance Bill the I.M.F. Memorandum on Nepal. I referred to the I.M.F. Memorandum on Russia. I had the papers. Exactly the same kind of thing is being done in India. I.M.F. is asking Nepal to do the same, I.M.F. is asking Russia to do the same that is to de-nationalise and privatise the financial sector. And he says we are unnecessarily seeing the signs of I.M.F. But it is there. Now, in this context, not satisfied with all the secrecy clauses in each of the banks, two Bills have been introduced. Let us see what has already been passed. The Banking Regulation Act has been passed. What did that provide for? He says it is not going back, history never goes back, exactly. As there is a saying—he knows it also—we do say history does not repeat itself. We do say it puts in spikes. It retains some of the similarities of the earlier situations. But, at the same time, the situation has been so changed that it reaches new peak.

In order to allow that new peak, the Banking Regulation Act permitted once again to get established private banks in the country with huge capital inviting the industrialists whose nexus with the banks was supposed to be broken by the nationalisation of the banks. And who were the first to add smile to their



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faces—no less than a person like Hinduja whose names are still not cleared from Bofors. Once again the private sector, the large people with very large capital are being allowed to start their own banking sectors and banking companies as before, via that Act. Even then they are not satisfied. Not only that these private sector banks can be established by Hinduja and by Harshad Mehtas and we do not know by how many others, God fearing, we do not know much. They are not satisfied with that either—either the I.M.F. or the big business.

Therefore, they are bringing in fresh arguments. Therefore, they feel that the existence of the public sector banks itself must be challenged. They are not satisfied. Once you begin to taste blood you do not stop at one drop. Therefore, they are reaching their hands—octopus like—on the public sector banks. He says what is the worry, it is only 49 per cent. The argument, as has been stated, is capital adequacy. The argument is that the international acceptance is 8 per cent.

Now let us examine and analyse the provisions. We have given our note of dissent. We have listed out why is it that the problem of this capital adequacy has arisen. They say that the banks are losing.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): No Minister is reading the reports.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Even one of the Members of our Committee initiated the dissent. It was said that it was all forgotten. What was the argument? Why have they themselves given the argument? Why are the banks losing?

Of course, one very important reason is, we are spreading our branches and are having priority sector lending though it must, again pointed out that the priority sector lending of 40 per cent, that target is, now-a-days, not reached. It was reached earlier and now it is coming down. It is coming down although the banks are nationalised and they are in the public sector. This is what is happening in the credit sector. Why are they losing? One reason, of course, is you cannot control that unless you say that no more expansion of bank branches. The other argument which the Government has stated—which is a very interesting argument—is that the difference between the lending rates and the borrowing rates of the banks are so narrowly spread that they cannot make a profit and therefore, the Government have decided that the deposit rate should be lowered compared to the lending rates. And the lending rates could be allowed to float as high as possible and the small scale sector which was getting its advances at a lower rate of interest would no longer be getting it at that level. If you borrow more than Rs. two crore, the rate of interest is the same as the minimum lending rate above a certain sum.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO: You should see the productivity in the public sector banks.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: I certainly agree with you.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Productivity in the private sector banks is black money. But you do not object to that.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please conclude now. The time allotted to your Party was seven minutes. But you have already taken 20 minutes.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Sir, I will take a few more minutes.

Another argument was that the Government, in order to cover their deficit, is forcing the banks to buy Government securities and banks are lending to the Government at a very low rate of interest which was 6-1/2 per cent. That has changed today. Government security papers are now sold at 13 per cent rate of interest. Therefore, the question of loss arising from buying the Government security papers no longer exists. Not only that; before the rates were increased, the Statutory Liquidity Ratio and the Cash Reserve Ratio were changed. They are rapidly being brought down and you propose to rapidly bring that down so that the banks are not forced to invest a lot of their cash in these areas.

So, these are the reasons why the banks are losing. Let me add the other important reason also. The other important reason is that large borrowers do not pay back and they are declared as bad debt. Rs. 1,500 crore, as has been mentioned a few days ago, has been treated as bad debt and unrecoverable. About Rs. 20,000 crore is not yet declared as bad debt and not yet considered to be defaulting. It is there as 100 per cent risk assets which they will not be able to collect. If you lose Rs. 3,000 crore every year in this manner, how can you make a profit? So, by their own statements the banks are losing and the reasons are obvious. Instead of attacking the reasons, their answer is, privatise the banks which has nothing to do with that. Bad debt is not because of privatisation.

**15.00 hrs**

In fact, those who will be allowed to start the banks are the people

responsible for these bad debts. SLR, CRR ratios are already changed. The arguments and the conclusions do not bear any relationship at all. We have repeatedly tried to tell them. He has very correctly mentioned about the capital ratio. In Standing Committee on Finance, we have made a comment that "Do not provide them this year Rs. 5600 crores, because you are running a deficit of Rs. 6000 crores."

**15.01 hrs.**

[SHRI TARA SINGH *in the Chair*]

Therefore, we have said, you defer payment of Rs. 6000 crores. You have balance of payment position with your budget. That was not listened to. In this case also, if this is true, you are losing, you are not making profit so far. What is happening? Eight per cent capital adequacy, firstly they have to tell us that with the Government backing—despite our surrender not on NPT but on missiles—the credit worthiness of the Government is what it matters. No international bank will say that despite Government backing, eight per cent capital adequacy is necessary. If you have no risks at all, on a portion of your advances, there is no difficulty. You do not have to provide it. More your advances are risky, it is 100 per cent risky, the entire amount has to be taken into account for calculating that eight per cent. If you can tone up your requirements of capital for even eight per cent capital adequacy, it will be much less. Look at the provisions in this Bill. We have said eight per cent capital adequacy is not necessary because they are Government banks. Secondly, the requirements of funds for eight per cent is much less, if the banks are allowed to function in a profitable way. Thirdly, what is the investment that

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you are providing. Initially, the provision was for 13 Directors—six will be from the Government, six from the private sector and one Chartered Accountant. Whose Chartered Accountant is he? After that, I see the amendment. The Standing Committee recommended that there must be eight in the public sector or Government, and six from private sector plus one chartered accountant, that is seven will come on the other side. Let them be in the minority. But this is the argument they say. After 49 per cent is given to the private sector and 20 per cent to the foreign sector, why do you worry? Once again, it is not profession but it is the practice. How many years ago, was it 49 per cent in Maruti? When did it cease to become 49 per cent? This is the first step being taken like the GATT in which the first steps are being taken. What are the changes in FERA? Let Mr. Chacko answer it.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:

All restrictions are being eliminated. You had got minority vote in this country. You were a minority here. How have you become majority? (*Interruptions*)\*

MR. CHAIRMAN: These things will not go on record.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: There are two provisions. I will make a comment upon them and conclude.

There is one provision which says that no individual or organisation will be allowed to have more than one per cent out of 49 per cent. In the earlier Banking Regulation Act, that one per cent has gone up to 10 per cent. We have said that Tata & Sons control 49 companies.

Everyone of them gets one per cent share. It is only Tatas who control 49 per cent. We have suggested in our amendment that, we should at least say that not more than one per cent will be allowed to any group of companies. It is not accepted.

The second thing they say is only 20 per cent is given to the foreigners.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO: That is your suggestion.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: First you thought 24 per cent. Nobody knew whether it is the entire 49 per cent. Now the amendment is 20 per cent. He did not agree. As our leader was saying, there are ways and means of having a majority in different areas whether it is Parliament or the Board of Directors. With a 20 per cent control over funds, having two Directors because of the 20 per cent, don't you think that if the Government can be dictated by foreigner, the rest of 29 assuming to be 49 and four Directors will not be dictated by these two? (*Interruptions*) This is there. We therefore have said that (i) the arguments do not justify all the arguments of loss and capital adequacy. It is defective on the plain arguments themselves. (ii) The arguments on capital adequacy are irrelevant. It is weakening of the public sector, weakening the control and once again merging of industrial capital, the IMF and the World Bank capital, with the credit institutions.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please wind up now.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: I am winding up. They are winding up the public sector. I will wind up my speech. There is no difficulty.

As was pointed out towards the turn of the century, international capital has taken a turn. (*Interruptions*) There was a merger taking place of the industrial capital and the money capital. Towards the end of this century a very famous person who led the Russian Revolution noted that that is the mark of imperialism. Modern imperialism is characterised by the fact that industrial capital and finance capital merged with each other. We are witnessing exactly that kind of sickness by many independent private banks, by allowing such a big hold on the public sector banks by the foreigners and the private individuals. There I suggested that we are prepared to accommodate them. Please hand them over.

He has raised the question of efficiency of the employees of the nationalised banks. I have an answer. Today, the banking employees see before their own naked eyes all the doings of the top people, doing of the top people of the Government and their nexus with the interested people. The people at the top do not encourage the employees to provide their services in an efficient manner. What is the guarantee of efficiency today? At one stage, we told you to allow the participation of the employees in the management so that they can bring out the facts which you do not know; they will generate efficiency in all our public sector banks.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO: That is provided in the Bill.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: No. That is not about participation of employees. We have also said that in every branch there should be supervision by the locally-elected people, by the depositors and by the employees to see the quality of efficiency. We have

suggested these things. But they were not accepted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have already taken 40 minutes. Please conclude.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: I am concluding now. Therefore, on the basis of need, on the basis of argument, on the basis of sheer patriotism and integrity of the country and on the basis of refusal to surrender to the foreigners who are trying to control—with 20 per cent holding—the entire 100 per cent holding, we want the Bill either to be withdrawn or opposed tooth and nail.

With these words, I conclude.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT (Agra): Sir, this Bill is a step towards privatisation of nationalised banks by adopting liberalised policies. But so far as their privatisation is concerned, we have observed the working of nationalised banks and it has not been good. The standard of efficiency and performance of nationalised banks has gone down and it resembles the working in Government offices where no work gets underway without greasing palms. The functioning of Banks is an indication to the fact that the Banks working under the Government, have not performed their duties with honesty and sincerity. I am apprehensive that the number of bunglings is going to multiply as a result of Privatisation. We have to take account of this fact. We will have to increase the efficiency in banks as it has nose-dived.

Sir, I would like to point out the social obligations of the Banks towards the poor people. 40% is meant for the

[Shri Bhagwan Shankar Rawat]

priority sector but even in the priority sector, the targets announced by the Government are not achieved. I can cite the example of Uttar Pradesh. The address of His Excellency, the President had mentioned that general people would be provided loans under Nehru Rozgar Yojana but when I contacted the Bank officials in Uttar Pradesh I found that even 10 per cent of the target fixed for the last year had not been achieved and I don't think it will be achieved this year because the youths are harrassed on frivalous grounds and they are encouraged towards dishonesty. They are asked to earn money through unfair means but you can very well imagine the outcome of that money.

The assurance given by the Banks regarding priority sector is also being found to be difficult to achieve. That is why, I would like to say that so far as the question of the functioning of the priority sector is concerned, there should be some transparency and it is essential that the proper implementation is ensured.

My colleagues have raised the issue of Banking lease. I would like to say that the functioning of nationalised Banks was not upto the mark. An amount to the tune of Rs. 1500 crore has been put in bad debt account and Rs. 2,000 crores are also at stake. Besides, thousands of crores of rupees are involved in litigations. It amounts to a loot of Government funds and property. Everybody is making hay while the sun shines. If we are able to curb this loot through privatisation, then, I will consider it a good step. But I would like to warn against an increase in such loot by big Industrial Houses because so far all the deals have been undertaken underhand due to non-transparency and now we will

have to be careful that such deals are not undertaken more brazenly. Due to nationalisation of banks even the Government opposed the idea of monitoring the functioning of the Banks and putting a check over it. The Government has been giving the plea that the banks under their control, the Governor of the Reserve Bank of India, and the finance Minister were also their own people, so they did not want an outsider. But I would like to say that now it should be brought under the control of CAG. Once it is brought under CAG, the functioning of the banks will definitely become transparent and their accountability will also increase. The increase in accountability will lead to more efficiency. It should be brought under the purview of CAG to scrutinize and evaluate its functioning and to ensure whether financial discipline has been maintained or not.

There are several financial committees. None of the financial committees have the right to scrutinize the functioning of the banks. The Government has said that it is a sacred institution, so, it should not be monitored. The Government Banks/nationalised banks are the result of how scam took place in Banks, how the Banks were used to get political popularity in the name of being sacred institutions. Despite having monopoly, they are in a very bad shape. The Banking Institutions which feed others are now being fed on the hard-earned public money by the Central Government by way of taxes for the last several years, irrespective of the fact that the provision made this year was for Rs. 56 hundred crore or Rs. 57 hundred crores last year. On the one hand, you are selling out the factories to make up the losses, on the other hand, the Budgetary provision has to be made for those Banks, which are supposed to

finance others in order to run those Banks and improve their financial position. That is why, we are not satisfied with the present functioning of Banks. If you want to experiment, you can go ahead. But I am only apprehensive about giving 20% share to foreign investors because we are adopting policies of liberalisation. Is it a step towards privatisation or internationalisation of nationalised banks? I see danger in internationalisation since I do not suffer from any mania or phobia. But I fear that in view of the intention of the multinational companies to break the spine of our industries, this internationalisation may lead to no check on them and they may influence and have control on our policy matters. As they have 20% share so they cannot be influential according to the democratic system and simple calculations, yet anything can happen here. So, I would like to warn that the Government should put a check on the foreigners so far as their share in the functioning of Banks is concerned. The Government should reconsider this provision.

First of all, this experiment should be made a success through the policy of liberalisation by involving the private sector people. We should not make it a cocktail. Let it be a simple system. We will not be able to successfully experiment it if we mix several points/things.

I would like to mention a couple of things. The liberalisation of Industries will lead to their smooth functioning. That is why, the workers should be involved at every stage of management. The Bhartiya Mazdoor Sangh is the nationalist organisation of workers and it has been constantly demanding participation of workers in the management. So, there should be a participation of workers and employees. The workers were cheated at the time of disinvestment of shares of

Public Undertakings. The workers were not given participation in that whereas it had been originally decided that they would be given participation. Neither they were given participation there nor any possibility of their involvement seems imminent. The participation of workers will quell many doubts. Today, the workers and Bank employees are worried. They fear exploitation. Their interests should be protected in order to save them from exploitation and provide them some relief. They should have a right to participate in the management.

What will be the shape of Rural Development Bank in the long run? The changed form of the privatised banks may not treat the rural banks as a neglected child. The rural economy is being given a new lease of life through Rural Banks. So, the base of Rural Banks should be strengthened, I feel that the Rural Bank employees should be treated at par, as Supreme Court have given its award also. They should be provided such facilities as are admissible to other Bank employees. The Central Government should strengthen the Rural Banks to finance the rural economy properly. We have been giving emphasis on the export of agricultural products in our export policy. In such a case the role of Rural Developmental Banks becomes all the more important.

There should be no change in the lending ratio and the deposit ratio. Such a situation should not arise where the privatised banks forget to perform their social obligations or they should indulge in profiteering. They may reduce the deposit rate and increase the lending rate. They may cause a new wave of inflation in our economy. That is why the Government should be vigilant of all these points. Norms should be fixed and stringently adhered to avoid exploitation

[Shri Bhagwan Shankar Rawat]

of the public. Efforts should be made to encourage competition between Banks and an era of competition should be started among nationalised banks also. The changed circumstances will definitely lead to more efficiency in the functioning of Banks. This is my belief. So, the feeling of competition should be encouraged and stressed upon in the functioning of Banks to increase their efficiency.

With these words, I would like to conclude and thank you for allowing me to speak.

[English]

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam): Mr. Chairman Sir, I rise to support the Bill introduced by our hon. Finance Minister. Today the banks play a very important and pivotal role in our economy. This amendment is brought because of the recommendations of the Narasimham Committee Report. This amendment is brought before this House for making our Indian banks more sound and to strengthen the financial base of our banks.

The present financial base of our Indian banks is not at all satisfactory. We have to make the Indian banks more sound and bring it in line with the current international practices. The banking activities have grown in size and have acquired more significance. So it should be in line with the current international practice. All banks should ensure that their total capital base has at least 8 per cent of the risk weighted assets by 31.3.1996. Those banks which have got international lending—overseas operations—have to achieve this goal by 31.3.1994. That is already over. This

step is a welcome one. By this definitely our banks will have more credibility. Internationally our credibility will increase as well as our banks will have a sound economic footing and our banks can serve the people more effectively. By this we can improve the financial health of our banks. The Central Government is contributing to the paid-up capital of these banks. Out of the budget a total Rs. 5700 crore was earmarked for this last year. From 1985-86 to 1992-93 Rs. 4000 crore was earmarked for this. You see that the Government has to attend other pressing problems and it has to find money for other social service sectors. Because of the financial crunch the Government cannot continue to finance as we have done earlier. So there is no other way before the Government. If we want capital and a financial base for the bank, the only way before us is to go for the public issue or approach the capital market. Government cannot continue to contribute like this. Already we have a lot of other issues to solve and a lot of other problems. So the only way before the Government is to allow the banks to approach the capital market. The outside capital so mobilised can be used by the banks to expand its lending. The objective is to enable the banks to raise money from the capital market and they can utilise it for their lending purposes. Ultimately it is going to benefit the people of our country. It is good that the capital base of the nationalised banks is going to be broadened.

In doing this, my request to the Government is that we should take more caution. When we are going for a public issue, we have to take more precaution and we have to take more care on this. I want to point out two things regarding this. The first point is that the actual value of the share has to be assessed

properly and the premium should be fixed accordingly. For example, in the case of SBI shares which have been allotted recently, if I remember rightly, the real value of the share, as per the Minister's statement, was more than Rs. 500; but the premium was fixed at Rs. 90 per share. When the real value of the share was more than Rs. 500, why should it be given at a premium of Rs. 90? There has to be a proper linkage between the price of the share and the actual value. Without this linkage, we cannot implement this properly. There are a lot of criticism about this. Therefore, my request to the Government is that there should be a proper linkage between the price of the share and its actual value. The second point is that regarding this SBI share issue, there have been many complaints about the mode of allotment. I was told that some people went to court and I do not know how this allotment was made. There are serious complaints about this. In fact, some aggrieved persons went to court and they are seeking other legal measures to redress their grievances.

My point is that there should be greater transparency in the allotment of shares. The norms should be fixed for its allotment. Since the other nationalised banks are allowed to enter into the capital market, it is very important to fix the norm so that public confidence will be created. There should be a public confidence; and without creating public confidence, we cannot approach the capital market. Since all other nationalised banks are going to approach the capital market, the norm should be strictly followed; there should not be any chance for flouting the norms; and there must be greater transparency in allotting the shares. Otherwise, there will be a lot of problems. We should avoid that type of problems; the Government should take care.

This Bill provides for nomination and election of directors. I have to point out two or three important issues in this regard. The first point is this. Section (6) of this Bill deals with the special knowledge required for election as well as for the nomination of directors. Among the areas of special knowledge, 'import and export' should be included because this is a very important subject today. 'Export' is a very specialised area and we are trying to boost our exports and trying to strengthen our economy. So, I think, at this juncture, we have to give more importance for export and import sector. This is a specialised area which is more important now than ever before. So, this subject should also be included in the areas of special knowledge. Banks are playing a very important role in exports and imports. So, my request to the hon. Minister is that it is only proper that the directors should have a special knowledge about this area. Definitely it will be going to help our banking system as well as it will boost our exports and it will strengthen our economy.

My second point is about the procedure. There is something said about the procedure for electing directors. Section (3B) says that if a director-elect has not fulfilled the requirements of specialised knowledge of specified in the Bill, he will be removed.

This is a very strange clause. Why should we allow such people, who do not have specialised knowledge about it, to contest the election? I think it would be proper to prescribe, based on the specialised knowledge prescribed in the law, certain qualifications for contesting the elections to the post of Board of Directors so that we can avoid this type of embarrassment. Once the result is declared if somebody is disqualified, it will be a great embarrassment for him.



[Shri Ramesh Chennithala]

This lacuna in the Bill should be plugged so that the elections can be conducted smoothly.

Banks have to play a vital role in our economy. Banks have to perform various social obligations. Banks are bound to implement the programmes and policies of the Government. So, their Directors should also have some social commitment. The Government should be careful in nominating people to the Board of Directors. I think the persons who are doing some social work and social commitment should be considered for this.

So far as corruption in banks is concerned, I would like to say that the poor and the needy persons are not getting the loans. To get a loan from the bank is a Herculean task for a common man. A lot of formalities have to be undergone before a loan is sanctioned to a common man. On the other hand, if you are a rich person, a man of influence, you can easily avail loan from any bank. If you can pay a percentage of the loan applied for to an officer of the bank you will immediately get the loan. My appeal to the Minister is that a proper scrutiny of the loans disbursed should be done and it should be ensured that the poor and the needy persons should get the loan.

My hon. colleague, Shri P.C. Chacko mentioned about the frequent strikes undertaken by the bank employees. I think, this type of activity should be condemned by all. If our banking system is paralysed, it will ultimately affect our economy. In the banking sector the trade union activities are on the increase. The regular strikes undertaken by the banking

staff harm the future prospects of our economy. Of course, genuine problems of the employees should be sorted out but regular strikes definitely harm the prospects of our country. Frequent strikes of this nature will not contribute to the prosperity and the economic stability of our country. No doubt the banking sector is a commercial sector, but at the same time we cannot forget the social commitments of our banks. They should help the rural masses to a great extent.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN  
(Kishanganj): Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Sir, I feel that my friends from Treasury Benches would not deny that when the banks were nationalised, it was a progressive step. Today, the banks are being privatised. They refuse to accept that it is an retrogressive step. If one was progressive, the other has to be retrogressive. Both cannot be called progressive. Sir, the fact is that, we are reversing the national control, the State control over the financial institutions which can definitely be defined as one of the commanding heights of the national economy. That was an accepted national consensus. Today, one-by-one, the State control over all the commanding heights of the economy, whether it is the infrastructure or whether it is the financial institutions, all these pillars are falling one-by-one. We know who is behind it. We know the pressures. I am sorry to say that the Government is succumbing to these pressures, from foreign capital, from foreign monopoly and from international financial institutions put together. I am not one of those who believe in monopoly. Monopoly has its vices. But at the same time I feel that in the banking sector, the banking institution should be controlled by the State. Today we are not only going to

allow or we are not only allowing infusion of private capital but also even infusion of foreign capital to an extent of 49 per cent which operationally will shift the control of the banks into private hands. So, the Government must maintain that they shall always have eight out of fifteen Directors. I know the Government shall nominate them. Even the workers' representatives shall be nominated by the Government. We know how the Directors function. I am not making any allegation, Sir, but there is a wide space between the acts of favouritism and acts of misappropriation. There are linkages which operate behind the scene. Therefore we shall not be far wrong to presume that in this manner, with the infusion of half of the Board of Directors coming from the private sector, virtually, the banks will be controlled by the private interests. They will not be controlled by the Government.

At this point, Sir, I am making just a humble suggestion. We know that the Government have kept many seats in the Board of Directors vacant for a long time. Some of them are filled in by a small group of officers holding posts of Joint Secretaries in the Department of Banking or at best in the Ministry of Finance. I would suggest for the consideration of the Government that in selecting the Members of the Board of Directors, they should widen the ambit. At least they should take persons from all the economic Ministries so that you have a wider experience, a wider rotation and you do not have to repeat the same individual as a Member of the Board of Directors in more than one bank. Perhaps I am suggesting this as a matter of caution because it may be somewhat difficult for the private interests to entangle in the web of a large number of Government Directors.

Sir, the Bill has been justified primarily on the ground of capital base. It is said that the total capital must be at least eight per cent of the risk-weighted assets. Frankly I am not a banker enough or I do not know enough of banking to understand the origin of this eight per cent. Whether it is a divine mandate or whether it is an IMF mandate, I do not know. Frankly I do not know whether it is a financial requirement. Assuming it to be so, the next argument of the Government is that each one of these Government banks must have a minimum capital base of Rs. 1500 crore.

It may go up or it must have a minimum base of Rs. 1500 crores. The Government has not explained to us why it must be kept at the minimum of Rs. 1500 crores? I have a suspicion that this figure has been quoted in order to create an artificial scarcity of capital; and on the basis of that inflated artificial scarcity justifying the infusion of private capital in terms of private interest. I would request the hon. Minister to kindly explain this point.

There were a number of suggestions made by several Members of the Standing Committee. The Government have not accepted those suggestions. They were explained at length on the floor of this House by our distinguished colleague from the CPI(M). As a party, we endorse those suggestions and would request the Government to kindly reconsider the Bill in the light of those five suggestions; and if they need time, they can withdraw this Bill and come back to the House with a modified Bill.

There are certain aspects of the banking system which, if properly handled, would perhaps generate larger profit and

[Shri Syed Shahabuddin]

therefore larger capital base for the banks as they are. I do not know why the Government have not paid any attention so far to the nationalisation of the banking system as it exists in the country. Why must every bank operate throughout country completely is beyond my comprehension? Why can there not be just one or two banks operating throughout the country and then each bank having a defined jurisdiction in terms of one State or a group of States having its headquarters located therein in order that the interest of the people of each region of the country is protected. Today, some of us, who come from deprived States, feel that the banking system is being used as a channel for the flow of scarce development resources, mopped up from our regions into either metropolitan cities or into more advanced States. Now, this is creating dissatisfaction and discontentment in the country. I, therefore, suggest that if the Government is to re-organise the nationalised banking system with one bank operating throughout the country and then having, say, ten different regional banks each having a local and defined jurisdiction, perhaps it may be able to do better than what it is doing today. I would also suggest that the banks are losing a lot of money every year; and some of the banks are indulging in unnecessary litigation at the expense of the bank. After all, if you enter into a litigation, you have to forego the money. But the bank can go on with a litigation without giving any opportunity for out-of-court settlement to save the assets to the last penny.

I have drawn the attention of the hon. Minister to one or two cases that I came across even in foreign countries where in order to recover 100,000 dollars we spent a million dollars in litigation.

There is absolutely an air of irresponsibility in running the public sector banks. I think if that is looked into, perhaps that might be able to stop this march of loss and, therefore, it may be a gain for the banking system.

Regarding bad debt, I welcome the statement made the other day by the hon. Minister that the Reserve Bank has now issued guidelines and they will monitor from that date the big debtors. I do not know why the Reserve Bank of India cannot collect the information and the RBI or the Government cannot publish the entire list of debtors on that date with whom all reconciliations have failed, all negotiations have failed, and in respect of whom it has been decided by the Government to go before the Tribunal. At least, a list should be made public. I think there is nothing like social control for bad debtors. If your neighbour knows that you are in this predicament, perhaps you may feel shy enough to return it.

I recall a precedence, in France where in order to collect the income tax dues, a list of income tax assesseees and their dues was put on the notice board of every Municipality in the country and that had an immediate impact. I feel that if the Reserve Bank of India, with the cooperation of all the banks, publishes a list of all the debtors, who have more than Rs. 10 lakhs, every year, I think it will have a drastic effect on the recovery pattern.

Sir, one more aspect that was highlighted by our dear colleague here is about the rural banking. I am afraid, even as it is, the rural banking is being eroded. The number of branches which are supposed to be making losses in the rural areas are going to be closed one by one.

Secondly, the area service approach has been abandoned. There are vast stretches which shall be without any banking facility in the countryside. The hon. Member, Shri Chacko, spoke about 12000 persons being served by one bank. But there are wide variations. That statistics, Mr. Chairman, conceals a very horrid reality. There are States in this country where that figure is not 12,000 but 30,000. There are vast stretches of rural areas in this country where perhaps the situation is even worse. Therefore, I would suggest that in order to service the demands for rural credit, in order to save our agriculture from the clutches of the money lenders, we must have a definite system and a guaranteed system of rural credit to cover the entire country.

I have suggested at one time to the hon. Minister that let every bank operate purely on commercial principle, so that it does not have a justification for making losses and let one bank in the country operate on social principle and let the losses of that bank be completely covered by the Government or by the profits of the other banks as desired by the Government. Let that bank be called the National Bank for Social Development and its purpose should be to fulfil the social purpose and the social function of the banking system. I would then release all the banks from the social obligations. They can go out and make as much profit as they wish and surely at least 50 per cent of that profit will come back to the coffers of the Government, I presume and I hope.

Sir, we have much to say about the nature of service provided by the banks. I am afraid, here I beg to disagree from my distinguished colleague from CPI(M), I consider that our banking system is

over-staffed. I think that the management is top heavy. I think that the atmosphere in every bank does not deserve the name of a bank, it is more than a fish market. There is so much noise, so much overcrowding, so much coming and going because there are just so many people floating around. Perhaps five men are doing work where one man would have done, compared to any bank, even the smallest bank, that I visited in a foreign country. I mean, I really lament the atmosphere or the environment of our banks. Therefore, I do not understand frankly the demand of the banking employees for more concessions, more privileges, more profits. In fact I would suggest that if the banks are to function on a commercial principle, let their bonus be related only to the profits and let the scales be so fixed that they do not have any element of deferred income, as it has been said. That the bonus clearly relates to the profits. If the bank makes profit, the employees get the bonus. If the bank does not make profit, the employees shall not get the bonus.

I would even go to the extent of suggesting, Mr. Chairman, that every employee of every bank should be given preference share in the bank in which he is employed so that he has got a certain heart in optimising the income of the bank in which he serves. Still I would suggest, let him not just make any demands upon the public sector banking because I am sure that one of the reasons why we have not been able to generate as much income from the banking system for national development is that the staff of the banking system has not been productive, has not been creative, has not been able to get its very best, that it should do.

[Shri Syed Shahabuddin]

Sir, I would make my last point, that I feel that there should be a statutory audit of every bank every year. On the floor of the House we discussed this matter. We were told that one-fourth of the branches are audited every year. I was also told that it is not necessary that another set of branches will be audited next year. It may be that over a period of four years you do not cover the audit of all the branches. In fact, we have been receiving most of the final bankers' statements and one of the reasons that contributed to the state of scam was that we did not have properly audited annual reports and reconciled accounts of the major banks. The audit was based on the information available. The audit was also not based on the actual state of affairs. I do not see why in this banking system which is going to be privatised, which is going to be commercialised, there can not be an annual commercial statutory audit of every branch every year,

As I said in the very beginning, I can live with a public sector banking system, I can live also with a private banking system, I would have felt that at least in this sector you would not allow the infusion of private foreign capital. Foreign banks operate in India. They operate on a reciprocal principle. If they operate in our country, we operate in their country, as branches. Let that be so. But why must they be permitted to buy in our banking system? Therefore, we could have two parallel systems for banking, or even three if the Government likes, one totally private, one mixed and the other total public sector. Let there be an open competition among the three. But I would like that in consonance with the original philosophy of development, that we had, evolved as a national

consensus, let the banking sector as a sector be dominated and controlled by the public sector which should be wholly public sector. In this there should be no dilution. I am agreeable to competition. I visualise a three-way competition—a competition between public sector banks, one hundred per cent Government controlled. Mixed banks in which the Government have the majority share and thirdly, totally private banks. I will allow that, and yet I would like that in the totality of the banking sector, let the Government and the State dominate because this is a key to our development. And I would plead once again, that whatever be the notion under which the Government is smarting, under which the Government is taking a decision, I request the Government to please give a retort that we shall not permit and we should not permit foreigners into our banking system.

With these words, since the Government has not accepted any recommendations made in the Note of Dissent appended to the report of the Standing Committee, I have no option but to oppose the Bill as it stands.

[Translation]

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the debate was held in the Standing Financial Committee of the Parliament on a Bill for an amendment in the Banking Act. We had discussed various aspects of the Bill but could not come to a unanimous decision. I would like to suggest that the Parliament should consider it. You should also consider it as to whether our Standing Committees are helpless in some respects that inspite of taking a unanimous decision we say, at the behest of some official, that we will give it up.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to read out a part of the Report which has been published:

[English]

"It was therefore suggested that the entire reserve fund of a bank should be converted into paid up capital before offering the shares to the public. The Committee was informed by the officers of the Banking Department that such advance conversion of the reserve fund into share capital would reduce the projected earning per share of the concerned bank and therefore impair the prospects of that bank to raise equity from the public."

16.00 hrs.

"Further the amount of Reserve Fund available with any bank will be *inter-alia* taken into consideration while fixing the premium on the face value of the share. After some discussion, it was decided that no change be suggested to the existing provisions in the Bill in this regard."

Since one officer had suggested, the entire Committee fell flat on that.

Again, I would like to quote one more sentences:

"The Committee also considered the amendment in regard to the transferability of shares. The members were of the view that there should be some restrictions on the free transferability of the shares to avoid a single person or a group of persons acquiring the controlling interest in the public sector banks. It was pointed out by

the Ministry Officials that this can be done only through an amendment in the Stock Exchange Act and the Companies Act. The Committee did not suggest any change in the Bill in this regard."

16.01 hrs.

[SHRI P.C. CHACKO in the Chair]

[Translation]

This is a very sorry State of affair is that no matter how constrained our Standing Committees are in doing their work and whether the Parliament later accepts it or not, but if one official of the Committee, no matter he understands it correctly or not, wants the whole committee to drop their unanimous decision they do so. I am of the opinion that new system of the Standing Committees should not be subjected to infanticide. It is a serious issue to be discussed by the House and has come up before us after having kept in mind all its ramifications.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is quite ironical historically that the ruling party in 1969 nationalised banks and their subsidiaries after the demand in this regard was made by all the sides within and outside the House, and demonstrations were staged by the All India Bank Employees Association to demand nationalisation of banks. The then hon. Minister of Finance, who is fortunately alive, stated that till he is the Finance Minister, nationalisation of banks will not be done. At that time the then Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi was expelled by the then ruling party—the Indian National Congress on this very issue. In addition privy purses of ex-rulers were also

[Shri Bhogendra Jha]

abolished. The present treasury benches are the offshoot of post nationalisation of banks scenario. Present Congress (I) is not the Indian National Congress. It is very ironical that at present an onslaught is being launched against nationalisation, by raising the bogey of its failure.

I would like to urge the hon. Minister of Finance to apprise the House and the country of the same because it does not behove me to say anything in this regard. At the time of nationalisation of 14 banks their capital was Rs. 3600 crore and it has at present gone up umpteen times. Is it any indicator of their failure? Bank branches have increased by hundred times or more. Earlier lakhs of rural folks were not even aware of anything called banks and their utility, but now at thousands of places bank branches have been opened. Do these facts indicate any of their utility has since diminished? I would like to request the hon. Minister of Finance to state in detail the extent of increase in the capital of banks since 1969 and the extent of their reach during the last 25 years.

Sir, I donot think that the extent of success is only 7 per cent. Earlier bank feared to go to the remote rural areas but they have reached remote and even forest areas after nationalisation. No doubt, meanwhile many mistakes have also been committed and towards these many times I have drawn attention of the House. One such example is of my district, Madhubani. In Madhubani district thumb impressions of 19 loan seekers were taken on papers, but loans were actually not released. While I was coming here these 19 persons alongwith the notice of inquiry whether loan was paid or not met me. They were urged to come to Patna. Sir, at least Rs. 150 to 200

will be required for going to Patna. These poor persons do not have this much money to go to Patna. These poor did not get loans and now will be further penalised too. This is the manner and magnitude of corruption and atrocities and injustice. There are many such examples.

Sir, through you, I would like to submit that a scheme of rewards should be introduced in banks, which in addition will also penalise the guilty. On the basis of success and failure rewards and punishment should be given. Scheme on such lines should be evolved as might these will reward the good and penalise the bad deeds to encourage the honest and efficient officers and employees of banks and to punish the black sheeps. Then banks will prove to be a success.

Sir, in the background in which this Banking Bill is being introduced a suggestion had been made to retain 8 per cent of the loan amount and I think it is wholly justified because of the risk involved out of compulsions. I personally think it to be correct. Some of my hon. Colleagues have submitted that it is necessary and I endorse their viewpoint. Banks must have lending capability because in the present day world risk of losing the capital cannot be overlooked. If 8 per cent is kept as reserve fund then more loans could be advanced for recovery of capital. There is nothing wrong in it and should be done.

No international organisation has recommended foreign capital borrowings. No such recommendation has been made and nor has been recommended that amount should be placed at the disposal of some big capitalist. No international institution has given recommendation against nationalisation.

Tilt towards the IMF or prostration before the World Bank is because of the pressure of USA. Under this sort of coercion, witness is more enthusiastic than the compalinant. They pretend to be more loyal than the subjects. Under it nationalised banks are being handed over to them in praise of whom eulogic songs are being sung.

I would like to submit to the hon. Minister and my hon. colleagues sitting on the right, who probably have since forgotten the role of the opposition that no industrialist or wholesale trader runs his business with own capital. If any name could be cited of a person who runs business without resorting to bank loans then I will be very happy. There is no dearth of money. People have lot of black money. However, bank money is only invested in business. Banks are being made bankrupt. On this occasion I would like to submit that before this Bill is passed by the House the hon. Minister should give information regarding the number of loans cancelled/waived off of more than one lakh rupees during the last 4-5 years. Loans have been waived off because these were considered as bad debt. However, I would like to submit that many of these persons are multi-millionaires. In one assumed name banks were robbed and now in other names attempts are being made to swindle away bank money and pressurised by them. You are leading the banks towards nationalisation. It is wonderful that even mass media and newspapers are being controlled by these persons, who are trying to build the congenial environment to this effect. Though India failed yet major cheaters have come up with flying colours. Now the Government of India is going to hand over the reigns to the swindlers as if the society and the Government have been rendered incompetent to this scenario...

(Interruptions)... This is terrible and beyond imagination. It is quite ironical that the Government responsible for all this is itself indulging in the sort of propaganda. People in power are unfortunately against the nationalised banks and nationalised industries. People responsible for massive corruption and horse trading are going to be handed over the very reigns.

I would like to submit that the Government does not enjoy this sort of moral authority. It was not in the election manifesto that national property will be handed over to the foreign capitalists. Still two years are left for the general election. I would like to submit that views of all the hon. Members should be ascertained in this regard. We too have our national assets. Though the Government is claiming that these will facilitate inflow of capital to India yet the issue is from where such huge wealths have been amassed to become owners without profiteering and corrupt practices. However, we would like to submit that inflow of capital will weaken the country. The Government is presenting the economic policy to the country in a very distorted fashion and it is quite hazardous. It could be stated that the Government is facing the resource crunch and future might witness dictatorship where is the need for election process and to incur massive expensis?

I would like to submit that without caring for the diktats of the foreigners the future of the country should be our paramount concern. I would like to submit that the Government is not in a position to remedy the situation in view of our suggestions and criticisms. Ruling party is not understanding the gravity of the situation. No Indian national or foreigner can have more than one per cent share. Many persons are running hundreds of companies in different names. These



[Shri Bhogendra Jha]

companies are registered both in India as well as abroad. Public sector is letting us down and there is nobody to look after these enterprises. Private sector is getting the work done by corrupt practices. Quality coal is being supplied to the private capitalists by the same trains which are hauled by the locomotives using substandard coal, thereby eroding the life span the locomotives. There is the need to be strict in this regard, but instead of improving the situation the Government is making it worse. The Government is killing the patients instead of curing the disease. This is a dangerous path. This way things can't be improved.

Submission of the Government regarding 51 per cent and 49 per cent is totally hollow. In 51 per cent they can have their share but in 49 per cent no sharing will be allowed. The system going to be ushered in will increase control of the private capitalists... *(Interruptions)*... At this juncture the country is standing at the cross roads.

Provision has been made to offer loans at lower interest to the people of weaker sections, Harijans and tribals. I would like to know after the introduction of the system to make banks openly compete will this provision continue? If so, then profits will definitely decline.

In the system going to be introduced the traders through corrupt practices will earn five times more than the interest their breads will be buttered both sides. Any borrowers unable to repay the loans taken for self employment will be publicly fleeced and flocked by the traders. In a way the Government is encouraging the traders.

Craze for employment has been sweeping away all other desires. For employment people are prepared to go to any extent whether it be sycophancy or even to grease the palms. If any loans with soft repayment options are made available then people will go in self employment and won't be lured by employment. To obtain loans palms of bank officials need to be greased. Corruption in this field is rampant and there is the need to observe punctiliousness.

Rules have been framed to advance the loans to the States. There should be some proportionate link age between deposits and loans. We are in favour of such a thing to be done through this Bill, but no such provision has been made therein. Provision for productive utilisation of deposit money in the concerned areas should be made. Loans should be given for productive activities in the concerned areas so that jobs are generated and corruption declines. A Bill after extensive discussion regarding Regional Rural Banks was passed by the House. Though the performance of RRBs in this regard is name too good yet these have become bankrupt. Probably not a single rural branch of any Rural Bank is earning enough to meet salary bill of its employees. Right now I want to dwell into its reasons yet there is a need to revitalise these banks. Though the Supreme Court and the Tribunal, both gave verdicts to make payment of salary of Rs. 250 crore yet the hon. Minister of Finance expresses his inability in this regard. I would like to urge the Government as well as the employees, to accept this plea, to get the amount deposited in Fixed Deposit accounts so that depending on the need the money could be withdrawn on cast-profit basis. However, non-payment will tantamount to contempt of the Supreme Court and

Tribunal. If it happens then a dangerous situation of the Government losing its credibility will crop up.

Finally, I would like to submit that strikes are condemned. Atleast the present Government is the offspring or is made to work by the strikes of the Bank Employees Association: Bank employees on 8th April went on strike and again on 11th May will go on strike against the manner in which the banks are going to be handed over to the foreign capitalists and not to demand higher salary and allowances.

These strikes were resorted to not to demand more benefits as was stated by the hon. Members of this side. On 11th May employees will go on strike against allowing foreign multi-millionaries to play major role in the country. That strike will be patriotic and will be in protest against the sell out of the interests of the country to the foreign capitalists. I believe this House will welcome the strike instead of condemning it and this gesture will be construed as patriotic.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: We have already exceeded the time by 23 minutes and three more Members are there to speak in this debate. So, I request the remaining Members who would be participating in this debate to be as brief as possible. We have an Half-an-Hour Discussion at 5.30 p.m. Before that we may pass this Bill.

16.23 hrs.

SHRI R. NAIDU RAMASAMY (Poriakulam): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to express my views on behalf of the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam

on the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Amendment Bill, 1993. This Bill seeks to empower the Board of Directors of Nationalised Banks to raise their authorised capital by public issue of shares. The Bill also provides for division of authorised capital of all nationalised banks into 150 crores fully paid up shares of Rs. 10/- each. Except the shares held by the Central Government, the shares of the nationalised banks are being made transferable.

Sir, this august House must recall with pride how the then Prime Minister more than two decades back, to secure the goals of the Constitution for establishing a just social order, brought in legislation for nationalising the banks. The exploitative atmosphere which was the order of the day in the banks in those days slowly gave way to service-mindedness. But today, the Government wants to take a U-turn and put the banks to a position as existed before 1971. The absolute control of the Central Government is being diluted in the Bill to only 51 per cent control. Banks will no more be the bedrock of socialism. This is all under the pressure of outside agencies. The Finance Minister owes an answer to the poor and the downtrodden of the country on this urgent need of reconverting Government banks into private banks.

Sir, the Constitutional objective of creating and sustaining a Socialist Republic is now sought to be abandoned by the Government through this Bill.

Financial assistance to the poor and the downtrodden has always been crucial to the planned development of our country. The moment, the Central Government authorises the banks to

[Shri R. Naidu Ramasamy]

raise capital through public issue of shares, varying interests would start controlling these lending institutions and under the laws of the country, the claim of the Central Government for absolute control of the banking institutions will automatically abate.

Sir, it is a matter of great regret that even after nationalisation, the banks have utterly failed to subserve the causes for which Madam Gandhi nationalised the banks. The banking sector has become a den of malpractices. The poor and the rural folk who are in need of financial assistance for their growth cannot walk in the corridors of banks. Especially, the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes people are not able to enter the banks. The widows and the poor ladies belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, even to lead a life, are not able to get the loans, even after pledging their jewels. They are indeed untouchables for the banking sector. Giant schemes like reviving sick units even where their revival is remote possibility, will be taken up by the bank officials on priority to promote the vested interests. As on today, if you order a raid on the residential premises of the Executives of the banks, you see in almost all the cases, the assets would not be proportionate to the income that the Executive earn. This personal enrichment by the bank executives is at the cost of the growth of the country and at the cost of the poor and the downtrodden. Without plugging these loopholes, if the Government enacts laws like this, it would only aggravate the extent of malpractices prevalent in the banking sector.

The Government presently has a Revenue Intelligence to book smugglers

and other offenders of revenue laws. But the Government does not have a similar intelligence unit to check the malpractices in the banking sector. I want the Government to set up such a parallel vigilance institution.

Town and district level participatory bodies must be formed to which the branches of nationalised banks must be made accountable. There should be a statutory transparency in the matter of functioning by these banks. The loans given to each individual, institution etc., should be justifiable as per norms. This should be the main function of these bodies.

I also call upon the Minister to explore the possibilities of bringing the banking services under the Consumer Protection Act. The public funds and the deposits are being used for the purpose of lending by these banking institutions and lending against justifiable norms should be a matter of adjudication under the Consumer Protection Act. This should be actively considered. Otherwise, the Banking Tribunals may be formed for expeditiously disposing of complaints by loanees and other public.

Sir, presently there are separate statutory credit institutions like NABARD and RRBs which do not seem to have made such headway in providing financial assistance to the farming and rural sector. A Parliamentary Committee should be constituted to review their functioning. The desirability of expanding their functions should be specifically studied.

Sir, this Bill has given a stunning body blow to the very concept of socialism founded by Pandit Nehru and pursued by Madam Gandhi. The present generation leaders of the Congress Party are digging

graves to the principles and philosophies of their own Party under the pressure of international agencies.

With this Bill, an era is coming to an end. On the horizon of the poor and the neglected of the country, the Sun has started to set in. The economic independence of the nation will dawn on the country only and certainly, with the advent of the people's revolution against these laws for which the day is not far off.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Chairman, Sir, when banks were nationalised, persons like Shri Kalpnath Rai had left us to join the congress party on the pretext that congress party had become progressive and now when the party is indulged in doing privatisation and internalisation of banks, he should leave the Congress party and come with us on moral grounds. I would like to submit this to him because this Bill has been introduced with the sole motive to privatise and multinationalise banks. Giving the reasons and the objectives, it has been stated in the very beginning:

[English]

"All the banks have to ensure that their total capital equal to at least 8 per cent of their risks weighted assets by 31st March, 1996. Banks having overseas operations will have to achieve this norm by 31st March, 1994."

"The Board of Directors of nationalised banks may, after consultation with the Reserve Bank of India and with the previous sanction of the Central Government,

raise their paid up capital by public issue of shares, subject to the condition that the Central Government shall at all times hold not less than 51 per cent of the paid up capital of the bank; the authorised capital of every nationalised bank shall be divided into 150 crores fully paid up shares of Rs. 10/- each."

[Translation]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am clear about two things that we are not likely to gain anything by giving relaxation to indigenous banks in opening their branches or carrying out their activities as compared to foreign banks. There are two reasons for it as per the system or advancing loans in foreign banks, the rate of interest charged is very low whereas that is being charged by the banks in India is three count more to it. The obvious result would be that foreign banks would try to maintain their hold in the Indian market, they would grab entire capital and take it to the countries of their own. Indian banks would not be in a position to operate in other countries because their loan system is quite expensive in comparison to that of foreign banks, as a result of which these banks would not be able to function properly and healthily there. Handing over the banks to private sector, share market etc. would raise the hazard of big industrial houses to have policy rights on them.

When banks were nationalised the Congress party and the then Prime Minister had reiterated inside and outside the Lok Sabha that banks had some social obligations which were not being fulfilled by the banks of private sector. Their only motive was to commercially benefit the big wigs and gain capital.

[Shri Mohan Singh]

Therefore the Government alone should control the working of banks in order to help the people of poor sections, unemployed and *hoi polloi* and also those living below poverty line. This was the motive behind the nationalisation of banks. But what is the situation at present? It is not that the condition of banks deteriorated after they were nationalised. Even after nationalisation our banks were in a good condition. Our banks at present are suffering as much loss as they had capital at the time of their nationalisation. The total capital at that time was Rs. 3600/- crores while the loss we are suffering at present is of the order of Rs. 3500/- crores. This is how much the capital we have added to after such a long duration. Therefore, the attitude of the Government under which they have been under-estimating the assistance provided by the nationalised banks to the poor for the social and economic upliftment of the country and finding lacunae and loopholes needs to be modified.

Sir, the Government have taken a decision to close about 10,000 branches of banks operating in rural areas. Earlier, there were landlords in rural areas who exploited the poor people. They used advance loan at 25% interest, as a result of which one generation after the other of a poor man was so much snarled in repaying the interest that the family was reduced a mere bonded labour of the land-lord. The public sector banks played a vital role in eradicating the ill practice of bonded labour. But keeping in view the current trend of loss in banks in the rural areas, the hon. Minister in a reply to a question in Rajya Sabha informed that 10,200 rural branches of banks were proposed to be closed. I condemn this proposal of the Government and I would

like to submit that instead of closing the branches of banks in rural areas, the working procedure should be improved. There is a wide scope for it, and the Government should focus their concentration on it.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, about 10 lakh people work in the banking sector in the country, and only the highly qualified candidates are employed in this sector. The employees of this sector have given a notice for 3 days strike in May and two days strike in June. Just now, the hon. Members of the ruling party while delivering their speeches demanded to impose restrictions on strikes in banks and condemned this act. But the Government should look at the motive behind the strike also. The bank employees and officials are going to observe strike not to get the increased Dearness Allowance but to emphasis that foreign banks in the country would ruin our own banking sector. Bank scam involving a loss of Rs. 12000 crore to Rs. 15000 crore has already taken place. This would become an every day matter with the coming of foreign banks. The capital of a single bank in America is double than that of the Bombay Stock Exchange and it has the capacity to purchase the entire Stock Exchange. The open invitation to the foreign banks would have evil consequences and it is from this point of view that the banks employees have objected that automation and computerisation would diminish the employment capacity of banks slowly and gradually. It is for the first time that the bank employees have come on roads to highlight the economic infrastructure of the country. Instead of condemning them for their act, the Government should think seriously in this regard.

Therefore, Mr. Chairman, Sir, instead of multinationalising and privatising

the banks the Government should concentrate as to how the functioning of banks is improved and corruption is eradicated, how the solution to the problems that bank employees and officials cause lot of inconvenience to the consumers and harass unemployed youth and poor people are found. The rate of interest should be reduced and measures should be taken to promote the partnership of banks in industrial development as much as possible. But instead of doing so, the Government is destroying the entire banking system through such amendments.

Therefore, I strongly condemn this Amendment Bill and express the desire on behalf of my party to oppose it.

SHRI RAJENDERA KUMAR SHARMA (Rampur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, while discussing the Banking Companies Amendment Bill, first of all, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the several crisis being faced by the Regional Rural Banks. The hon. Minister has very aptly stated in this august House that a National Rural Bank of India will be set up. In order to resolve this problem meetings of the high officials of the Reserve Bank of India with the association of Regional Rural Banks were held from time to time and it was decided to give shape to National Rural Bank. The officers deputed by the Ministry of Finance were also of the same view. The hon. Members of all political parties also suggested that the only solution to it was to set up the National Rural Bank of India. Today the situation is that about ten thousand branches of the Regional Rural Banks are in operation all over the country. Hon. Shri Mohan Singh has expressed his concern over the points raised in the Rajya Sabha about the RRBs. Ours is an agricultural country. Therefore, the farmers are associated

with the branches of these banks. If these banks are liquidated, it will be detrimental to the agricultural produce in the time to come. Today these banks are causing loss of Rs. one crore to the country every day. I do not understand why the hon. Minister of Finance is reluctant to take a decision thereon. All hon. Members have brought this point to his notice. The Ministry of Finance has stated one more thing. It says that it will present the correct picture after restructuring 50 Banks. My submission is that the efforts should be directed towards a definite direction because Banks employees are resorting to frequent strikes and it is affecting other people adversely. Today a big question mark is being put on the Banking system. It is really a matter of great concern. When the Banks were nationalised, the very day we had taken decision to attain the objective, behind nationalisation. I do not say that we did not achieve any success after nationalisation. In the beginning the proper functioning of the banking system did certainly yield good results in agricultural and industrial sector. But with the passage of time corruption inflicted the Banking system and it became a practice that a person seeking loan for agricultural or industrial sector has to pay a certain percentage to the Field Officer or high official of the Bank, otherwise he has to face official hurdles for getting the loan and ultimately he may not get it at all. Yesterday, I visited my constituency Rampur. The farmers there informed me that unless they pay bribe they cannot encash the cheques issued by the Food Corporation of India against the wheat purchased buy it. I shudder to think about the hindrances which will be created in the Banking System. We are on the course of privatisation. Mainly the bureaucracy and the Ministry of Finance are responsible for this course, because we could not control them. There is a

[Shri Rajendera Kumar Sharma]

branch of the State Bank of Patiala in Rampur. The district industry centre refers the cases to this Bank and the officer of the leading Bank there—the Bank of Baroda—has personally told me that the Bank will not disburse loan to people. Thereafter the Chief Executive of the Bank wrote to the Reserve Bank of India to attach this particular area, with other Banks. Consequently the RBI issued instructions that no bank can be attached with any other Bank. This is the situation of the banking system. The Financial condition of the nationalised banks is so weak that after liberalisation their condition will further deteriorate. There is a word 'nexus' in the Banking System. As per the World Bank System the nexus should be between 5 to 10 per cent. However, it was 60 per cent in the case of New Bank of India. But today the Punjab National Bank is burdened after the merger of New Bank of India with it. There is every likelihood that in times to come such nationalised banks will have to be closed down and lakhs of its staff and officer will be on the roads. Thus, the problem will not be solved at all. Through you, therefore, I would like to urge the Government to pay attention to the deteriorating Banking System.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have spoken on the main points of the loan system. Today Bank debt worth Rs. 30 thousand crore is in bad debt. The hon. Minister of Finance had talked of setting up 10 tribunals but not a single tribunal has been set up so far. If this case continues to linger on, its far reaching repercussions will come before us in the form of fraud.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, today the condition of the Banks has deteriorated so much that a customer cannot encash his cheque in a Bank because the staff

and the officers of the Bank are not in a position to start their work before 11 a.m. A customer has to take rounds of the Bank for months for getting the entries done in his pass book. All these evil practices need to be stopped. So far as my information goes, the reconciliation of balancing in Banks has been pending for the last 10 years due to the faulty Banking System and no actions has been taken thereon. This has led to mega-scandals. This issue should be settled in a time bound programme otherwise the nationalised Banks will face closure. The biggest problem is as to why are we on the course of privatisation? The foreign Banks will come here merely for earning profits. They will not be committed to social service. This will hamper the pace of green revolution. If the Reserve Bank of India does not permit setting up of new branches of Regional Rural Banks in villages and these private banks fail to take action in this direction, it will hinder the overall development of agriculture.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, a few more words, and I will conclude. Today the Government is on the course of privatisation. We cannot check them. The Government owes its majority to those who are opposing it. Today, had they been firm on their stance, such kind of Bill could not have been passed today. I, therefore, request the Government to look into these issues seriously so that the multinational companies and private industrialists may not have complete control over the banks. I am afraid lest the vast structure of our nationalised Banks should shatter. I would like to add that the CBI is probing into the securities scam. The amount involved in this mega-scam is Rs. 8 thousand crore and the JPC has been able to uncover the scam worth Rs. 4400 crore only with evidence. But the Government is silent today and

no action has been taken against any erring officers. If the erring officers are not punished, whatever system we adopt, cannot succeed.

With these words, I conclude.

[English]

PROF. SUSANTA CHAKRABORTY (Howrah): Sir, the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Amendment Bill, 1993 is the result of a misguided, misdirected politics and mismanaged economics. The Bill seeks to open up the financial sector of our country towards the foreigners, towards the multinationals and I apprehend that a day will come when at the diktats of the people from outside our banking industry will run.

It has been said by so many speakers that in the Standing Committee on Finance there was a consensus or a near consensus. As one of the members of the Standing Committee, I should make it clear at the very outset that we gave an amendment to it. We first demanded the withdrawal of the Bill. When it was not agreed to, our second demand was that it should be sent to the people for a national debate because all of us, including those who opposed us, remember the days when in 1970 we passed an amending Bill in this august House, when the full bench discussed it and the entire House, cutting across party line, expected new days to come, expected that the banking sector after 1970 shall come out from the clutches of persons who controlled the industry, the trade and the finance of our companies. Very consciously we decided that in order that the banks may serve the purpose of the society, in order that the banks may cater to the development

of our economy, in order that banks may address to the needs of the priority sector of our country, these banks should be nationalised. Now, all of a sudden, as per the recommendation of the International Settlement Commission, we speak of profitability, we speak of the capital adequacy norms. I have very much doubt in my mind whether the object is to attain capital adequacy. If that was the object, could we do not it in another way? Could we not do it without going to the private sector and without selling the shares to the foreigners? Yes, we could do it. We could go to the employees, we could go to the financial institutions. But why are you going to the private persons in general?

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): MR. Chairman, Sir, is it parliament or a sleeping chamber? An hon. Member is in sound sleep. This sort of thing must be discouraged.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please.

SHRI SUSANTA CHAKRABORTY: They are not eager. They have no concern for our economy. Anyway, let them do what they are doing, though it is not the norm.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Finance Minister is very keenly listening to you. Please continue.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: This is called sleeping away all the problems!



**SHRI SUSANTA CHAKRABORTY:**

The actual object of the Bill is to privatise the nationalised banks. With that purpose the Bill is before us.

In another debate, when the State Bank of India Bill was introduced, I raised a point whether it is true that the norm of capital adequacy shall be applicable to the banks of our country where the entire risk is shared by the Government of the country. The people have confidence in the Government. So when it is backed by the Central Government, surely the banking business does not suffer a bit in the absence of this capital adequacy norm. So what is applicable to the banks in the United States, in England or in Japan is not applicable for the banks of our country. Now suddenly the Government have decided the profit is the motive which should be behind the running of these banks. Why? Are these banks losing? At the very outset I have said it is a mismanaged economics that we run.

The banks were rather forced to undergo certain losses. The way the loan *melas* were arranged is only one example in this respect. The way the loans are given to the big people in our country, that is also an example. Now, you say why did you waive the loans given to the farmers? But why are you silent about the loans taken by the big people? There is so much of bad debts, so much of sticky advances. You also do not want the names of these people to come to light. I regret, Sir, that if Pakistan can publish the names of those people, why are you, under the guise of secrecy clause, trying not to make these names public? These are certain questions that come to our mind and the people who are with the banks and who served the country so neatly. In spite of so many reservations about the Narasimham

Committee, I would refer that they had admitted that the nationalised banks have done a lot in regard to branch expansion, in regard to credit to the farmers, to the self-employed, etc.

Have you forgotten the days when Gharwala Committee made its report, The All India Rural Credit Survey mentioned that the farmers are entirely dependent for the rural credit on the money lenders? Have you forgotten those days when other committees referred to the fact that it is the middlemen who controlled everything—the industry, the trade and finance? Have you forgotten those things? Do you like to go back to those days? That is the question which is there on the mind of the general people. That is the question which is there on the mind of the people who are engaged in banks. May be, by sheer majority, by the numerical majority, you can pass the Bill; but you cannot ignore the sentiments of the general people. You cannot ignore the opinion of the people, who are the workers in the banks and who are supposed to run the banks profitably. You have to rely on them; but you are not paying heed to all their protests.

I am concluding, Sir. I shall hope that good sense will prevail upon the Government. We are opposed to this Bill. Let this Bill be withdrawn; let the Government go to the people; let there be a national debate on this. One day in 1970 it was a full bench. But, now it is empty; before the empty bench, we are deciding the fate of the financial sector of our country. Many Members have their opinion. So, we should not pass this Bill in such a hurry. Please wait; please have the national opinion; please have the opinion of the workers. Let this Bill be withdrawn for the time being.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD (Jahanabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak. I oppose the Banking Companies Amendment Bill, which has been presented in the House for discussion through which the Banking Companies Act, 1970 and 1980 are going to be amended.

First of all I would like to remind the hon. Members of the ruling party that the Bill for the nationalisation of banks was passed after a long discussion. They might be knowing that our former Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi came after securing thumping majority in 191 and the people took her to be the Masiah of the poor. Today the same ruling party has brought this Bill after introducing the new economic policy and it is claimed that they are going to strengthen the economy of the country. The facility of aids, given by these banks to the poor will be withdrawn to strengthen the private sector and multinational firms. We would like to know as to what they are going to do by giving strength to the private and multinational firms. Your policy is to denationalise all the banks gradually.

The hon. Finance Minister in his budgetary speech had said that since recovery of loans by rural banks is almost nil, therefore, the loans have not been provided through these banks to rural sector. I would like to submit that these banks were set up in rural areas for the upliftment of the poor and the farmers who are living below poverty line and no enquiry has ever been conducted by the Government so far regarding non-recovery of the loans and under utilisation or misuse of implements.

If the loan is taken from the money lender for the economic stability, then there is none who will not repay him the amount. My submission is that I have submitted before the house time and again that the implements provided by the Banks to assist the rural poor were of sub-standard quality. Whether that was a loud speaker or any other item, all that was of very poor quality therefore, the beneficiaries were unable to repay the loan. Now you are saying that no loan would be sanctioned for them. Now your intentions are quite clear as you do not want to help the poor. You are going to link yourself with the big industrialists and thus want to hunt the souls of Indiraji and Nehruji. Whatever you may claim but one thing is sure that your works are not patriotic.

Sir, I would like to submit that by privatising the banks you are going to hand over them to the foreigners. It is also to be taken into consideration that after the dominance of the foreign banks, what will be the future of the employees of the nationalised banks. Today they are not on strike but they are giving us warning of the coming perils. We must ponder over all these things. Therefore, my submission is that this Bill should not be passed.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to submit that this Bill should be passed after a detailed discussion. Multinationalism and privatisation means one more thing. If the Government want to hand over it to the big businessmen then you will get money for your party, if not the majority. And majority will be attained by purchasing members of Parliament with the help of that money. Does the democracy mean the freedom of horse trading only. A new law should be enacted by the Parliament which

[Shri Ramashray Prasad]

provide that if any Member of Parliament after getting elected from a constituency defects even after one third Members of Parliament belonging to his party he should resign alongwith fellow defectors from his seat/seats after defection. Then we will see how the ruling party attains majority. We do not consider it good to run the country in such a way. You claim that the condition of the farmers have improved after nationalisation. We do not have any doubt that the farmers have taken much benefit from the nationalised banks. If it is abrogated then it will affected agricultural produce. Do not destroy them. If it is done then the people will not spare you in future. With these words I conclude.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to all those hon. Members who have participated in the discussion and for their valuable suggestions for better functioning of the banking system in the country.

Sir, we are all aware that the Narasimham Committee was set up to look into the income recognition and to provide for capital adequacy in relation to risk-weighted assets in respect of the public sector banks. He had submitted the Report and suggested that all the banks will have to ensure their capital equal to at least 8 per cent of their risk-weighted assets of 31.3.96. This is one of the reasons why we have come before this House with this Bill.

Many hon. Members were apprehensive and they have criticised

that the purpose of nationalising banks by the then Government in 1969 is going to defeated by this Bill. It is not true. The character of the public sector banks will remain, the functions of the public sector banks will remain and the purpose for which the banks were nationalised, that is, for fulfillment of the social objectives of this country will continue, lending of priority sector will continue, lending of rural sector will continue but for all these things, the public sector banks require more capital adequacy.

Sir, we are all aware that during the period 1985-86 up to 1993-94, the Government has contributed nearly Rs. 9700 crore and also in this year's Budget, a sum of Rs. 5600 crore has been provided to the paid-up capital of these banks. Even the resources of the Government are very limited. hence it would not be possible for the Government to give substantial amount now required by the nationalised banks for meeting all these developmental activities. In view of this the Government had decided to allow banks to approach Capital Market. As I have already stated, we have sufficient protection.

The Bill provides that the Central Government at all times would hold not less than 51 per cent of the paid up capital of these banks. It also proposes that the authorised capital of every nationalised bank shall be divided into 150 crores fully paid up of Rs. 10 per share. No shareholder other than the Central Government shall be entitled to exercise voting rights in respect of any share held in excess of one per cent of the total voting rights of all the shareholders of the bank.

As I have already stated, this was referred to the Standing Committee. All

these issues were discussed in detail and they had agreed unanimously except in one case.

**SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA** (Bankura): They have submitted a dissenting note.

**SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY**: Only in one case. I will come to that. Many of the hon. Members have criticised about 20 per cent of foreign investment in the capital issue of these banks. We are all aware that not only in these nationalised public sector banks but even in other areas like manufacturing activities, public limited companies, we have allowed this. Out of 49 per cent, we are allowing only 20 per cent; that is the maximum limit for the foreign investment in the public sector banks.

Many Members are afraid that they will register in different names and try to get hold of the administration of the entire banking system in the country. It is not correct. These foreign investors have to register in the Reserve Bank of India; and under the existing guidelines and FERA, it is not that easy to invest in different names to get control of these banks.

Many Members have discussed about the Directors of the Banks. As per the Report of the Standing Committee, there are only six non-official Directors as against nine Directors of the Government; thus the Government will have full control over these banks. Some of the Members are under the apprehension that some of the Directors will take over the administration of the bank. It is not correct because out of 15 Directors, we have nine Directors from the Government side. So, they can retain effective control over these banks.

Regarding Shri Basudeb Acharia's (*interruptions*), that is not unanimously recommended, I agree with you. But these five recommendations have been accepted.

Some Members have expressed their doubts about the private sector lending. Once again, I assure you that these things will continue with more vigour.

**SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA**: Even after privatisation.

**SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY**: We will see, Mr. Acharia. Why do you worry?

Sir, several points were raised by the hon. Members including the senior Member of the House Shri Chatterjee. But all these points were considered by the Standing Committee of which he was a Member. The report of the Committee has also been submitted and the Government has already accepted the report.

My colleague and young friend Shri Ramesh Chennithala has raised a doubt that the normal price of the share will be below the reserved price and that it should not be there. This is not correct, Sir. Share price will be fixed by the banks in consultation with the merchant bankers as well as the SEBI guidelines.

Shri Mohan Singh has pointed out that several rural branches are going to be closed down. That is not correct. The Reserve Bank in its study has identified nearly 10,000 loss making branches and they have suggested closer of only 100 branches but no decision has been taken so far in this regard.

The Congress Government says that since the nationalisation of banks was done by our late leader Shrimati Indira Gandhi, we are committed to it; we are committed to the poor; we are committed to the needy; and we are committed to the deserving lot. Even with this Bill, our nationalised banks will continue with all the social objectives which they have, like priority sector lending will continue and the rural sector will get all the benefits. Whatever objectives the nationalised banks are having, these will be continued with more vigour and more effectiveness. With these words, I request the hon. Members to

support this Bill for the better functioning of the banks.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970 and the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1980, be taken into consideration."

*The Lok Sabha divided.*

Division No. 14]

[17.26 hrs.

# AYES

Ahirwar, Shri Anand  
Akber Pasha, Shri B.  
Anbarasu Shri R.  
Arunachalam, Shri M.  
Ayub Khan, Shri  
Banerjee, Kumari Mamata  
Bhagat, Shri Vishweshwar  
Bhakta, Shri Manoranjan  
Bhatia, Shri Raghurandan Lal  
Bhoi, Dr. Krupasindhu  
Bhonsle, Shri Prataprao B.  
Bhonsle, Shri Tejsingh Rao  
Bhuria, Shri Dileep Singh  
Birbal, Shri  
Brohmo Chaudhury, Shri Satyendra Nath  
Buta Singh, Shri  
Chaliha, Shri Kirip

Chandrasekhar, Shrimati Margatham  
Charles, Shri A.  
Chaudhri, Shri Narain Singh  
\*Chauhan, Shri Chetan P.S.  
Chavan, Shri Prithviraj D.  
Chavda, Shri Ishwarbhai Khodabhai  
Chennithala, Shri Ramesh  
Chowdary, Dr. K.V.R.  
Chowdhary, Shrimati Santosh  
Dadahoor, Shri Gurcharan Singh  
Dalbir Singh, Shri  
Das, Shri Anadi Charan  
Delkar, Shri Mohan S.  
Dennis, Shri N.  
Dev. Shri Sontosh Mohan  
Faleiro, Shri Eduardo  
Farook, Shri M.O.H.  
Gajapathi, Shri Gopi Nath

|                                  |                                    |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Galib, Shri Gurcharan Singh      | Panwar, Shri Harpal                |
| Gamit, Shri Chhitubhai           | Patel, Shri Shravan Kumar          |
| Gavit, Shri Manikrao Hodlya      | Patel, Shri Uttambhai Harjibhai    |
| Gehlot, Shri Ashok               | Patil, Shri Anwari Basavaraj       |
| Ghatowar, Shri Paban Singh       | Pattanayak, Shri Sarat             |
| Giriappa, Shri C.P. Mudala       | Pawar, Dr. Vasant Niwruitti        |
| Gogoi, Shri Tarun                | Pilot, Shri Rajesh                 |
| Gomango, Shri Giridhar           | Potdukhe, Shri Shantaram           |
| Gudadinni, Shri B.K.             | Prabhu Zantye, Shri Harish Narayan |
| Handique, Shri Bijoy Krishna     | Pradhani, Shri K.                  |
| Hooda, Shri Bhupinder Singh      | Rai, Shri Kalp Nath                |
| Islam, Shri Nurul                | Rai, Shri Ram Nihor                |
| Jakhar, Shri Balram              | Rajeswari, Shrimati Basava         |
| Kanithi, Dr. Viswanatham         | Ramchandran, Shri Mullappally      |
| Kaul, Shrimati Sheila            | Rawat, Shri Prabhu Lal             |
| Khan, Shri Aslam Sher            | Reddy, Shri A. Venkata             |
| Konathala, Shri Rama Krishna     | Reddy, Shri G. Ganga               |
| Lakshmanan, Prof. Savithri       | Reddy, Shri Y.S. Rajasekhar        |
| Malik, Shri Dharampal Singh      | Roshan Lal, Shri                   |
| Mallikarjun, Shri                | Sai, Shri A. Prathap               |
| Mallu, Dr. R.                    | Sajjan Kumar, Shri                 |
| Mathur, Shri Shiv Charan         | Sawant, Shri Sudhir                |
| Meena, Shri Bheru Lal            | Sayeed, Shri P.M.                  |
| Meghe, Shri Datta                | Selja, Kumari                      |
| Mujahid, Shri B.M.               | Sharma, Shri Chiranji Lal          |
| Muniyappa, Shri K.H.             | Shukla, Shri Vidyacharan           |
| Murthy, Shri M.V. Chandrashekara | Silvera, Dr. C.                    |
| Nayak, Shri Subash Chandra       | Singh, Shri Khelsai                |
| Nyamagouda, Shri S.B.            | Singh, Shri Motilal                |
| Padma, Dr. (Shrimati)            | Singh Deo, Shri K.P.               |
| Panigrahi, Shri Sriballav        | Singla, Shri Sant Ram              |
| Panja, Shri Ajit                 | Sodi, Shri Manku Ram               |

Solanki, Shri Surajbhanu  
 Sukhbuns Kaur, Shrimati  
 Sultanpuri, Shri Krishan Dutt  
 Sundararaj, Shri N.  
 Suresh, Shri Kodikkunil  
 Tara Singh, Shri  
 Thangka Balu, Shri K.V.

Thomas, Shri P.C.  
 Thungon, Shri P.K.  
 Topno, Kumari Frida  
 Tytler, Shri Jagdish  
 Verma, Shri Bhawani Lal  
 Verma, Kumari Vimla  
 Williams, Major Gen. R.G.

**NOES**

Acharia, Shri Basudeb  
 Advani, Shri Lal K.  
 Anjalose, Shri Thayil John  
 Ansari, Dr Mumtaz  
 Barman, Shri Uddhab  
 Chakraborty, Prof. Susanta  
 Chatterjee, Shri Nirmal Kanti  
 Choudhury, Shri Saifuddin,  
 Fernandes, Shri George  
 Ghangare, Shri Ramchandra Marotrao  
 Gopalan, Shrimati Suseela  
 Jha, Shri Bhogendra  
 Khan, Shri Sukhendu  
 \*Kuli, Shri Balin  
 Laljan Basha, Shri S.M.  
 Madhukar, Shri Kamla Mishra  
 Mahato, Shri Bir Singh  
 Malik, Shri Purna Chandra  
 Mandal, Shri Brahmanand  
 Manjay Lal, Shri  
 Mehta, Shri Bhubaneswar Prasad  
 Misra, Shri Satyagopal

Mukherjee, Shrimati Geeta  
 Mukhopadhyay, Shri Ajoy  
 Murmu, Shri Rup Chand  
 Paswan, Shri Chhedri  
 Patel, Dr. Amrit Lal Kalidas  
 Prasad, Shri Hari Kewal  
 Raje, Shrimati Vasundhara  
 Rajesh Kumar, Shri  
 Ram, Shri Prem Chand  
 Ray, Dr. Sudhir  
 Roy, Shri Haradhan  
 \*Sahi, Shrimati Krishna  
 Singh, Shri Hari Kishore  
 Singh, Shri Mohan  
 Singh, Shri Ramashray Prasad  
 Sivaraman, Shri S.  
 Swami, Shri Sureshanand  
 \*Thakur, Shri Mahendra Kumar Singh  
 \*Umbrey, Shri Laeta  
 Yadav, Shri Chandra Jeet  
 Yadav, Shri Devendra Prasad

MR. CHAIRMAN: Subject to correction, the result of the division is:

**Ayes : 113**

**Noes : 43**

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will now take up Clause by Clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"Clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill"

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.*

*Clause 4 : Amendment of Section 3*

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is a Government amendment to Clause 4. Shri M.V. Chandrashekhra Murthy.

Amendment made:

Page 3, after line 16, insert, —

"Provided that no individual or company resident outside India or any company incorporated under any law not in force of India or any

branch of such company whether resident outside India or not, shall at any time hold or acquire by transfer or otherwise shares of the corresponding new bank so that such investment in aggregate exceed the percentage, not being more than twenty per cent of the paid-up capital, as may be specified by the Central Government by notification in the Official Gazette."

*Explanation.* — For the purpose of this clause "company" means any body corporate and includes a firm or other association of individuals;" (3)

(Shri M.V. Chandrashekhara Murthy)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"Clause 4, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 4, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"Clause 5, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 5 was added to the Bill.*

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\* The following members also recorded their votes:

**AYES:** Smt. Krishna Sahi, S/Shri P.V. Rangayya Naidu, Salman Khurseed, Laeta Umbrey Jangbir Singh, Smt. Bibu Kumari Devi, S/Shri Probin Deka, Gurudas Kamat, Mahendra Kumar Singh Thakur, M. Krishna Swamy, Balin Kuli, P.P. Kallaperumal.

**NOES:** S/Shri Dharmabiksham, Santosh Kumar Gangwar, Chetan P.S. Chauhan, Jagat Vil Singh Drona, Naresh Kumar Ballyan, G.L. Kanaujia, Brijhushan Sharan Singh, Rajveer Singh, Deu Deyal Joshi, Ram Tahal Chowdhary, Kabindra Purkayastha, Bandaru Dattatrya, Maj. D.D. Khanoria, Shyambahari Mishra, Shamal Kamal, Pankaj Chowdhary



*Clause 6 : Amendment of Section 9*

MR. CHAIRMAN: There are Government amendments to Clause 6. Shri M.V. Chandrashekhara Murthy.

## Amendments made:

Page 4, after line 14, insert, —

"Provided that no such director shall be a director of any other corresponding new bank."

*Explanation.*—For the purposes of this clause, the expression "corresponding new bank" shall include a corresponding new bank within the meaning of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1980;" (40 of 1980) (4)

Page 4, after line 22, insert, —

"(cc) not more than two directors to be nominated by the Central Government from amongst the Securities and Exchange Board of India established under section 3 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992 (15 of 1992), the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development established under section 3 of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development Act, 1981 (16 of 1981), public financial institutions as specified in sub-section (1), or notified from time to time under sub-section (2), of section 4A of the Companies Act, 1956 (1 of 1956) and other institutions established or constituted by or under any Central Act or incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956 (1 of 1956) and having not less than fifty-one per cent, of the paid-up share capital held or controlled by the Central Government;" (5)

Page 4, line 33, for "is a Chartered Accountant", substitute "has been a Chartered Accountant for not less than fifteen years". (6)

Page 5, for lines 30 to 32, —

substitute "and on such removal, the Board of Directors shall co-opt any other person fulfilling the requirements of sub-section (3A) as a director in place of the person so removed till a director is duly elected by the shareholders of the corresponding new bank in the next annual general meeting and the person so co-opted shall be deemed to have been duly elected", (7)

(Shri M.V. Chandrashekhara Murthy)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That Clause 6, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 6, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"Clauses 7 to 11 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 7 to 11 were added to the Bill.*

*Clause 12 : Amendment of Section 3*

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is a Government amendment to Clause 12.

Amendment made:

Clause 14 : Amendment of Section 9

Page 8, after line 6, insert, —

Amendment made:

"Provided that no individual or company resident outside India or any company incorporated under any law not in force in India or any branch of such company whether resident outside India or not, shall at any time hold or acquire by transfer or otherwise shares of the corresponding new bank so that such investment in aggregate exceed the percentage, not being more than twenty per cent of the paid-up capital, as may be specified by the Central Government by notification in the Official Gazette.

*Explanation.*— For the purpose of this clause "company" means any body corporate and includes a firm or other association of individuals;" (8)

(Shri M.V. Chandrashekhara Murthy)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That Clause 12, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 12, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"Clause 13 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

Clause 13 was added to the Bill.

Page 9, after line 20, insert,—

"Provided that no such director shall be a director of any other corresponding new bank."

*Explanation.*— For the purposes of this clause, the expression "corresponding new bank" shall include a corresponding new bank within the meaning of Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970 (5 of 1970);" (9)

Page 9, after line 28, insert,—

"(cc) not more than two directors to be nominated by the Central Government from amongst the Securities Exchange Board of India established under section 3 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992, (15 of 1992) the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development established under section 3 of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development Act, 1981, (16 of 1981) public financial institutions as specified in sub-section (1), or notified from time to time under sub-section (2), of section 4A of the Companies Act, 1956 (1 of 1956) and other institutions established or constituted by or under any Central Act or incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956 (1 of 1956) and having not less than fifty-one per cent of the paid-up share capital held or controlled by the Central Government;" (10)

Page 9, line 39, for

"is a Chartered Accountant",  
substitute "has been a Chartered  
Accountant for not less than  
fifteen years". (11)

Page 10, for line 41 to 43, substitute

"Such director and on such  
removal, the Board of Directors  
shall co-opt any other person  
fulfilling the requirements of sub-  
section (3A) as a director in  
place of the person so removed  
till a director is duly elected by  
the shareholders of the  
corresponding new bank in the  
next annual general meeting and  
the person so co-opted shall be  
deemed to have been duly  
elected." (12)

(Shri M.V. Chandrashekhara Murthy)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA  
(Bankura): Sir, I am on a point of order.  
In the list of business.....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Acharia,  
please resume your seat.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Sir,  
there is a Half-an-hour discussion. This  
should be taken up at 5.30 P.M.  
(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: At this time there  
is no point of order. The House is in the  
process of passing the Bill. So, we can  
wait. There is nothing out of order.

(Interruptions)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES  
(Muzaffarpur): Sir, Half-an-hour

discussions is the time of the Private  
Members.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Please  
take the sense of the House first.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA  
(Madhubani): Sir,...

MR. CHAIRMAN: As usual, you  
have started speaking. No need of more  
Members speaking now.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let me give my  
Ruling. You please sit down. The point  
is brought to the notice of the House.  
While the House is in the process of  
passing the Bill, we can definitely wait  
for that. But still I think what Shri George  
Fernandes has pointed out is right. This  
is Private Members time and I would  
have to have the sense of the House.

SHRI BUTA SINGH (Jalore): Please  
see the Agenda paper. It is written and  
I quote:

"To be taken up to 5.30 P.M. or  
as soon as the preceding items of  
Business are disposed of whichever  
is earlier".

This cannot be taken up unless the  
Bill is passed. (Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: What  
does it mean? (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am thankful to  
Shri Buta Singh for pointing out a very  
subtle difference. But still, this being an  
item already mentioned in the Agenda  
today, I would like to have the sense of  
the House because the House is in the

process of passing the Bill. I think we will pass the Bill and then we will take up Half-an-hour Discussion.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Since it is the sense of the House we shall continue with the Bill.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: The sense of the House is decided on the basis of consensus.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I know that. By continuing the disturbance we are encroaching into the Private Member's time. So, the sense of the House is taken and we are continuing with the passing of the Bill.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: You have not taken the sense of the House. You take the vote.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please understand that we have taken the sense of the House. The sense of the House is not decided by vote.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: There is no consensus. We do not agree to this proposal.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Acharia, you try to understand the consensus of the House. As the sense of the House is for continuing with the passing of the Bill, let us continue with the passing of the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That Clause 14, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 14, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"Clause 15 to 17 stand part of the Bill,"

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 15 to 17 were added to the Bill.*

*Clause 1 : Short Title and Commencement*

Amendment made:

Page 1, line 6, —

for "1993", substitute "1994" (1)

(Shri M.V. Chandrashekhara Murthy)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That Clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted*

*Clause 1, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

*Enacting Formula*

Amendment made:

Page 1, line, —

for "Forty-fourth", substitute "Forty-fifth" (1)

(Shri M.V. Chandrashekhara Murthy)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Enacting Formula, as amended, stand part of the Bill"

*The motion was adopted*

*The Enacting Formula, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"The Long Title stand part of the Bill"

*The motion was adopted.*

*The long title was added to the Bill.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister may now move that the Bill, as amended, be passed.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed"

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed"

MR. CHAIRMAN: Achariaji, do you want to speak?

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Why not, Sir?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please be very very brief.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: I shall try to be brief, Sir.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Sir, in that case you kindly define all the three terms – what is brief, what is very brief and what is very very brief.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is the most obnoxious and black Bill which the Government wants to be passed today. Why we call it obnoxious and black is... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: All this has already been said. You speak only on those points which were not mentioned earlier. At this stage, general discussion is not permitted. I am afraid, you are going into a general discussion. That is not what is called for now.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: I am not going into the general discussion, Sir, I have got certain specific points.

Sir, why I call it as an obnoxious and black Bill is because the banks were nationalised in 1969. Now, why the banks were nationalised? They were nationalised because under private management, the purpose of the banks was not fulfilled. After nationalisation of banks, thousands of bank branches were opened in rural areas. Before nationalisation, there was hardly any branch in the rural areas.

After the nationalisation of the banks, 14 banks were nationalised. And after that six more banks have been nationalised. (*Interruptions*) He supported it at that time. You are now opposing it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Acharia, at this point, you may ask some clarifications and not make any speech. Please, you put your questions briefly.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: I am asking the clarifications. I am coming to those points.

Today, by passing this Bill the Government is now trying to de-nationalise the banks. This apprehension was expressed by us a number of times on the floor of the House. What was the reply of the Government? The reply was that the nationalised banks would not be de-nationalised or privatised. If this is not privatisation, then what is privatisation?

In reply to the points raised by us, the apprehensions expressed by the Members that the Government would not have any control or have very little control, they said differently. My friend Shri Jena and myself are of the same opinion.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Acharia, please put the question direct to the Minister. He will reply. No speeches are to be made now. Please ask the question.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: What their own leader, Shrimati Indira Gandhi did in 1969, they are undoing it now. At this stage also I would request them to re-think what they are going to do by this legislation. It is not their own decision. It is being done...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Acharia, you are speaking at the cost of the Private Member's time. Please understand. Please put your question.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: You did not listen to our advice. We wanted to adjourn this discussion at 5.30 p.m. because of the Private Members' business. You did not agree to our point.  
*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SONTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly): Sir, I have a point of order. My Half-an-hour question is a very important question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We will take it up immediately after this.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Acharia, please resume your seat.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: How can I resume the seat? I have not yet finished speaking. I cannot resume the seat. You allow me to raise my point.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will give you the time. Please resume the seat.

Shri Acharia, you are a very senior Member of this House. Please do not force the Chair to take unpleasant decision. At this stage of the Bill, you are not expected to make a speech at all.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: I am not making a speech.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, you are. Please put the questions or clarifications only either in support of the Bill or rejecting the Bill. You can put your arguments briefly and not make speech. This is the only thing expected.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: I am putting the question.

We cannot support the Bill. How can we support this Bill? What I was saying is...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please finish it in two minutes.

**SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA:** In reply to the debate, the Minister has said that after the enactment of this legislation the Government will have full control over the banks. How will they have it? How will the Government have full control over the nationalised banks?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Yes, what is the next question?

**SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA:** He should tell us the reply. How will the poor farmers, the poor artisans get benefits from the loans from these banks after the privatisation and de-nationalisation of the banks? What about the priority sector? It will be reduced from 40 per cent lending to 10 per cent lending, according to the dictates of the I.M.F.

Now they are implementing the GATT Agreement and the people will not support this step. The entire banking industry will come to a standstill on the 11th of May on which they have called for a strike against this obnoxious and black Bill. So, at this stage also I request the Minister to rethink and withdraw this obnoxious and black Bill.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Now Shri George Fernandes will ask his questions. The Minister may reply to the questions together.

*[Translation]*

**SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES** (Muzaffarpur): Mr. Chariman, Sir, I rise to oppose this Bill. At the time when this Bill was presented before the Standing Committee, the Government officials had given their statements before the Committee. Some misunderstandings were spread throughout the country regarding this Bill and it was said that

there is no scope of privatisation in it, since 51 per cent of the total capital would be in the hands of the Government and only 49 per cent will come from foreign investors. It was said that fear of privatisation is baseless and it was also said that there is no fear of going our public sector banks into foreign hands.

But our thinking was right about it. The concerned officers and the Finance Secretary gave the clue about it. They had said that 49 per cent shares will go into the private hands, these will be registered in the share market and once these are listed, anyone can levy these. Not only a person from our country but any foreigner or any foreign institution can buy these. This has been the version of the Government before the committee.

Secondly, it was also told that there is no fear of going the majority into foreign hands since we would have 51 per cent shares. But when it was asked whether this 51 will not be 91 or 100 tomorrow? Then the Finance Secretary told that the Government can do anything. Today, I would like to say something to this House and this country, since I remember that day of 1969, when I was a Member of this House of the Fourth Lok Sabha. The session of Congress was going on in Bangalore and at that time our Prime Minister was Shrimati Indira Gandhi. While she was boarding the aircraft to attend the session, these thoughts came into her mind. These were, in her own words, "some stray thoughts." I would not like to comment in detail on this statement.

*[English]*

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Fernandesji, in your absence all these points were raised already.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: I am not a point of Order. Let me quote the relevant rules. Rule 94 says:

"The discussion on a motion that the Bill or the Bill, as amended, as the case may be, be passed shall be confined to the submission of arguments either in support of the Bill or for the rejection of the Bill. In making his speech, a member shall not refer to the details of the Bill further than is necessary for the purpose of his arguments which shall be of a general character."

So, putting question is not at all relevant at this stage.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is relevant to the context. At times, the Chair has to decide in its discretion.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: So, you suspend this rule. Then, it is all right. The rule says that the questions need not be put. It is in general support or opposition that has to be expressed. The details of the Bill need not be referred to unless as a support to the general discussion.

So, it is the general comments which are relevant and not otherwise. This is what I am drawing your attention to.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am not referring to Shrimati Indira Gandhi and the decision taken at that time for any discussion but I remember that the faces are visible once again who opposed the nationalisation at that time when Shrimati Indira Gandhi put that Bill in A.I.C.C. and

later on when it was presented in the House... (*Interruptions*)... Yes from both sides, these faces are visible once again.

We have always been opposing Shrimati Indira Gandhi and the Congress Government but on the issue of nationalisation of banks we have been among those who supported and made publicity in its favour. Today it is visible that the ruling party has shaken hands with those who had opposed it at that time. Even then they do not hesitate to associate Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru and Indira Gandhi with Socialism. I am to make it clear today that the people of Swatantra Parties, the Kings and all orthodox people not only opposed it but when this Bill was passed they even tried to stop its implementation by challenging it in the Supreme Court and today these persons have become their heir. Today those powers have become the heir of Swatantra Parties and the orthodox people, who had opposed the progress of the country at every step. Today they are sitting here at their heir. I am annoyed at it and I have made a mention of the name of Shrimati Indira Gandhi in this context only.

I do not want to deliver a long speech here but I would like to say one more thing in this regard. 51 per cent shares will be owned by the Government while 49 per cent will be in the hands of the public, this is the last opportunity before any further step is taken after it the Government will not only go for the privatisation of banks but the capital of our country will be handed over to the foreigners.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You were absent during the discussion. Most of these



points were raised. You are making right points. I am not disputing that but all these points have been raised and they were replied to.

*[Translation]*

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: At last I would like to say that both those things annoys me. Yesterday only, both in the Times of India and the Hindustan Times an advertisement was given by the Financial Services of General Electric Corporation of America and it says that this company is strong enough with the capital of 6 crore ruppes. If anyone wants to buy anything like steel, refrigerator and car, in our country then this company, the General Electric Company, which is at sixth position in the world is ready to give loan. It is ready to give loan for anything ranging from lamp to cloth. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani): It can buy even the Government. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the foreign banks will come to our country and our banks will

go in foreign hands in this way the Government will go upto this extent in slavery and I feel like giving a warning to the country. With these words I oppose this Bill and fully condemn the ruling party.

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Two or three points are raised which you have not referred to and to which you may reply briefly now.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY: I have replied almost all the points raised by the hon. Members. Once again, I want to assure this august House and the hon. Members of this House through you that the character and functions of these banks will continue to stay. Beyond that, I have nothing to add.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

18.00 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha divided:*

Division No. 15]

[18.00 hrs.

### AYES

Ahirwar, Shri Anand

Banerjee, Kumari Mamata

Akber Pasha, Shri B.

Bansal, Shri Pawan Kuman

Anbarasu, Shri R.

Bhagat, Shri Vishweshwar

Arunachalam, Shri M.

Bhakta, Shri Manoranjan

Ayub Khan, Shri

Bhoi, Dr. Krupasindhu

|                                   |                              |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Bhonsle, Shri Prataprao B.        | Gajapathi, Shri Gopi Nath    |
| Bhonsle, Shri Tejsingh Rao        | Galib, Shri Gurcharan Singh  |
| Bhuria, Shri Dileep Singh         | Garnit, Shri Chhitubhai      |
| Birbal, Shri                      | Gavit, Shri Manikrao Hodlya  |
| Buta Singh, Shri                  | Gehlot, Shri Ashok           |
| Chaliha, Shri Kirip               | Ghatowar, Shri Paban Singh   |
| Chandrasekhar, Shrimati Margatham | Giriappa, Shri. C.P. Mudala  |
| Charles, Shri A.                  | Gogoi, Shri Tarun            |
| Chaudhri, Shri Narain Singh       | Gomango, Shri Giridhar       |
| Chavan, Shri Prithviraj D.        | Gudadinni, Shri B.K.         |
| Chavda, Shri Ishwarbhai Khodabhai | Handique, Shri Bijoy Krishna |
| Chennithala, Shri Ramesh          | Hooda, Shri Bhupinder Singh  |
| Chowdary, Dr. K.V.R.              | Islam, Shri Nurul            |
| Chowdhary, Shrimati Santosh       | Jakhar, Shri Balram          |
| Dadahoor, Shri Gurcharan Singh    | Kaliaperumal, Shri P.P.      |
| Dalbir Singh, Shri                | Kamat, Shri Gurudas          |
| Das, Shri Anadi Charan            | Kanithi, Dr. Viswanatham     |
| Deka, Shri Probin                 | Kaul, Shrimati Sheila        |
| Delkar, Shri Mohan S.             | Khan, Shri Aslam Sher        |
| Dennis, Shri N.                   | Khursheed, Shri Salman       |
| Dev, Shri Sontosh Mohan           | Konathala, Shri Rama Krishna |
| Faleiro, Shri Eduardo             | Krishnaswamy, Shri M.        |
| Farook, Shri M.O.H.               | Kuli, Shri Balin             |

Kurien, Prof. P.J.

Pawar, Dr. Vasant Niwruitti

Lakshmanan, Prof. Savithri

Pilot, Shri Rajesh

Malik, Shri Dharampal Singh

Potdhekhe, Shri Shantaram

Malikarjun, Shri

Prabhu Zantye, Shri Harish Narayan

Mallu, Dr. R.

Pradhani, Shri K.

Marbaniang, Shri Peter G.

Rai, Shri Kalp Nath

Mathur, Shri Shiv Charan

Rai, Shri Ram Nihor

Meena, Shri Bheru Lal

Rajeswari, Shrimati Basava

Meghe, Shri Datta

Ram Babu, Shri A.G.S.

Mujahid, Shri B.M.

Ramchandran, Shri Mullapally

Muniyappa, Shri K.H.

Rao, Ram Singh Col.

Muralee Dharan, Shri K.

Rawat, Shri Prabhu Lal

Murthy, Shri M.V. Chandrashekhara

Reddy, Shri A. Venkata

Nayak, Shri Subash Chandra

Reddy, Shri G. Ganga

Nyamagouda, Shri S.B.

Reddy, Shri Magunta Subbarama

Padma, Dr. (Shrimati)

Reddy, Shri Y.S. Rajasekhar

Palacholla, Shri V.R. Naidu

Sai, Shri A. Prathap

Panigrahi, Shri Sriballav

Sajjan Kumar, Shri

Panja, Shri Ajit

Sawant, Shri Sudhir

Patel, Shri Shravan Kumar

Sayeed, Shri P.M.

Patel, Shri Uttambhai Harjibhai

Selja, Kumari

Patil, Shri Anwari Basavaraj

Sharma, Shri Chiranjil Lal

Patil, Shri Uttamrao Deorao

Shuka, Shri Vidyacharan

Silvera, Dr. C.

Suresh, Shri Kodikkunil

Singh, Shri Khelsai

Tara Singh, Shri

Singh, Shri Motilal

Thakur, Shri Mahendra Kumar Singh

Singh Deo, Shri K.P.

Thangka Balu, Shri K.V.

Singla, Shri Sant Ram

Thomas, Shri P.C.

Sodi, Shri Manku Ram

Thungon, Shri P.K.

Solanki, Shri Surajbhanu

Topno, Kumari Frida

Sukh Ram, Shri

Umbrey, Shri Laeta

Sukhbuns Kaur, Shrimati

Verma, Kumari Vimla

Sundararaj, Shri N.

Williams, Major Gen. R.G.

Yadav, Shri Surya Narayan

**NOES**

Acharia, Shri Basudeb

Khan, Shri Sukhendu

Anjalose, Shri Thayil John

Laljan Basha, Shri S.M.

Ansari, Dr. Mumtaz

Mahato, Shri Bir Singh

Barman, Shri Uddhab

Malik, Shri Puma Chandra

Chakraborty, Prof. Susanta

Mandal, Shri Brahmanand

Chatterjee, Shri Nirmal Kanti

Manjay Lal, Shri

Chowdhary, Shrimati Santosh

Misra, Shri Satyagopal

Fernandes, Shri George

Mukherjee, Shrimati Geeta

Ghangare, Shri Ramchandra Marotrao

Mukhopadyay, Shri Ajoy

Gopalan, Shrimati Suseela

Murmu, Shri Rup Chand

Jena, Shri Srikanta

Paswan, Shri Chhedi

Jha, Shri Bhogendra

Prasad, Shri Hari Kewal

Rajesh Kumar, Shri

Singh, Shri Hari Kishore

Ram, Shri Prem Chand

Singh, Shri Ram Prasad

Ray, Dr.Sudhir

Singh, Shri Ramashray Prasad

Roy, Shri Haradhan

Sivaraman, Shri S.

Yadav, Shri Devendra Prasad

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MR. CHAIRMAN: \*Subject to  
correction, the result of the division is:

18.05 hrs.

**Ayes : 123**

**Noes : 33**

### HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION

#### **Cost Escalation of Project**

*The motion was adopted.*

[Translation]

(Interruptions)

18.04 hrs.

*At this stage, Shri Basudeb Acharia  
and some other hon. Members left  
the House.*

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SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR  
GANGWAR (Bareilly) : Mr. Chairman Sir,  
the concerned question was very  
important. The starred question No. 107,  
raised by Lodhaji was discussed for a  
long time and it was felt that the concerned  
Ministry was set up to formulate schemes  
only. This Ministry was responsible for  
swift implementation of the projects which  
are costing more than Rs. 20 crore. But  
the Ministry has not worked properly.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will  
now take up the half-an-hour discussion.  
Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar to speak.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the discussion  
of that day reveals that this Ministry was  
really worthless. It is felt that the Ministry  
has worked just like a postman. Hon.  
Minister himself repeated 2-3 times that:—

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\*The following members also recorded their votes:—

**AYES:** S/Shri R.L. Bhatia, Jangbir Singh, Smt. Bibu Kumari Devi, S/Shri A.R. Antulay, Sarat  
Patanayak, Roshan Lal and K. Thulasiah Vandayar.

**NOES:** S/Shri Dharamabhiksham and Shashi Prakash.

[English]

"I can give you the information regarding cost overruns and time-overruns. I will also collect the project-wise information and give it to the hon. Member."

[Translation]

The Minister said that he would give information after collecting it from the concerned Ministry. He also said that he could not do anything on his own and his Ministry depends upon the concerned Ministry. He did not express any anxiety over it and information about the Ministry's attitude regarding these schemes. Replying to an unstarred question in Rajya Sabha on 20-12-93, it was stated that there are 109 such projects whose cost has escalated more than fifty per cent. Originally the cost of these projects was Rs. 31501.6 crore which has escalated to Rs. 75598 crore. These were very important and sensitive projects and that is why money earmarked therefor had to be increased. In the beginning the cost of these 109 projects was 31 thousand crore rupees which became 75 thousand crore later on. The cost of a single fertilizer project was 88 crore which escalated to 782 crore. Its cost increased by 788 per cent.

You will find that out of 93 projects of Railways, the cost of 27 projects was 1848 crore, which escalated to 6364 crore. It is an increase of around 250 per cent. Atomic Energy Ministry is a very important Ministry and out of its total four projects, three have been delayed and their cost has increased by 213 per cent. It has become Rs. 5717 crore from Rs. 824 crore. Our country has been suffering huge losses due to it and we are not making any efforts to check it.

On 31.3.93 while replying to an unstarred question No. 1843 in Rajya Sabha, it was told that out of 353 projects 174 have become over-cost and their cost have increased by 65 per cent. This has escalated to 87 thousand crore whereas the original cost was Rs. 52 thousand crore.

In reply to Starred Question No. 107 in Lok Sabha, it was told that out of total of 368 projects 177 are lagging behind the scheduled time. Their cost has been escalated to 78363 crore from 53930 crore. There are 44 Railway projects, 21 Surface Transport projects, 20 Coal projects and 7 Atomic Energy projects which are lagging behind the scheduled time.

We had asked three question about the Projects which are lagging behind the scheduled time. The Hon. Minister was asked to tell the amount of foreign loans which has remained unutilised. In its reply he told that on 12th February hon. Prime Minister has set up a Monitoring Committee in this regard, which has given its report within one month period. Today, three months have passed and hon. Minister could not reply the questions regarding the action taken on this report.

On seeing the proceedings of the House of that day you will find that Mr. Speaker himself had said that reply to the question had not been given. Hon. Minister has complicated the question. Mr. Speaker had said that:-

[English]

"Now the Parliament would hold you responsible for monitoring it properly."

[Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar]

[Translation]

The Ministry is unable to monitor it and thus projects are increasingly getting delayed. The Government has published a report regarding implementation and evaluation of Projects. This report reveals the reasons for increasing cost and delay in completion of the project. I would like to read it out, "Formulating projects without sufficient preparations, drawings of the projects are modified, incomplete draft of the project for which drawing of project is modified every now and then which is not decided initially. Alongwith that I would like to point out one more thing that the condition of projects will not improve if decision is taken on political grounds. There are several such projects, which are taken up politically and could not be completed.

I would not like to say more on this subject, other hon. Members would like to say something on it. I would like to get clear opinion of the hon. Minister on some issues. I would like to know whether this Ministry has been set up for giving information after collecting the same from other Ministries. If it is so, there is no need for it and concerned Ministry is capable of completing its projects. Who is responsible for the delay. Today the cost of projects, rates of materials have increased by 100, 150 and 200 times, who is responsible for it? These projects are still pending. When these will be completed and whether any time-bound programme has been chalked-out about it. In the beginning of the project these points are not discussed thoroughly as to how this will be completed and what will be the future of the projects. In my constituency the work of doubling the

Railway line has been taken up and every year Rs. 1 crore is allocated for it and it seems that Moradabad-Bareilly railway line will not be completed even in ten years. All know about the Tehri Project, its cost has escalated to Rs. 5000 crore from Rs. 500 crore. Whatever may be its reasons but I would like to know the person responsible for this loss to the country.

One more thing, I would like to ask is about the amount of money received from the other countries, which is lying unutilised. In this context I would like to point out that interest on this borrowing is increasing without any reason. Who will be responsible for it? Apart from this, the group formed by the Prime Minister had to submit its report within one month and in case the report has been submitted, this House should be told about the contents of the report. What decisions, have you taken during the last three months on the basis of this report. If the project had been given to some private agency definitely he would have completed it before the scheduled time. Who is responsible for this delay.

When any accident takes places it is not the Railway Minister who destroys the train or causes railway accidents but he resigns. It is said that the persons responsible for delay in completion of any project embezzle Government money and amass wealth in their houses and join some other institution to repeat the same thing and make efforts to get more wealth.

It is very important Ministry. The Government is wasting the public money and treating the country lightly and the number of projects which are running behind the schedule is increasing every year. Out of a total of 350 projects, 177

are lagging behind the scheduled time. Whether the hon. Minister can give assurance that all such projects will be completed by the next year? If there is any difficulty in it, whether the Minister would like to take this House into confidence and whether the Minister would like to take action against the persons within a time limit who will be found guilty of delaying these projects?

The other day, all these issues were raised and the hon. Minister had assured to give all the information after collecting it from the Ministries. I request the hon. Minister to keep up his promise and give his reply.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Prime Minister had set up a committee to inquire into the causes for the delay in respect of 109 pending projects. I would like to know from the hon. Minister of Planning about the salient features and recommendations of the report and whether the Government is going to take any decision on the basis of this report? Whether it is a fact that there are serious reasons behind the delay. Is it a fact that we never chalk-out a time-bound programme while taking up any project and thus it is not completed within the stipulated time and country has to suffer cost escalation? In my constituency also there are several important railway projects like Eklakhi-Balurgaht, Dikha-Tamlu and Howrah-Aamata which are pending for a long time. This year Rs. 100 was allocated for the Eklakhi-Balurgaht and when we agitated in the House that this is a very meagre amount, it was only then that the hon. Minister allocated Rs. one crore for it. I know that Planning Department has no planning. The formalities of laying the foundation stones of the projects are adhered to but who is responsible for their completion?

Whether the State Government is responsible for it? Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to who is responsible for the completion of those projects on which Government money is spent but which are still incomplete. Allocation of one thousand, one lakh or ten lakhs of rupees is not sufficient for completion of any project. Whether the Government is going to formulate any comprehensive plan of action to complete the pending projects and decide that no other new projects will be taken up before completing the old pending projects? A proper time-bound programme should be chalked out for any new project to be taken up. Projects are not completed by laying the foundation stone only. Therefore I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what action plan he is going to take in this regard and what are the future prospects of Brokeshwar Thermal Power Project and Haldia-Petrochemical Projects of Bengal.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Santoshji has just now expressed his views before the House. It is really an important issue. Projects are planned and sent by State Governments and got sanctioned but later on in the name of environment or any other reasons, these are delayed and their costs escalate by leaps and bounds. So, through you I would like to know from the Government as to what are the reasons for such inordinate delay in implementation of projects. The State Government of Rajasthan has sent an Atomic Power Plant project and several other projects, to Central Government and it has already accepted them in principle but for want of their timely sanction., their cost have escalated to Rs. 500 crore, and ten thousand crore as against the original one of Rs. 200 crore. Sir, through you I would like to



(Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat)

know that as to who is responsible for this cost escalation of projects. Why these are not given sanction at the earliest and implemented in time. The pending projects can be completed under a time-bound programme if the Government take appropriate measures in this regard.

[English]

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (Aonla):  
Mr. Chairman Sir,...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am sorry. I have no notice. This will not go on record.

(Interruptions)\*

SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN  
(Amroha): Sir, I will be very brief.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Chauhanji, the point is, it cannot be allowed because there is no notice. Please understand. Now the Minister to reply.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): Sir, for the first time, from our side—from the Ministry's side—a request has been made to the hon. Speaker to allow the Half-an-Hour discussion and it is not from the hon. Member's side.

Though on that day, I have covered most of the points or clarifications, hon. Speaker had asked me to collect some of the information relating to the externally

*aided projects or externally aided projects which were not being funded properly or utilised the money which had been earmarked. On that day, I said that we were not monitoring as to how much money had been approved by the external agencies for each project and the money so far utilised or withdrawn; all these information I had to collect from the Ministry of Finance; and furnish to the hon. Member.*

I tried my level best to get the information; but it was not part of the monitoring which we are doing. I am thankful to the hon. Speaker for having allowed this Half-an-Hour discussion today, to clarify some of the points.

As you know, prior to 1985, there was no Central level apex body or monitoring agency or the Ministry. The Ministries or Departments were doing the monitoring of funding from the information which they were getting from the project authority. But, at the Central level, the apex body was conceived by Shri Rajiv Gandhi to have a Ministry to collect the information from the project level, that is the executive agency. Though the Ministries which were monitoring were also already there, it was felt that at the Central/apex level, a nodal Ministry is required to furnish the information to the PMO as well as to the concerned Ministries/Departments. Then, this job was entrusted to the Ministry of Planning and Programme Implementation.

The hon. Member has raised a doubt that Ministry had been created to do the job of a post office. Without a post office, you cannot deliver the letters. But, exactly we are not doing the post office work; we are introducing... (Interruptions)

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: You have said that you were not the funding agency; and the funding agency is the concerned Ministry. Then, hon. Speaker said that he would not allow you to say those things on the Floor of the House; and you should get the information and give it to the House. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: That is exactly what I am doing. We are not the funding agency. Funding agency is the external agency or the Ministry/Department concerned. This is not with the approval of the Planning Commission that we are doing. We are not funding agency. Therefore, what I said is that for almost all the projects, out of 367 projects, we have the acceptance report as well as the monthly report; and we furnish them to the PMO as well as the Ministries concerned. That is what we are doing. If you ask me, why are we not funding, I can only say, I am not the funding agency. *(Interruptions)* Very sorry. I cannot give that *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are collecting the information only.

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Yes. On that day, when hon. Speaker told me that I should be responsive, I said I would collect the information. Already, the Annual Report carries the information about each project; that also I am submitting to the House. If the hon. Member goes through the Annual Report, he will find that almost all the projects have been incorporated in the Report.

I requested the Speaker to give me some more time to furnish a little more information. At that time the Prime Minister constituted a committee consisting of a Group of Ministers. This Group of

Ministers suggested certain very important points and a Report was submitted to the Prime Minister. This Report is under consideration of the Prime Minister. Apart from other points the Report also contains the reasons for the time overrun and cost overrun. This Report also suggested several measures to be looked after by the Ministries concerned. They will submit a monthly as well as quarterly Report giving project-wise Status Report which would be very very interesting.

So, whatever job was entrusted to the Ministry of Programme Implementation, we have done that job with utmost efficiency. We are not doing merely the post office service. We are a coordinating agency between the project authority and the Ministry concerned.

I would like to say that the Report of the Group of Ministers is not to be shared with the hon. Members, at this stage. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think the point is very clear.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Vice-President of Asian Development Bank had visited India and said that 4 billion dollars are lying unutilised in India. I would like to know the opinion of the Minister in this regard.

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, You need not answer that question, the point is that there are 361 projects which are under supervision. The latest information is given in the Annual Report. The Ministry is supervising these projects.

[Mr. Chairman]

The Minister has made the point very clearly.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: If any further information is required by the hon. Members, it will be furnished to them.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGHAR: Can you tell us how many are responsible and what action you have taken against them?

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has already explained that.

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Sir, we are not the implementing authority. The implementation is done by the Ministry concerned. Our job is to get the information, compile it and then give it back to the Ministry concerned to see that the projects approved by the Centre are implemented in time. The reasons for the time overrun and cost overrun are enumerated.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Is there any time-bound programme or not?

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: All projects approved by the Central Government have specific time schedule and that time schedule is always kept.

I would like to share some information with the hon. Members. We have got 36 mega projects and 135 major projects and 196 medium projects. In total we have about 367 projects which are implemented by different departments.

All the points regarding the railway projects, which Kumari Mamata Banerjee

referred to, are mentioned in the Annual Report.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If the details regarding the railway projects are not there, you may please furnish those details to Kumari Mamata Banerjee.

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Sir, I would say that our Ministry is not the implementing agency. Our job is only to collect the information. The Members perhaps want that we should interfere in the day-to-day execution of the project.

My job is only to ensure progress as made in the implementation of projects, I am not responsible for the implementation of the project.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: How many projects have been completed during the last three years because it was the responsibility of your Ministry.

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: You will know about it by reading the annual report.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: The Central Government should issue instructions that sanctioned projects should be completed within the prescribed time...*(Interruptions)*...

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is not their job.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Sir, he wanted some information. One-

hundred and sixty projects are due to be completed in 1994. But, actually, so far 25 projects have been completed and 70 projects are likely to be completed. This is the information which we have received up to March, 1994. As far as the projects which are not completed even we are concerned and, we have asked them why they have not completed those projects. There are a number of reasons for it. We have communicated to the Ministries/Departments about the number of projects that have still not been completed. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You complete your answer. You need not respond to them.

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: According to our information 70 projects will be completed. I am not able to understand why you are insisting on my giving this information. This is being considered by the Prime Minister.

*[Translation]*

The Prime Minister had constituted the Committee...*(Interruptions)* Our is not the work of implementing agency. Do not say that it is implementing agency.

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: No interruptions will go on record.

*(Interruptions)\**

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: We are receiving the exact information from the project authority. We are collecting

the information regarding the progress of implementation from the respective Ministries/Departments. We are not interfering in anybody's functioning. If you ask me to interfere with Mr. Sontosh Mohan Deb's Ministry, he will definitely be annoyed with me.

As far as the information regarding cost overrun and time overrun is concerned, it is not our information but it is the information compiled at the Central level from all project authorities. This is a very useful document.

Whatever information Mr. Mamata Banerjee wanted I will collect that and give it to her. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please resume your seat. No more clarifications.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: He has mentioned about certain specific projects. In that regard he should send me the reply.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: He has also not replied to my question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No more clarifications. The House stands adjourned to re-assemble tomorrow at 11.00 p.m.

**18.34 hrs.**

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, May, 10, 1994/Vaisakha, 20, 1916 (Saka)*