

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Third Session
(Tenth Lok Sabha)



(Vol. IX contains Nos. 11 to 20)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Friday, March, 13, 1992/Phalgun, 23,
1913 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at
Eleven of the Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*Translation*]

Development of Existing National Highways

+
*245. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR
SHARMA:
SHRI RAMESHWAR PATI-
DAR:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the proposals submitted by the State Governments for development of existing National Highways in their respective States, State-wise;

(b) the action taken by the Union Government thereon; and

(c) the funds proposed to be provided for development of existing National Highways during 1992-93, State-wise?

[*English*]

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

STATEMENT

(a) to (c). Proposals for development of existing National Highways during 8th Plan involving an outlay of Rs. 13,349.80 crores have been received from the States as detailed in the Appendix. The budget for 1992-93 provides for an outlay of Rs. 445.50 crores for National Highways, all of which will be spent on continuing as well as new works on existing National Highways. The State-wise allocation will be finalised after the Demand for Grants are approved by Parliament. The proposals for the entire 8th Five Year Plan have not been decided pending the finalisation of the 8th Plan.

APPENDIX

*Statement of Proposals for Development of Existing National Highways During 8th Plan
Period Received from the States.*

(Rs. in Crores)

S. 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

(Rs. in Crores)

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Road Works</i>	<i>Bridge Works</i>	<i>Total</i>
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
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

[Translation]

SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA:
Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to say that national highways are very impor-

tant for the nation. During the last forty-four years highways have been neglected very much.

The the figures reveal that Government

Collects Rs. 5040 crores every year as revenue through National Highways. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Do not speak in this way. Please do not start giving a speech.

SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA: This question is linked with it. Government collects revenue of rupees five thousand and forty crores rupees through Highways but it spends rupees two thousand crores of rupees. The whole nation is witness to the deteriorated conditions of these road and experiencing many problems and hardships due to their bad condition. Every day thousands of people meet with accidents because of bad condition of roads and die. Similarly, there is a question of encroachment. By passes have not been reconstructed for the last seven years. The increase in pollution and the conservation of petrol are other important questions. I would like to know as to what is the basis of the allocation of the money to various States. What are the criteria of distribution of funds among states? How would you distribute the funds among States? Hon. Minister should inform the House in this regard.

[*English*]

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: Sir, there is no doubt that we have received a lot of proposals from the State Governments involving an outlay of Rs. 13349.60 crores. Looking at the resources and the funds available from the Planning Commission, it is not possible to do all the work or to give money for all the work which the State Governments are asking the Central Government to do. We have sanctioned some money which we have received from the Planning Commission and we are also waiting for the Parliament to approve our Budget in respect of our Ministry. After that, we can decide about the allocation to the different States.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA:

Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to submit that two and a half years ago Congress Government had taken a decision for the setting up of an authority for the maintenance of the national highways. Is the Government taking any initiative to give concrete shape to the decision? Does the Government propose to set up Highways Finance Corporation in pursuance of the decision taken two and a half years ago? Sir, I would like to give this much information through you.

MR. SPEAKER: You are not to give any information. You are required to ask question. I am not allowing you.

SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA: Is the Government going to set up any authority in this regard?

[*English*]

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: There is no proposal which has come.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR: National highways are the life line of the nation. But no attention has been paid during the past so many years to this life line of the nation. That is why National Research Institute was compelled to observe that....

MR. SPEAKER: Please ask question only, do not deliver a speech.

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR: I am coming to the question. National Research Institute has conducted a survey and on this basis it has observed that ninety eight per cent of our national highways are not transport worthy going by the international standards. I would like to know from the hon. Minister if Government is contemplating to invite private sector to participate in the construction of national highways. Will the Government make an announcement regarding issuing the public sector bonds? I belong to Madhya Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh is one of the states of our country,

that is surrounded by seven states but has the lowest length of national highways. The total length of national highways in the State is two thousand seven hundred and sixty three kilometers. Madhya Pradesh has sent many proposals regarding declaring more roads as national highways but only thirty per cent national highways have been declared as national highways in Madhya Pradesh. That is why the state is very backward from national highways point of view. Would the Government give more priority to this state in the matter of construction of national highways.

[English]

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: We are bringing in this Session hopefully, a Bill to Amend NH Act in order to levy fee which will also enable involvement of private sector. I will not call it privatisation. A toll will be levied and private parties will be allowed to come and make express ways and national highways. There are set norms for declaring national highways and we will work according to those norms.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Mr. Speaker Sir, National Highway - 1, the historical Shershah Suri Marg has contributed immensely to the nation's progress and kept the nation on move. The four-laning of the stretch from Delhi to Ambala and Ambala to Amritsar has been unduly delayed. I would like to know from the hon. Minister in this context as to what the criteria are for selection of externally aided projects and what really the World Bank's package is, as far as national highways are concerned. By what time will the four-laning be completed?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: As far as four-laning of National Highway-1 is concerned, work relating to widening and strengthening the existing carriage way is already in progress. As regards the criteria for selection of externally aided projects, there are six points for identification of projects for loan by external agencies. Govern-

ment of Japan is also giving loan for the development work. The work has to be included in the normal plan for development of national highways. The projects should have high economic rate of returns. The loan is generally taken for four-laning of express ways and high-traffic density corridors. Projects identified are generally spread all over the country in order to expose the States to modern technology. In addition, the Asian Development Bank insists that the projects should serve industrial belts. Projects are finally selected by the Bank on the basis of their own assessment based on techno-economic feasibility studies and keeping in view the size of the loan.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Since the last 10 years, some of the traffic from National Highway - 5 viz. Calcutta - Madras Highway, which should be going through National Highway - 42, has been diverted because of damage to bridges on National Highway - 42. In the last session, the hon. Minister stated that the 8th Plan, they would consider the alternate route used by NALCO and NTPC for heavy traffic. This is between Sukhinda, Bhuvan, Kamakhya Nagar and Talcher on National Highway - 42. I would like to know whether this parallel route will also be considered in the 8th Plan.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: I can consider it only when the allocation to my Ministry is finalised.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Sir, the four-laning of Cuttack to Bhubaneswar, NH-5, is pending with the Government of India since the last two years. The Government of Orissa has repeatedly requested the Government of India to clear this project so that this becomes the biggest link in our country. May I know from the hon. Minister when this project is going to be cleared by the Government of India?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: Sir, the answer is same as I gave to the hon. Member from Orissa, earlier.

Dearness Allowance as Dearness Pay

*246 SHRI NARAIN SINGH
CHAUDHRI:
SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to treat a part of Dearness Allowance as Dearness Pay;

(b) if so, the percentage of Dearness Allowance proposed to be treated as Dearness Pay;

(c) the date from which it is likely to be made effective;

(d) whether the Government also propose to appoint a permanent Wage Review Committee for the Central Government employees; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE: (a) to (e). The demands relating to treating a portion of Dearness Allowance as Dearness Pay and appointment of a Permanent Wage Review Committee were discussed in the last meeting of the National Council of the JCM held on the 21st September, 1991, where it was decided to constitute a Committee of the National Council of the JCM and to set up an Expert Group respectively to examine these demands. The Report of the Committee of the National Council on treatment of a portion of Dearness Allowance as Dearness Pay is awaited. Orders for constituting an Expert Group are expected to be issued shortly.

[Translation]

SHRI NARAIN SINGH CHAUDHRI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had asked a question regard-

ing treating a part of dearness allowance as dearness pay and regarding permanent Wage Review Committee. In reply to my question the hon. Minister has stated that the questions of treating a part of Dearness allowance as part of dearness pay and constitution of a permanent Wage Review Committee were discussed in the meeting of National Council of J.C.M. on 21.9.91. He has also stated that the report of the Committee has not yet been received. I would like to know from the Minister when was this Committee constituted? What is the tenure of the committee and what are its terms of reference? What were the reasons for delay in constituting the committee when the decision to this effect was taken on 21.9.91.?

[English]

SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE: Sir, a Committee has been set up to determine the emoluments, structure and DA structure. The composition of the Committee is as follows: Shri H.N. Ray, retired Finance Secretary, he was also the Member Secretary of the 3rd Pay Commission, as the Chairman, Shri V. Attal, retired Chairman and Managing Director, SBI, Member and Shri B. Swaminathan, retired Director (Finance), Coal India Limited, as a Member. The Committee will submit its report within a period of 4 months. The orders for setting up the Committee are being issued very shortly.

[Translation]

SHRI NARAIN SINGH CHAUDHRI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the decision to set up this committee was taken on 21st September and it was to submit its report within four months. Why has it not been constituted so far. Has the Government evolved this method to put off the genuine demands? In the year 1986 Pay Commission had submitted its report. It had recommended that whenever the percentage of dearness allowance becomes more than sixty per cent, a part of dearness allowance should be treated as dearness pay. Dearness allowance has reached 60 per cent. According to the report as on 1.1.92 dearness allowance has be-

come 67%. I would like to know whether Government is contemplating to appoint an expert committee to decide these things as per the recommendations. Why has it not been constituted in pursuance of these recommendations?

[English]

SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE: Sir, this is a very important question as 40 lakh Government employees are involved in this. As I said, the matter is with the Committee and when the Committee recommends, then we will take the decision.

SHRI RAM KAPSE: Sir, the Minister just now while replying to the supplementary has said that orders will be issued about the Committee. The Committee will submit its Report after four months. As per the knowledge of the House, there are some instalments of Dearness Allowance which have not yet been paid. So, whether the Government will pay the instalments of the Dearness Allowance before the finalisation of the Report of the Committee or whether it will pay the Dearness Allowance after the submission of the Report of the Committee that I want to know. I want to know whether it will await for that.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH): Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a slight confusion. I would like to clarify the position. There is a Committee under the Finance Secretary. It includes representatives of the staff side which is going into the question of the treatment of Dearness Allowance for purposes of merger into Dearness Pay. Now this Committee has had one Meeting. This matter is under consideration of this Committee.

My colleague, the hon. Minister has referred to the appointment of another Working Group. That is yet to be appointed. That will go into this whole question of wage structure, Dearness Allowance structures in Government, in public sector.

So, that group is yet to be constituted.

As far as the payment of Dearness Allowance is concerned, whenever payment falls due, the Government will take appropriate action.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Dearness allowance is paid to the Government employees to compensate the price rise but Government is levying income tax even on dearness allowance which is not actually an income. I would like to know from the Finance Minister whether Government have any proposal to exempt a part of dearness allowance from Income Tax.

[English]

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: I appreciate the motivation behind this question. I must confess that taking into account the finances of the State Governments, it is not possible to implement this suggestion.

I would like to inform the hon. House that 85 per cent of the income tax goes to the States. It is very easy for the Union Finance Minister to give bounties to say that tax rates will be reduced, exemptions will be increased but the biggest sufferers of that will be the States.

If we worry the finances of the State Governments, then I think we have to balance various interests and I submit to you that the finances of the State Governments being what they are, we cannot do that.

[Translation]

New National Highways

+
*247. SHRISATYNARAYAN JATIYA:
SHRI GABHAJI MANGAJI
THAKORE:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals submitted by

the various State Governments for declaration of new National Highways during the Eighth Plan period; and

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

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). 135 proposals for declaring new National Highways aggregating to 37,566 kilometres have been received from States and Union Territories. The number of proposals received from different States and Union Territories and the length of new National Highways proposed is annexed. The State Governments and the Union Territories have been requested in October, 1991, to furnish basic information about the routes proposed for addition to the NH System, alongwith justification for each vis-a-vis recommendations made by the N.T.P.C. (National Transport Policy Committee), prescribed criteria for declaring new National Highways, etc.

ANNEXURE

An Abstract of Proposals Furnished by State Governments/U. Ts for Declaring New National Highways during 8th Five Year Plan

S. No	State	No. of Proposals	appx. Length Kms.
1.	Andhra Pradesh	19	6045
2.	Assam	3	380
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	400
4.	Bihar	5	1180
5.	Gujarat	9	2271
6.	Haryana	4	586
7.	Himachal Pradesh	2	618
8.	J & K	1	400
9.	Kerala	5	300
10.	Karnataka	13	4425
11.	Maharashtra	11	4679
12.	Manipur	1	190
13.	Meghalaya	2	220
14.	Madhya Pradesh	14	6656

S. No	State	No. of Proposals	appx. Length Kms.
15.	Mizoram	2	205
16.	Nagaland	1	220
17.	Orissa	2	700
18.	Pondicherry	1	39
19.	Punjab	5	915
20.	Rajasthan	5	1480
21.	Sikkim	1	30
22.	Tamil Nadu	16	3355
23.	Tripura	1	135
24.	Uttar Pradesh	6	1642
25.	West Bengal	5	495
Total		135	37,566

[Translation]

SHRI SATYNARAYAN JATIYA: Mr. Speaker Sir, under the Eighth Five Year Plan, the proposals received for the construction of roads, involve an expenditure of Rs. 13350.60 crores, out of which Madhya Pradesh has forwarded the proposals worth Rs. 646 crores. The proposals which were forwarded by Kerala are worth Rs. 606.83 crores. As you know, Madhya Pradesh, from the point of view of area is the biggest state where the roads are only 0.70 per cent. I would like to know through you whether those seven roads of M.P. which were to be declared as National Highways as recommended by the N.T.P.C. in 1984 have been included in the Eight Five Year Plan?

[English]

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: Sir it is not possible.

[Translation]

SHRI SATYNARAYAN JATIYA: As the Minister has said it is not possible then what is possible, which can be done. N.T.P.C. had formulated a policy in 1984 and had recommended that the roads should be constructed in those states where there is dearth of roads so that demand for roads could be fulfilled. In the light of these recommendations I would like to know through you as to what is possible and what is not possible.

[English]

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: It is a good question. There are proposals which we have received from the State Governments adding upto 37,566 kms; that is more than the length of the present National Highways present in the country. Now, looking at the number of proposals, we have already requested the State Governments to send us

proposals not just like Members of Parliament or public men ask for this, they should send the proposals looking at the financial position of the Government where priority should be given. So, we have already send a form to the State Governments. I am sorry, it has taken such a long time. Only one or two States have responded; the other States have not responded. Would you be kind enough to tell your Chief Minister to fill up that form which the Central Government has sent where we can write which are the priorities looking at the financial position. If my budget permits, we will surely see what we can do.

[Translation]

SHRI GABHAJI MANGAJI THAKORE:

Mr. Speaker, as far as Gujarat is concerned a proposal of total length of 4066 kms. was sent to the Central Government. In this connection, I would like to state that since the creation of Gujarat in 1961, a decision was taken to construct 3600 kms. of roads upto 1981 but only 1700 kms of roads have been constructed so far. The hon'ble Minister has stated in his reply that every state should give the justification complete details. I would like to submit that the population of Gujarat goes on increasing..... (Interruptions).....

MR. SPEAKER: You have to ask a question and so many members also have to ask questions. Only yesterday it was said that we would be able to ask only 10-11 questions. If we deliver speeches, we shall not be able to reach even that figure.

SHRI GABHAJI MANGAJI THAKORE:
We would get an opportunity to explain.

MR. SPEAKER: I have given you a chance. You may ask the question.

SHRI GABHAJI MANGAJI THAKORE:

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the industrialization is increasing and the number of vehicles is also going up. Traffic jam is a common phenome-

non on Road crossing causing loss to the nation, due to wastage of petrol and diesel. ... (Interruptions).

MR SPEAKER: You are not coming to the question. I shall disallow you.

SHRI GABHAJI MANGAJI THAKORE:

My question is that keeping all these things in mind what action has been taken on the proposals sent by the Gujarat Government to the Central Government and the time by which these proposals would be implemented?

[English]

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: The Government of Gujarat has sent nine proposals which include approximately 2271 kms. So, there is a set of norms for declaring a National Highway. I can only take a decision after looking at the financial position and the budget which my Ministry gets.

SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: The answer given by the hon. Minister regarding there being demand for all the States, it is not possible for the Government of India to take up so many roads under the National Highways, will there be a new approach? At present, we are using asphalt and a lot of money is spent on maintenance of roads. Will the Government of India, Ministry of Surface Transport, decide to go in for RCC cement?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: I am very glad that the hon. Member has put this question. The Karnataka Government has sent 13 proposals asking us to declare 4425 kms as National Highways. We have already, as I have mentioned decided to bring before Parliament a bill amending the NH Act to enable levy of fee on private sector in development of National Highways, private participation. It is also true that cemented roads last very long time. Most of my budget goes for repairing and maintaining of the National Highways. We have already started this experiment; and we will consider this in future.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in view of an attempt to remove the regional imbalances in some of the States where the road-availability is less than the national average, will the Government make any changes in its policy and construct the national highways in these areas on priority basis. We would also like to know whether the Government would take into account the backwardness as well as the population of the States while allocating funds during the Eight Five Year Plan.

[English]

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: This is already a laid down criterion. We already have this laid down.

Bank Loans to Farmers

*248. SHRI DHARAMPAL SINGH
MALIK:
DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI
PAWAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of loans advanced by public sector banks to farmers in each State during each of the last three years and till date, bank-wise;

(b) the number of farmers benefited, State-wise; and

(c) the position relating to recovery of these loans in each State during the above period, bank-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) to (c). The process of collection and compilation of detailed data on different aspects about the performance of the banks is a time consuming process and, therefore, the information on various parameters is not available for the same period on a particular point of time. Statewise number of accounts and outstanding advances to agriculture sector by public sector banks as at the end of December, 1988, September, 1989 and March, 1990 (latest available) is give in *Annexure-I*. The bank-wise number of accounts and outstanding amount of advances to the same sector by public sector banks as at the end of December, 1990 and September 1991 (latest available) is indicated in *Annexure-II*. State-wise and bank-wise percentage recovery of agricultural advances (direct finance) as at the end of June, 1988, June, 1989 and June, 1990 is given in *Annexure-III and IV* respectively.

STATEMENT

(Rs. in Crores)

(Nos. of Acs in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	State/U.T.s	Dec. 1988		Sept. 1989		March 1990	
		Acs	Amount	Acs	Amounts	Acs	Amounts
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Haryana	4.89	594	5.05	631	5.18	676
2.	Himachal Pradesh	1.29	68	1.26	71	1.30	95
3.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.45	29	0.45	30	0.45	30
4.	Punjab	6.81	950	7.07	1046	7.43	1710
5.	Rajasthan	6.77	658	7.08	693	7.43	765
6.	Chandigarh	0.06	170	0.05	186	0.05	198
7.	Delhi	0.19	122	0.20	233	0.20	3
8.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.04	2	0.05	3	0.05	3
9.	Assam	2.42	117	2.40	130	2.48	133

(Rs. in Crores)
(Nos. of Acts in Laths)

Sl.No.	State/U.T.s	Dec. 1988		Sept. 1989		March 1990	
		Acts	Amount	Acts	Amounts	Acts	Amounts
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10.	Manipur	0.15	5	0.23	6	0.25	7
11.	Meghalaya	0.25	9	0.29	12	0.30	13
12.	Mizoram	0.16	2	0.02	2	0.02	2
13.	Nagaland	0.15	15	0.19	18	0.20	20
14.	Tripura	0.85	18	0.73	23	0.70	28
15.	Bihar	12.63	622	13.55	690	14.45	752
16.	Orissa	9.76	330	10.15	359	10.44	391
17.	Sikkim	0.10	4	0.11	4	1.14	5
18.	West Bengal	12.77	516	13.99	580	13.56	689

(Rs. in Crores)
(Nos. of Acs in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	State/U.T.s	Dec. 1988		Sept. 1989		March 1990	
		A/cs	Amount	A/cs	Amounts	A/cs	Amounts
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
19.	Andaman & Nicobar Island	10.04	2	0.04	2	0.04	3
20.	Madhya Pradesh	9.40	807	9.55	933	10.74	1035
21.	Uttar Pradesh	21.08	1333	22.32	1449	23.67	1708
22.	Goa	0.39	28	0.43	33	0.47	38
23.	Gujarat	9.34	785	9.14	785	9.30	831
24.	Maharashtra	14.07	1339	15.54	1514	16.55	1642
25.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.01	1	0.01	1	0.01	1
26.	Daman & Diu			0.009	1	0.01	1

ANNEXURE-I

(Rs. in Crores)

(Nos. of Acts in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	State/U.T.s	Dec. 1989		Sept. 1989		March 1990	
		A/c's	Amount	A/c's	Amounts	A/c's	Amounts
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
27.	Andhra Pradesh	29.71	1798	29.19	1897	31.01	2057
28.	Karnataka	17.65	1234	18.72	1409	19.25	1469
29.	Kerala	11.45	526	11.26	548	12.34	665
30.	Tamil Nadu	26.65	1484	27.33	16.64	29.00	1946
31.	Lakshadweep	—	0.4	0.005	0.3	0.006	0.3
32.	Pondicherry	0.62	31	0.59	30	0.65	33
	All India		13570.4		14982.3		16516.3

* figures include in Goa Total may not tally due to rounding up the figures.

ANNEXURE-II

Bank-wise Performance of public sector Banks with regard to agricultural lending as at the end of December 1989, December 1990 and September 1991.

AGRICULTURAL ADVANCES
(Amount in Rs. Crores)
(Nos. of A/c's in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the Bank	Dec. 1989		Sept. 1990		March 1991	
		A/c's	Amount	A/c's	Amounts	A/c's	Amounts
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	State bank of India	64.96	4133	58.81	4080	54.65	4415
2.	State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur	2.35	242	2.44	224	2.31	248
3.	State Bank of Hyderabad	6.10	316	6.46	355	6.55	337
4.	State Bank of Indore	1.35	144	1.29	137	1.26	15
5.	State Bank of Mysore	2.59	160	2.67	166	2.81	174
6.	State Bank of Patiala	1.56	237	1.70	269	1.84	314
7.	State Bank of Saurashtra	1.14	114	1.25	124	1.38	140
8.	State Bank of Travancore	4.13	176	4.65	219	4.39	219

AGRICULTURAL ADVANCES

(Amount in Rs. Crores)

(Nos. of A/cs in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the Bank	Dec. 1989			Sept. 1990			March 1991		
		A/cs	Amount	A/cs	Amount	A/cs	Amount	A/cs	Amount	A/cs
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9.	Allahabad Bank	4.88	424	4.98	479	5.52	597			
10.	Andhra Bank	5.68	357	5.49	368	4.29	368			
11.	Bank of Baroda	9.47	832	9.59	867	9.67	1004			
12.	Bank of India	10.58	971	10.83	1029	10.53	1097			
13.	Bank of Maharashtra	3.00	292	2.96	274	2.97	290			
14.	Canara Bank	15.21	970	15.51	1053	15.85	1174			
15.	Central Bank of India	13.34	899	12.11	897	12.20	903			
16.	Corporation Bank	1.71	138	1.70	136	1.60	139			

AGRICULTURAL ADVANCES

(Amount in Rs. Crores)

(Nos. of Acs in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the Bank	Dec. 1989		Sept. 1990		March 1991	
		Acs	Amount	Acs	Amounts	Acs	Amounts
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
17.	Dena Bank	3.21	261	3.18	257	3.14	270
18.	Indian Bank	8.11	569	8.91	690	10.52	751
19.	Indian Overseas Bank	8.42	410	6.01	395	7.03	485
20.	New Bank of India	1.12	182	1.15	194	1.09	203
21.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	1.47	202	1.58	251	1.63	296
22.	Punjab National Bank	10.42	1107	11.03	1181	11.24	1362
23.	Punjab & Sind Bank	1.51	203	1.47	220	1.48	230
24.	Syndicate Bank	8.20	537	8.05	520	7.50	498

AGRICULTURAL ADVANCES

(Amount in Rs. Crores)

(Nos. of A/cs in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the Bank	Dec. 1989		Sept. 1990		March 1991	
		A/cs	Amount	A/cs	Amounts	A/cs	Amounts
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	£
25.	Union Bank of India	6.80	510	7.21	551	6.98	593
26.	United Bank of India	7.46	363	7.14	31	7.85	342
27.	UCO Bank	7.10	432	7.46	486	6.85	458
28.	Vijaya Bank	3.09	241'	3.28	258	3.14	259
	All Public Sector Bank	214.96	15421	209.01	15986	206.27	17316

Total may not tally due to rounding of the figures.

ANNEXURE-III

State-wise Recovery of Agricultural Advances (Direct Finance by Public Sector Banks as on Last Friday of June 1988 June 1989 & June 1990

<i>Name of State/Union Territory</i>	<i>Percentage of recoveries to demand</i>		
	<i>June 1988</i>	<i>June 1989</i>	<i>June 1990</i>
NORTHERN REGION	60.2	58.8	51.2
Haryana	48.0	55.3	48.7
Himachal Pradesh	40.8	43.2	37.3
Jammu & Kashmir	21.8	36.8	37.38
Punjab	71.8	69.4	64.0
Rajasthan	44.8	44.3	38.0
Chandigarh	66.6	70.1	24.8
Delhi	35.9	35.8	31.6
NORTH EASTERN REGION	35.2	38.6	21.9
Assam	36.4	38.9	24.1
Manipur	15.2	22.4	9.4
Meghalaya	32.5	39.1	18.2
Nagaland	40.0	45.8	19.7
Tripura	30.7	27.2	16.5
Arunachal Pradesh	56.5	58.5	56.2
Mizoram	38.9	37.4	29.9
Sikkim	53.5	59.9	35.1
EASTERN REGION	50.1	50.4	40.3
Bihar	47.7	47.8	42.5
Orissa	52.3	54.3	37.0
West Bengal	51.2	50.6	40.7
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	37.7	33.0	17.1

<i>Name of State/Union Territory</i>	<i>Percentage of recoveries to demand</i>		
	<i>June 1988</i>	<i>June 1989</i>	<i>June 1990</i>
CENTRAL REGION	55.6	57.8	46.2
Madhya Pradesh	52.1	57.5	42.5
Uttar Pradesh	57.6	58.0	48.5
WESTERN REGION	50.9	54.6	45.6
Gujarat	53.3	58.9	48.0
Maharashtra	49.7	52.0	43.8
Daman Diu	43.5	23.3	45.3
Goa	50.7	56.1	48.3
Dadra Nagar Haveli	50.6	55.8	59.5
SOUTHERN REGION	59.6	59.3	52.3
Andhra Pradesh	58.8	59.4	48.3
Karnataka	46.1	47.3	42.9
Kerala	68.4	65.2	57.6
Tamil Nadu	68.1	66.5	61.4
Pondicherry	66.5	62.0	51.5
Lakshadweep	56.1	59.3	55.8
ALL INDIA	55.8	57.3	48.8

ANNEXURE IV

Bank-wise Recovery Position of Public Sector Banks in Direct Agricultural Advances as on Last Friday of June 1988, 1989 and 1990.

<i>Name of the Bank</i>	<i>Percentage of Recovery to Demand</i>		
	<i>June 1988</i>	<i>June 1989</i>	<i>June 1990</i>
STATE BANK GROUP			
State Bank of India	57.1	59.6	47.4
State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur	29.3	33.0	26.9

<i>Name of the Bank</i>	<i>Percentage of Recovery to Demand</i>		
	<i>June 1988</i>	<i>June 1989</i>	<i>June 1990</i>
State Bank of Hyderabad	55.4	56.3	27.3
State Bank of Indore	44.3	44.3	29.4
State Bank of Mysore	55.6	56.5	28.1
State Bank of Patiala	68.0	73.5	58.7
State Bank of Saurashtra	74.4	69.3	61.1
State Bank of Travancore	58.0	55.5	52.1
NATIONALISED BANKS			
Allahabad Bank	53.0	53.6	40.7
Andhra Bank	62.0	67.9	47.5
Bank of Baroda	53.3	52.8	44.7
Bank of India	56.3	60.6	38.0
Bank of Maharashtra	50.5	43.1	38.0
Canara Bank	61.9	59.8	55.6
Central Bank of India	57.1	57.8	48.4
Corporation Bank	56.1	51.6	31.1
Dena Bank	53.3	54.2	39.9
Indian Bank	71.3	75.1	63.8
Indian Overseas Bank	64.5	60.7	52.1
New Bank of India	52.3	54.0	35.8
Oriental Bank of Commerce	66.2	64.7	54.8
Punjab National Bank	66.4	65.4	55.5
Punjab & Sind Bank	59.0	59.1	43.5
Syndicate Bank	45.1	44.2	32.6
Union Bank of India	50.5	48.7	46.1
United Bank of India	44.0	48.6	28.3

<i>Name of the Bank</i>	<i>Percentage of Recovery to Demand</i>		
	<i>June 1988</i>	<i>June 1989</i>	<i>June 1990</i>
UCO Bank	46.8	51.6	48.3
Vijaya Bank	49.9	46.0	37.8
All India Public Sector Banks	57.5	58.1	46.8

SHRIDHARAMPAL SINGH MALIK: The hon. Minister has given a very long reply but most of the reply is completely irrelevant and the data which I had demanded from the hon. Minister, that has not been supplied. Questions are given at least 20 days before the date fixed for the reply of that question and it has been simply mentioned that various parameters with regard to this question are not available at this time. But even then, because the Janata Dal including the former Deputy Prime Minister Shri Devi Lal had given wide publicity during their election campaign for Lok Sabha in 1989-90 and mentioned in their election manifesto that they would waive the loans if they come to power, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether agricultural loans were waived by the two successive Governments between December 1989 and April 1991; if so the details thereof, if not the reasons therefor and its impact on the recovery of loans.

[*Translation*]

SHRI DALBIR SINGH: Sir, with regard to the hon. Member's reference the long reply, I would say that the length of the answer depends on the length of the question. Now, with regard to his question about the details of the loan waived upto an amount of Rs. 10,000 announced by the previous Government, as I had earlier also mentioned in the House, I would like to say that the Union Government had to incur an expenditure of Rs. 7714 crores and the financial position was also pretty bad last year. Despite this, the Government made an allocation of Rs. 1500 crores in last year's budget, keep-

ing in mind, the interests of the farmers. Further, an allocation of Rs. 1425 crores has been made in this year's budget. The co-operative sector, which comes under the States too is involved in this scheme and the expenditure is to be met by the Union and State Governments on 50:50 basis. This, the burden on the Union Government on this loan waiver scheme amounts to Rs. 4400 crores. As it is a matter concerning the farmers, the Government has decided to waive the loans of the farmers.

SHRIDHARAMPAL SINGH MALIK: My question is pertaining to the amount of loan waived off from December, 1989 to April-May 1991.

[*English*]

That has not been replied. I again request the hon. Minister to give a reply while replying to my second supplementary.

[*Translation*]

My second supplementary is that every year, the loans of some people, who are not able to repay are written off and one put into the bad debt account. Now, this writing-off is different from waiving. I would like to know the loan amount, both that of industrialists and farmers, written off in the past three years. Alongwith this, I would like to know the rate of interest....

SHRI DALBIR SINGH: At the moment, I do not have the relevant figures with me. If the hon. Member requires it, it shall be supplied to him.

[English]

SHRIDHARAMPAL SINGH MALIK: Sir, I have no knowledge. The question is mostly relevant... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister will supply this information to him in writing. It may also be laid on the Table of the House.

DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, after the nationalisation of the banks, the farmers community is getting a lot of benefits by way of loans. The farmers community take loans mainly for seeds, fertilisers, nutrients, etc. I would like to know from the Minister the terms and conditions for sanctioning the loan to the farmers, I mean, whether they are as simple as they have been put up by IMF to us.

[Translation]

SHRI DALBIR SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, according to R.B.I. guide lines, 40 percent of the total lending in the priority sector should be made to the farmers. Ten percent of the total lending is earmarked for those living under the poverty line, the marginal farmers, artisans and scheduled castes and scheduled Tribes. With reference to the hon. Members query about the interests rate, I would say that the interest rate fixed in October for 1990-91 is very low. The interest rate is 11.5 percent for loan upto Rs. 7,500/- 13 percent for loans ranging from Rs. 7,000/- to Rs. 15,000/- and 19 percent for a loan of two lakh rupees. So far as DRIs are concerned, there is provision of one percent interest. We are putting money in it. It is a matter concerning the farmers and increasing their productivity. Therefore, we adopt a very liberal view, so as to enable the farmers to get loans.

[English]

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know from the Minister whether it is not a fact — there is a ceiling on the loan amount that can be given to an individual

farmer by both the commercial as well as the cooperative banks — that this loan amount is not sufficient to meet the requirement of the farmer to raise the crops. The limit of Rs. 10,000 was fixed quite long back, several years back. Will the Government take necessary steps to enhance this limit to atleast Rs. 25,000 keeping in view the cost of cultivation right at present? Also will the Government examine the aspect of giving some interest subsidy to the farmers when they pay in time to the commercial banks or the cooperative banks? This interest subsidy scheme was implemented by the Andhra Pradesh Government some time back. Will the Government examine this and take up this scheme also?

[Translation]

SHRI DALBIR SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we shall certainly examine the suggestion made by the hon. Member to raise the ceiling on the loan amount from Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 25,000/-. So far as the question of interest rate is concerned, as I told the hon. Member few minutes back, we had fixed a very low interest rate in October for the year 1990-91. Apart from this, we have introduced a credit card system in twenty nationalised banks to help the farmers out from getting into long procedural wrangles. They can take their credit card and seek loans for pesticides and fertilizers, according to their requirement. This scheme has been introduced for three years.

[English]

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: It will improve the recovery aspect.

[Translation]

SHRI DALBIR SINGH: Let me explain it to you. There has been a decline in it, due to the recovery of loans. In this regard, I would like to tell the hon. Member that so far as the Banks are concerned, even the big farmers want to evade repayment under the loan waiver schemes. As a result, we are not able to provide loans to the small farmers. Earlier

it was 48 percent, but now it has come down to 33 percent. Alongwith this, we are making another effort. The banks have been adversely affected as the loan waiver scheme involved seven to eight thousand crores of rupees. During the Rabi and Kharif season, we coordinate with the State Governments to make efforts to recover bank loans and we have meetings in this regard at the headquarters as well we make efforts for maximum recovery.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE:

Sir, in the reply it is stated that the information on various parameters is not available for the same period on a particular point of time. In fact, it has been reported on many other occasions that the banking accounts are in a mess. Therefore, what I want to know from the Finance Minister is whether or not the Ministry is thinking of permitting CAG auditing of bank accounts in the near future. Sir, it is arising out of this question. The answer states that it is because of this difficulty.... (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: I am not obstructing you. You come out with your question.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE:

That is the only question I will ask that will the Government agree to get the accounts of the banks audited by the CAG.

[Translation]

SHRI DALBIR SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the R.B.I. has laid down specific guidelines in this regard. If the hon. Member faces any problem or if he writes to me mentioning any specific instance of bungling in Bank Accounts, we shall get it probed, but I don't think there is any bungling, whatsoever.

Low Books in Hindi

*249. **SHRI RAM THAL CHOUDHARY:**

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

(a) whether any award is given for publishing Law books in Hindi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any evaluation of such books has been made during the last three years;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof;

(e) the details of awards given during the above period; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

[English]

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

(b) The best law books written or published in a calendar year in Hindi and other Indian languages which are suitable for use as text books or reference books in colleges or universities and by lawyers and the judiciary, are awarded a first prize of Rs. 10,000/-, a second prize of Rs. 5,000/- a third prize of Rs. 3000/- and a consolation prize of Rs. 2,000/-.

(c), (d) and (e). A Statement is placed on the Table of the House.

(f) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

The following books written/published during the calender years 1988 and 1989, were selected for award of the prize shown against each:-

Year 1988

<i>Name of the Book</i>	<i>Name of the Author</i>	<i>Amount of the Prize</i>
1. Bharatiya Dand Sanhita	Hanuman Prasad Gupta	5,000/- (second Prize)
2. Apradh Anveshan	Prem Chand Sharma	3000/- (Third Prize)
3. Chikitsa Nyayashastra	Basanti Lal Babel	2,000/- (Consolation prize)
4. Vanijyik Vidhi Ke Sidhant	Kailash Rai	5,000/- (second prize)
5. Hastantaran, Prarupkar aur Vilekhon avam Dastavejon Ka Nirvachan	Krishan Aggarwal & Krishan Kumar Singh	5,000/- (second Prize)
6. Sahakarita avam Adhibhar	Raghunath Prasad Tiwari Kanchan Singh Chaudhary & Ram Lal	3,000/- (Third Prize)
7. Sanvida Vidhi	S.K. Kapoor	2,000/- (consolation prize)
8. Rajasthan Bhumi Vidhiyan	Basanti Lal Babel	3,000/- (Third prize)
9. Rajasthan, Kashtkari Adhiniyam, 1955 Bhu-Rajasav Adhiniyam, 1956 avam Anya Adhiniyam.	Ashkaran Aggarwal	2,000/- (consolation prize)

Year 1989

1. Civil Seva Vidhi avam Adhikaran	Srikrishan Dutt Sharma	5,000- (second prize)
2. Vidhi Shastra	Vijay Narain Mani Tripathi	3,000/- (Third prize)
3. Hatya	Padam Kumar Jain	5,000/- (second prize)
4. Hastakshar Ek Vigyan	A.N. Ganorkar	5,000/- (second Prize)

<i>Name of the Book</i>	<i>Name of the Author</i>	<i>Amount of the Prize</i>
5. Apradh Anveshan Avam abhiyojan	Prakash Chandra Jain	3,000/- (Third Prize)
6. Motoryan Adhiniyam, 1988.	Ramsewak Sharma	5,000/- (second prize)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has mentioned the amount of prizes. They have awarded prizes for 1988-89, but I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether no law book has been translated after 1989 and if it has been done, why no prizes were given for the period 1990-91? This has made an adverse impact on translation works. If the Government has not awarded translators of law books, then by when does it propose to give these prizes and I would also like to know whether the Government proposes to continue with this scheme?

[English]

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM: Sir, the first supplementary consists of two parts, the first being with regard to the year 1990.... (Interruptions)....

[Translation]

SHRI ASTBHUJA PRASAD SHUKLA: If you can answer in Hindi, please do it.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM: Okay, if it's your wish, I shall do so, but do excuse me, if there is any mistake in the language....

(Interruptions)....

[English]

SHRI E. AHAMED: I protest, Sir. He cannot compel the Minister.... (Interruptions)....

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You are creating trouble unnecessarily....

(Interruptions)

SHRI C.K. KUPPUSWAMY: Do not allow this, Sir.... (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: I will take care of it. You first sit down please....

(Interruptions)

SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN: We want the answer to be given in Tamil, Sir.... (Interruptions).

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: All of you please take your seats.

[English]

Please sit down first....

(Interruptions)

SHRI A. ASOKARAJ: We want only India, not 'Hindia' (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: Let us understand that the Minister who speaks very good English,

speaks very good Hindi also, and let us know that he speaks very good Hindi also. Anybody can talk in English, Hindi or any other language he wants. But, if the hon. Minister — on his own accord and at the request of the hon. Member — is replying in Hindi, we will welcome it also.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM: Sir, if I may submit.... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN: Sir, we want the answer in Tamil. (*Interruptions*)

MR SPEAKER: Please sit down. Please understand.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please understand and keep quiet. This is a question about the Hindi version of the legal books. Supposing the hon. Minister is replying in Hindi in a manner which gives some solace to the hon. Member who is asking the question on Hindi version of the legal literature, then let him speak in Hindi. He can speak very beautiful and very poetic Hindi and his version of Hindi is an addition to the Hindi literature itself.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM: Sir, I am extremely obliged for your compliments. But I must say that the Hindi I know is only what I learnt by hearing my friends on all sides.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Kumaramangalam, I can certify that you speak good Hindi.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Not like this. Please understand and do not create a divide.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM: I do not want to get into a controversy. But I must submit to the hon. Members that they would appreciate that the school and the languages which I have been

taught have been Tamil and English; Hindi is what I have learnt by talking to all the friends. If they wish to know how bad by Hindi is, I am willing to answer. Then the fact is that I would be a little hampered but I am sure they would assist me also. They do have interpretation facility. I would attempt that; but they should not blame me for it. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

As far as the awards for 1990 are concerned, usually after the year is over, we give an advertisement for the previous year, and we ask the applications from the concerned people for the awards and they are given time till the 30th April. For 1990 awards, the last date was 30th March. A committee was formed for the purpose of the examination of the books received after that date and for each book the work evaluation was assigned to two members that whether the book is worth for an award or not. For the awards of 1990, the committee is doing the work of the evaluation of books and I understand that, that work will be completed in a month or so and there are 14 books of Hindi and 19 books of other languages, which are being evaluated.

As far as last year's awards are concerned, we have time till the 30th April and for that an advertisement has been given. After 30th April, the evaluation work of the books will be assigned to a committee.

Secondly as far as translation is concerned, these awards are not given for translation work. These awards are given for the self written books. Awards are never given for translation work.

[*English*]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Sir, he is telling three-language formula.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, he has passed form three-language formula.

(*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHRY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this work is being done from the point of view of creating awareness about the Laws and Justice among the citizens of the country. I would like to know from the Government that whether the prize money will be increased so that the law books should be published in Hindi and people should take interest in this work and these books are published in greater number?

[Translation]

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM: We would like to increase the prize money.

[English]

Sir, I think I prefer to say it in English at the moment.

MR. SPEAKER: You can do it in English. You have established that you can speak in Hindi also.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM: Special assignment for getting law books written in Hindi language on selected subjects is available, Government assistance is available, but in those cases awards are not given. We do have assistance given to an extent of even Rs. 5000/- for books depending on the subject of the book and we pay including per page typing etc., we also have a scheme for translation. By both translation and special assignment we do assist to ensure that we encourage Hindi, we try to do this.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY: Would you like to increase the prize money?

[English]

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMAN-

GALAM: At the moment there is nothing under consideration. But I would definitely consider it, there is no harm.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir the Law Minister is also present here therefore, I would like to know whether you have made efforts to find out how many law books are there which have not yet been translated into Hindi. Because according to the official languages act of which I am a member, the books in English language should be translated into Hindi and authenticated at the earliest possible time. Have you made any efforts to know that how many books have been translated and have you fixed any target for it and their authentication.

[English]

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM: Mr Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to inform the hon. Member that we had made an effort to review the question of translation of various laws into Hindi. We are taking urgent steps to see that as much as possible is covered, but for final details I would need separate notice.

[Translation]

***SHRI C.K. KUPPUSWAMY:** Sir, there are fourteen languages in India as enshrined in the Eighth Schedule. Hindi is not the only language we have to interact with. Hence I would like to know from the hon. Speaker whether arrangements would be made during the question hour to raise questions and get replies in Tamil or any other language among the fourteen Indian languages?

****SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM:** Sir, appropriate action will be taken in this regard.

* English translation of question originally asked in Tamil.

** English translation of reply originally given in Tamil.

[English]

Agitation by Bank Employees

+
*252. **SHRI HARIN PATHAK:**
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether bank employees have decided to go on a nationwide agitation;

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

(c) whether there is any proposal to have negotiations with the Trade Union of Banking Industries for a new bipartite settlement;

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

(e) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (e). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). The Indian Banks Association (IBA) has reported that National Confederation of Bank Employees (NCBE) has given call for a day's strike on the 27th March, 1992 for realisation of/in support of the following issues/demands:

1. Rejection of alleged harmful recommendations of Narasimham Committee on Financial System;
2. Nationalisation of remaining private banks;
3. Merger of RRBs with sponsor banks and full implementation of NIT Award;
4. Waiver of restrictions on recruit-

ment;

5. Absorption of deposit collectors as per award;
6. Introduction of pension as 3rd retiral benefit;
7. Extension of SBI/IOB package of benefits to other banks;
8. Extension of conveyance allowance to workman staff.

(c) to (e). The last wage-settlement (Fifth Bipartite Settlement) signed in the banking industry in 1989 was for 5 years w.e.f. 1.11.1987 and would be operative till 31st October, 1992. In terms of the settlement, the unions may submit their charter of demands to the IBA six months before the settlement expires. The negotiations on such charter of demand would commence before the last three months of the expiry of the settlement. The unions with which the IBA has bipartite relationship have not yet submitted their charter of demands. The negotiations will be started by the IBA only after such a charter of demands is received.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Sir, the All India Bank Employees Association as decided by its Central Committee at a recent meeting at Cochin, is organizing a massive rally on 27th March in Delhi against 'the Recommendation of Narasimham Committee on Financial System'.

Sir, through you I would like to know from the hon. Minister (a) whether it is a fact that some of the recommendations of the Committee, if implemented, will weaken the Indian Banking industry and harm the interests of the nation, especially weaker section of the society, and agriculture, small scale and rural artisans, and (b) whether the Government is going to accept those recommendations.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not share the apprehension of the hon.

Member that the Report of the Committee that he has referred to will in any way weaken the efficacy of the banking system to achieve the goals and objectives that our nation has set for the banking industry.

As far as the Report is concerned, this Report is under the consideration of the Government. Therefore, through you, I would like to appeal to all the people that our banking system today is in need of the organisation. Its profitability today is such that we cannot be satisfied with the *status quo*. In this, we need the cooperation of the House and we need the cooperation of all patriotic sections of our society. It is only on the basis of a viable banking system we can achieve those objectives. So, I do not believe there is any basis for anybody to go on strike. We will take care of all the interests of the employees.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is true that if the Narasimham Committee's suggestions are implemented, the public sector banks would become interminably sick and there would be a large number of retrenchment in the staff.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: Sir, the answer is 'No'. The basic objective of the report is to make Indian banking system viable and without going into the details I would like to inform the House that many of our public sector banks today, financially, are not in a position in which a sound bank should be. The whole purpose of the report is to impart a greater element of dynamism into our banking system so that our banking system can perform the social and economic task which our nation has set for our banks.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARAYA: Sir, since it is quite evident from the hon. Minister's reply that the recommendations of the Narasimham Committee are one of the main issues in this strike by the bank employees, I would like to ask the hon. Minister, through you, whether the Government would consider a full discussion of the

report in the House before implementing any of these recommendations.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: Sir, the report is now a public property. It has been laid on the Table of the House. We will hold discussions with various groups. I propose to discuss it with Bank Chairmen and I will be happy to discuss it with bank employees also. If considered necessary we can also have a discussion.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARAYA: Sir, I was asking the Minister whether any of the recommendations would be implemented before such a discussion is held.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: No.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Sir, it has been implemented already without any discussion. The SLR has been reduced from 38.5 per cent to 30 per cent. That is part of the recommendations.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): You object everything that the Government wants to do.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: I think you know that even you will be affected by that.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: You want to put spokes in everything which the Government wants to do.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Yes, we will put a spoke to every bad thing that the Government wants to do.

(Interruptions)

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: You mislead everyone.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Sir, Please see that the Minister behaves as a Minister and not in this fashion.

MR. SPEAKER: I expect the Finance Minister to reply and none else.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Sir, this is a very serious matter. How can another Minister stand up like this?

MR. SPEAKER: It was not necessary for the Members to talk to other Members also.

[Translation]

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: Three Finance Ministers are sitting here (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Joshi Ji Sir, you are speaking without permission.

[English]

I expect the Members not to talk to each other. I expect the Members to get up and speak with the permission of the Chair. I expect that the question should be relevant to the point and only the Minister concerned should reply and none else.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Speaker, Sir the hon. Minister has stated that the Narasimham Committee report is now public property and the interests of the workers and the public sector banks will be protected. According to the report of the Reserve Bank published a month back, till the end of September there was a 17.4% increase in the deposits in the country within a period of 12 months whereas the money deposited in the foreign banks registered an increase of 34.3% which is almost double. The increase in the deposits of Indian Banks is 11.1% which is only one third of the increase in the deposits of foreign banks. The report given by the Narasimham Committee reflects the sad state of affairs in Indian Banks. What steps are being contemplated to deal with this state of affairs?

[English]

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is my honest conviction that the Indian banking system needs more competition. The service conditions in the Indian banks today are not what those who deal with the banks feel ought to be. That is why, people go to the foreign banks.

I believe, the time has come when we must face up to the harsh realities. I receive a large number of representations from the Indian workers settled in the Middle East. They write to me, "Well, if we send our money to the Indian banks, it takes two months. In the *havala* market, it takes 48 hours." How, the House can make up its mind whether this country can live with the banking system when these transactions take three months. This is the sad state of affairs.

I think, all sections of this House must reflect that the banking system is the nerve centre of the economic system. If the banking system is in this shape, this country will remain in the present sad state of affairs. (*Interruptions.*)

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Speaker, Sir, please listen to me, my question has not been replied. The hon. Minister has admitted that foreign Banks will be brought to India and Indian Banks will be closed. My question was as to what measures Government proposes to take to improve our Banking system? Behaviour of Bank employees is a separate thing. (*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not forget that you are being watched.

Tugs in Cochin Port

*254. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of tugs in Cochin Port at present;

(b) the number of those which are operational;

(c) the number of tugs which are proposed to be replaced in future;

(d) whether there is any proposal to purchase new tugs for the Cochin Port; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) At present, there are four tugs at Cochin Port.

(b) All the four Tugs are operational.

(c) Out of four Tugs, two are proposed to be replaced.

(d) and (e). It is proposed to procure two tugs in replacement of existing two tugs 'Bristow' and 'Shaktan'. Orders for these tugs have already been placed.

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: I am thankful to the hon. Minister for taking immediate action for giving the order to replace the old two tugs.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister when will the two tugs which are under manufacture, be commissioned and what will be the cost effect?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: I would like to inform the hon. Member that delivery period for the first tug is April 1993 and the second tug is July, 1993. He will also be happy to know that we are one month ahead of the schedule.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: The hon. Minister visits Cochin port two times in a month. He has seen how potential is the Cochin port to compare with Colombo. I would like to know what modernisation steps the hon. Minister proposes to take in regard to Cochin port.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: We are developing container terminal. We have already relaxed cabotage law. In view of these two relaxations and with the new development, we expect to make this port competitive to the Colombo port.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Loans for Developmental Projects in Bihar

*250. SHRI LALIT ORAON: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of loans sanctioned by the Union Government to the Government of Bihar for developmental projects during 1990-91 and 1991-92;

(b) whether any complaints have been received that these loans have not been utilised properly; and

(c) if so, the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) The loans Sanctioned by the Government of India to Bihar under various heads like Central assistance for State Plan, collection of Small Savings etc., are Rs. 948.83 crores during 1990-91 and Rs. 729.61 crores, so far, during 1991-92.

(b) Some complaints have been received regarding improper utilisation of development funds.

(c) Central assistance is given for the annual plan of the State in the form of loans and grants. The funds meant for development purposes in a State are subject to audit

by the Accountant General of the concerned State. According to Constitutional provision, the reports of the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India relating to the accounts of a State are submitted to the Governor of the State, who causes them to be laid before the Legislature of the State. The State Legislature takes appropriate action in regard to improper utilisation of development funds, if any, in the State.

[English]

Exports to Japan

*251. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether export of manufactured goods to Japan has been showing an upward trend;

(b) if so, the details of the goods being exported at present;

(c) the foreign exchange earnings from export of such goods during the last two financial years; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to further promote the export of manufactured goods to Japan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. These include leather and manufactures, gem and jewellery, sports goods, chemicals and pharmaceuticals, rubber products, machinery and instruments, engineering items and textile items.

(c) As per DGCI&S's statistics, exports of manufactured goods i.e. goods other than agricultural and plantation products, minerals and ores have been as under:-

1989-90	1989-90	1990-91 (In Rs. Crores)
	1489	1517

(d) Besides increasing the competitive strength of our industry through various policy measures, these include periodical review of bilateral trade, participation in international fairs in Japan, exchange of business delegations, market surveys and the like.

Expenditure of Coffee Board

*253. SHRI C.P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA:
SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of administrative expenditure of the Coffee Board during the last three years;

(b) whether there is a steady increase in the expenditure; and

(c) if so, the corrective measures proposed to be taken to minimise it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The amount of administrative expenditure of Coffee Board covering pay and allowances, travel, maintenance of vehicles and contingencies during the last 3 years is given below:-

Year	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1988-89	1,037.48
1989-90	1,120.59
1990-91	1,227.29

(b) There is increase in the administra-

tive expenditure of the Coffee Board due to increase in Dearness Allowance etc.

(c) The Coffee Board has taken following measures to reduce administrative expenditure:-

- (a) Some posts have been identified as surplus and they are being phased out.
- (b) The Coffee Board is identifying other surplus posts with a view to phase them out.
- (c) No recruitments have been made since April 1991.
- (d) 12.12 percent of telephones in the Offices of the Coffee Board are being surrendered.
- (e) Overtime allowances to the staff has been restricted.
- (f) Expenditure on vehicles is closely monitored.

Supply of Hank Yarn to Handloom Weavers

*255. SHRI ANNA JOSHI:
SHRIMATI RITA VERMA:-

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of hank yarn provided to handloom weavers through Government and semi-Government agencies during 1991,

State-wise;

(b) the financial assistance provided to yarn manufacturing units during the above period, State-wise; and

(c) the financial assistance provided to apex co-operative societies under the Market Development Scheme during the above period, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT):

(a) The State-wise details of hank yarn supplied to handloom weavers and their organisations by the National Handloom Development Corporation (NHDC) and the State Co-operative Spinning Mills during 1990-91 are given in the attached Statement - I.

(b) The State-wise/Scheme-wise details of financial assistance provided through the National Co-operative Development Corporation (NCDC) to Co-operative Spinning Mills during 1990-91 and 1991-92 (upto December 1991) are given in the attached Statement - II.

(c) Under the Market Development Assistance Scheme (MDAS) implemented in the handloom sector, assistance is provided to State/National Level Apex Handloom Co-operative Societies, Handloom Development Corporations and Primary Handloom Co-operative Societies. The State-wise details of Market Development Assistance released to state Apex Handloom Co-operative Societies during 1991 (January-December) are given in the attached Statement- III.

STATEMENT-I

Details of Hank Yarn supplied by NHDC and Co-operative Spinning Mills to handloom weavers and their organisations.

(Quantity in lakh kgs)

Sl.No	Name of the State	Sold by Co-op. Spg. Mills during 1990-91	Supplied by NHDC	
			1990-91	1991-92 (upto Jan.' 92)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	36.58	12.64	3.84
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	0.15	0.01
3.	Assam	—	14.10	5.46
4.	Bihar	—	6.08	4.45
5.	Delhi	—	0.01	0.01
6.	Gujarat	0.09	0.47	0.33
7.	Haryana	0.60	0.45	4.86
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	1.50	0.04
9.	Karnataka	15.43	9.90	7.02
10.	Kerala	6.56	0.95	1.98
11.	Madhya Pradesh	3.29	15.26	4.22
12.	Maharashtra	61.31	8.14	3.18
13.	Manipur	—	0.46	—
14.	Meghalaya	—	0.08	0.01
15.	Mizoram	—	—	0.04
16.	Orissa	26.53	5.82	0.56
17.	Pondicherry	1.00	0.11	0.34
18.	Punjab	5.76	—	0.01

Sl.No	Name of the State	Sold by Co-op. Spg. Mills during 1990-91	Supplied by NHDC	
			1990-91	1991-92 (upto Jan. '92)
1	2	3	4	5
19.	Rajasthan	0.27	3.52	1.04
20.	Sikkim	—	0.01	0.11
21.	Tamil Nadu	114.42	13.54	4.69
22.	Tripura	—	1.39	0.50
23.	Uttar Pradesh	73.79	34.74	1.57
24.	West Bengal	10.75	9.94	1.02
Total		356.38	139.26	45.29

STATEMENT-II

State-wise assistance provided by NCDC to Co-operative Spinning Mills during 1990-91 and 1991-92 (upto (December, 1991)

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the Scheme	1990-91		1991-92 (upto Dec. '91)	
		Sanction	Release	Sanction	Release
1	2	3	4	5	6
A.	Centrally Sponsored Scheme for share capital participation in Growers' Cooperative Spinning Mills				
	i) Maharashtra	660.71	150.00	—	225.00
	ii) Orissa	506.25	50.00	—	54.38
B.	Central Sector Scheme for share capital participation in Weavers' Cooperative Spinning Mills:				
	i) Kerala	—	45.00	—	—

Sl.No	Name of the State	Sold by Co-op. Spg. Mills during 1990-91	Supplied by NHDC	
			1990-91	1991-92 (upto Jan.' 92)
1	2	3	4	5
C. Corporation Sponsored Scheme for margin money assistance to Cooperative Spinning Mills:				
i)	Karnataka	—	23.107	—
ii)	Tamil Nadu	10.75	49.26	—

STATEMENT - III

State-wise details of Market Development Assistance released to Apex Handloom Co-operative Societies during 1991 (January-December)

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Among under MDA Scheme
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	315.95
2.	Assam	20.84
3.	Gujarat	1.98
4.	Karnataka	45.00
5.	Kerala	54.00
6.	Madhya Pradesh	37.35
7.	Orissa	158.60
8.	Punjab	11.50
9.	Rajasthan	23.25
10.	Tamil Nadu	1320.95

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Name of the State</i>	<i>Among under MDA Scheme</i>
1	2	3
11.	Tripura	11.92
12.	Uttar Pradesh	130.00
13.	West Bengal	339.42
Total		2470.76

<i>Sl.No</i>	<i>Name of the State</i>	<i>Sold by Co-op. Spg. Mills during 1990-91</i>	<i>Supplied by NHDC 1990-91</i>	<i>1991-92 (upto Jan.' 92)</i>
1	2	3	4	5

D. NCDC-III Agro Industries Project - Cotton Components:

a) Central Sector Scheme for term loan assistance:

i)	Andhra Pradesh	—	1469.625	—	—
ii)	Karnataka	—	100.000	96.00	302.00
iii)	Maharashtra	4017.00	100.000	—	1499.250
iv)	Punjab	—	500.000	462.50	400.00
v)	Rajasthan	—	—	213.63	213.63

b) Corporation Sponsored Scheme for share capital assistance:

i)	Andhra Pradesh	—	891.200	—	—
ii)	Karnataka	—	537.250	42.44	244.97
iii)	Maharashtra	1127.33	1117.600	—	—
iv)	Punjab	—	—	231.25	—

Sl.No	Name of the State	Sold by Co-op. Spg. Mills during 1990-91		Supplied by NHDC 1990-91 1991-92 (upto Jan. '92)	
1	2	3	4	5	
v)	Rajasthan	—	—	170.91	—
Total		6322.04	5033.042	1216.73	2939.23

Grand Total: Sanction : 7538.77

Release : 7972.272 (Including spillover assistance)

[Translation]

Visit of French Delegation

*256. SHRI RATILAL VARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a French delegation visited India during October to December, 1991;

(b) if so, the issues discussed during this visit;

(c) the areas in which the French delegation had proposed to make investment; and

(d) the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir. The following Delegations from France visited India in this period:-

- i) Business Delegation from the Conseil National Patronat Français (CNPF);
- ii) Official Delegation from the Ministry of External Economic Relations;
- iii) Delegation from the French Treasury;

(b) to (d). The French Business Delegation during the 9th Indo-French Joint Business Council Meeting discussed with their Indian Counter-parts the possibilities of enlarging the scope of commercial and industrial cooperation between the two countries. It was agreed that considerable potential existed for Indo-French Collaboration in sectors such as Computer Software, Food Processing, Tele-Communication, Pollution Control Solar Energy, Informatics and Chemicals.

The Two official delegations held discussions with the Ministry of Finance on French aid to India as a result of which two Protocols were signed committing French Assistance of F.F. 299.4 million.

General Insurance Corporation

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

(a) whether the General Insurance Corporation of India is incurring losses;

(b) if so, the details in this regard during the last three years;

(c) the reasons therefor;

(d) whether any complaints have been

received regarding the involvement of dummy agents charging illegal commission from the corporation;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the reasons therefor; and

(g) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

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

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

(d) No, Sir.

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

[English]

National Stock Exchange

*259. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL:
SHRI S.B. SIDNAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to establish a National Stock Exchange;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to become operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c). Government have approved in principle, the establishment of a National Stock Exchange at New Bombay by the Infra-structure Leasing and Financial Services Limited. It is intended that this Exchange would function as a model Ex-

change and would provide access to investors from various parts of the Country. It is difficult to indicate at this stage the time by which it will become operational since the Exchange is yet to be granted recognition under the provisions of the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956.

Foreign Currency (Non Resident) Account Scheme

*260. SHRI E. AHAMED: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have introduced any changes in the Foreign currency (non-resident) Account Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the increase/decrease in the deposits under the scheme as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). The Foreign Currency (Non-resident) Account Scheme has been further liberalised in the following manner with a view to making it more attractive to NRIs:

1. The amount of loan/overdraft which may be granted by authorised dealers to the FCNR Account holders for purposes other than investment in India has been raised from Rs. 5 lakhs to Rs. 10 lakhs.
2. Authorised dealers have been permitted to grant Rupee loans/overdrafts upto Rs. 10 lakhs to the FCNR Account Holders for purposes of making direct investment on non-repatriation basis in the capital of Indian firms/companies engaged in approved activities. Hitherto, clearance of RBI was required for this purpose.

3. Authorised dealers have been permitted to grant loan/overdraft facilities to resident individual/firms/companies in India against collateral of fixed deposits held in FCNR Accounts subject to certain condition without reference to the RBI.
4. Loans granted to Account holders themselves against their FCNR deposits can now be repaid from Rupee funds held in their Non-Resident Ordinary Account subject to the condition that interest payable on such loans would be commercial rates.

(c) The position of outstanding balance under the FCNR Scheme is given below month-wise from August, 1991:-

<i>Month</i>	<i>Rs. in crores</i>
August, 1991	14838
Sept., 1991	14455
Oct., 1991	14144
Nov., 1991	14071
Dec., 1991	14263
Jan., 1992	14173

Newsprint Import

*281. SHRI BHAGEY
GOBARDHAN:
SHRI LOKANATH CH-
OUDHURY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether any irregularities in the import of newsprint have been detected

recently as reported in the Times of India dated February 9, 1992;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated loss suffered by the government;

(d) whether the Government have investigated or propose to investigate the alleged irregularities;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to check recurrence of such irregularities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (f). Government have noted the Newspaper report in the Times of India dated 9.2.92. The facts in the matter are as follows:

- i) STC purchased 9000 MTs of glazed newsprint from FINNPAP in October, 1991 at a FOB rate of \$ 609 PMT with option to purchase an additional quantity of 5000 MTs.
- ii) On 30.12.1991, S.T.C. decided to exercise the option for purchase of this additional quantity of 5000 MTs from FINNPAP at the FOB rate of \$ 609 PMT.
- iii) On the basis of a complaint received in January, 1992 that the international price was lower than \$ 609 PMT FOB, the STC had advised the supplier FINNPAP not to go ahead with the production till such time they hear from STC in the matter.
- iv) S.T.C. is now seeking legal opinion before cancelling the contract for

purchase of the additional 5000 MTs optional quantity.

[Translation]

Carpet Weaving Training Centres

*262. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATH RAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of carpet weaving training centres in the country, Statewise;

(b) the number of such training centres closed down during each of the last three years;

(c) the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government propose to set up some new training centres in these States;

(e) if so, the proposed locations thereof and the time by which these centres are likely to be set up; and

(f) the total number of persons trained in carpet weaving during the above period and the total amount of loans/grants given to them under the self-employment scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) State-wise details of Carpet Weaving Training Centres run departmentally by the Union Government are tabled in the statement attached.

(b) and (c). No centre has been closed down during the last 3 years. However, the Carpet Weaving Training Centres are peripatetic in nature and are shifted from one place to another according to training needs.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise:

(f) The total number of trainees trained in carpet weaving during the last 3 years is as under:-

1988-89	8212
1989-90	6230
1990-91	6554

Information regarding the amount of loans/grants given to the trainees under the self-employment scheme is not available as this comes under the purview of the State Governments.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Massive Training Centres	Advanced Training Centres	Washing Centres	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Uttar Pradesh	91	60	4	155
2.	Jammu & Kashmir	118	57	—	175
3.	Bihar	25	4	1	30

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Name of the State</i>	<i>Massive Training Centres</i>	<i>Advanced Training Centres</i>	<i>Washing Centres</i>	<i>Total</i>
1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	Rajasthan	13	—	—	13
5.	Madhya Pradesh	18	—	1	19
6.	Haryana	4	1	—	5
7.	Punjab	4	1	—	5
8.	Himachal Pradesh	4	—	—	4
9.	Andhra Pradesh	15	4	—	19
10.	Tamil Nadu	3	—	—	3
11.	Karnataka	5	—	—	5
12.	West Bengal	4	—	—	4
		304	127	6	437

[English]

Mutual Funds

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

(a) the number of Mutual Fund Schemes sponsored by Nationalised Banks, Unit Trust of India, Life Insurance Corporation, General Insurance Corporation so far;

(b) whether the Government propose to give permission to private sector to start Mutual Fund Schemes; and

(c) if so, the details thereof including the terms and conditions to be imposed on them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c). The number of schemes launched so far by UTI and Mutal Funds is given below:-

<i>Name</i>	<i>No. of Schemes</i>
Unit Trust of India	52
SBI Mutual Fund	12
Canbank Mutual Fund	14
Indian Bank Mutual Fund	7
BOI Mutual Fund	4
PNB Mutual Fund	4
LIC Mutual Fund	15
GIC Mutual Fund	3
Total	111

Government have decided to permit establishment of mutual funds in the private sector. A comprehensive set of prudential guidelines for the development and regulation of all mutual funds which invest primarily in the capital market and for ensuring investor protection, has been issued on February 14, 1992. The regulatory framework under these guidelines includes inter alia authorisation of Mutual Funds by the Securities and Exchange Board of India on the basis of certain eligibility criteria, restrictions on their business activities, disclosure and accounting requirements and penal provisions for violation of these guidelines.

Third World Insurance Congress

*264. SHRIDHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the first ever Third World Insurance Congress was held at New Delhi on February 17, 1992;

(b) if so, the main topics discussed therein; and

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

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

(b) Broadly, the following topics were discussed:

1. Regional Co-operation
2. Life Insurance
3. Agricultural Insurance
4. Insurance and Investment

5. Reinsurance

6. Role of Supervisory Authority in Insurance, Reinsurance and Security Analysis

7. Management, Education, Training and Personnel Aspects.

(c) The resolutions passed by the Third World Insurance Congress relating to Strengthening of Supervisory Authorities in Changing Economies; Need for Insurance Education and Training; Agricultural Insurance; Regional Reinsurance Exchange; and Training Forums for Supervisory Authority have been noted by the Government as well as the General Insurance Corporation of India for action at the appropriate stage.

[Translation]

Smuggling of Sandal Wood

2779. SHRI BARE LAL JATAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether instances of smuggling of sandal wood from Ujjain to foreign countries have come to the notice of the Government during 1992;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantity of sandal wood seized and the details of the persons involved in such smuggling activities; and

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken against the guilty persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (d). The jurisdictional Customs authorities have not reported any instance of smuggling of sandal wood from Ujjain to foreign countries in the recent past.

[English]

**Refinance Facilities by NHB to
Karnataka State Agricultural Rural
Development Bank**

2780. SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Housing Bank, Bombay has extended refinance facilities to Karnataka State Agricultural Rural Development Bank for house construction and repairs in rural areas;

(b) if so, the total amount of loan provided by the National Housing Bank;

(c) whether the Karnataka Government has utilised the same;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). Under the Scheme for subscription to 'Special Rural Housing Debentures' (SRHDs) formulated by National Housing Bank (NHB) in 1989 for providing financial assistance to the State Cooperative Land Development Banks (SCLDBs), NHB has extended financial assistance to the Karnataka State Cooperative Agricultural and Rural Development Banks Ltd. (KSCARDB) by way of subscription to such debentures which have been floated by KSCARDB in respect of housing loans disbursed by them in rural areas of Karnataka through their Primary Land Development Banks (PLDBs) for acquisition/construction of new housing units and for upgradation including major repairs. The total amount of financial assistance provided by NHB to KSCARDB by way of subscription to Special Rural Housing Debentures amounted to Rs. 222.32 lakhs.

(c) to (e). Special Rural Housing Debentures floated by KSCARDB are subscribed by NHB after the housing loans have been disbursed by the Primary Land Development Banks to the ultimate beneficiaries against creation of mortgage. The above mentioned amount of Rs. 222.32 lakhs housing loans disbursed by the Primary Land Development Banks has been utilised to finance construction of 425 new houses and repairs to 515 old houses spread over 14 districts in the State of Karnataka.

**Retrenchment of Workers in Export
Promotion Councils**

2781. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have retrenched a number of employees in the Export Promotion Councils;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to cancel the retrenchment orders and to ensure the standard and quality of the products proposed to be exported?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No, Sir.

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

**Assistance by NABARD to Andhra
Pradesh**

2782. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the credit requirement put forward by Andhra Pradesh to the National bank for Agriculture and Rural Development during 1991-92;

(b) whether the Bank has provided the entire requirement; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that credit limits to State Coopera-

tive Banks and loans to State Government are sanctioned by them having regard to the norms and disciplines in force and also having regard to the realistic lending programmes, resources position of the concerned institutions, level of overdues and other relevant factors. Keeping the above aspects into consideration, NABARD has provided the following assistance to Andhra Pradesh during 1991-92:

(Rs. in lakhs)

<i>Purposes</i>	<i>Credit Limit/ Loan applied for</i>	<i>Credit limit/ Loan sanctioned</i>
i) Short-Term (Agricultural) including marketing of crops, produce loans and marketing of forest produce	55735.00	42290.00
ii) Weavers' finance	8913.36	7967.04
iii) Loan to State Govt. for contributing to the share capital of societies.	503.37	293.68

Development of Kaklnada Port

2783. SHRI. K.V.R. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to convert Kakinada Port into a major Port; and

(b) if so, the details of the steps taken up by the government for development of this port?

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

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Increase in Export quota for Textiles by USA

2784. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the deliberations held between India and the United States of America in Washington for increasing export-quota of textiles from India;

(b) the steps being taken by the Government thereon; and

(c) if not, steps are being taken the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) to (c). Following negotiations between representatives of the Government of India and United States of America, an understanding was reached on the access level for export of textile and clothing products in the US market for 1992. According to this, there are increases in the quotas for certain products. In respect of some products, certain additional flexibilities will be available which will result in increased export opportunities. It is expected that, as a result of these changes, there will be a significant increase in the exports to US market during 1992.

[English]

Violation of Human Rights by Armed forces

2785. SHRISYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received allegations regarding violation of human rights and abuse of power by the armed forces in various States during last three years;

(b) if so, whether these allegations have been enquired into; and

(c) the particulars of allegations and the outcome of the enquiry in major cases and the action taken against the personnel concerned, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) to (c). There have been no allegations against the Navy or the Air Force. However, certain complaints have been received on the Army side.

Of the 344 writ petitions alleging illegal detention, illegal interrogation, harassment and torture of detenus by the Army in Assam, the Guwahati High Court has disposed of 292 cases. Of these, in 291 cases, the allegations have been found to be unsubstantiated. The other cases are pending disposal by the High Court.

11 cases of alleged excesses on civilian population in Jammu & Kashmir have come to Government's notice. These have been enquired into and disciplinary action against the persons found guilty has already been initiated.

The Indian Army is a highly patriotic and professional Armed Force. It has been performing its duty under extremely difficult circumstances, in keeping with its highest traditions. Even where minor deviations from the laid down norms and procedures were established, stern action has been taken against the defaulting personnel.

Organisation of Seminars/Conferences/Workshops

2786. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:
SHRIMATI MAHENDRA KUMARI:
SHRIMATI RITA VERMA:
SHRI ANNA JOSHI:

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

(a) the number of Seminars/Conference/Workshops organised directly and indirectly by his Ministry during 1989, 1990 and 1991; and

(b) the amount of expenditure incurred thereon during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b). The

number of Seminars/Conferences/Workshops organised by the Ministry during 1989, 1990 and 1991 and the expenditure incurred thereon are as follows:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of Seminars/Conferences/Workshops organised</i>	<i>Amount of expenditure incurred</i>
1989	4	23912/-
1990	4	1,42,444/-
1991	3	12,940/-

Indo-Hungarian Cooperation

2787. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to expand some areas under co-operation with Hungary;

(b) if so, the specific areas where Indo-Hungary joint co-operation are proposed to be established and expanded;

(c) whether any decision has been taken in that direction in the Indo-Hungarian Joint Business Council meeting held in January last; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Efforts are being made to expand bilateral trade with Hungary. These, inter alia, include expansion and diversification of the basket of goods traded, setting up of joint ventures, encouraging participation in trade fairs and exhibitions, exchange of commercial and business delegations.

(c) and (d). In the tenth meeting of Indo-

Hungarian Joint Business Council held in New Delhi on the 23rd January, 1992, the main areas identified for setting up of Joint ventures in Hungary were textiles, garments, leather and leather products, automobile components, electronics, food processing, tourism and hotel industry. The prospects for improving trade between two countries were also discussed in the meeting and the thrust items identified for export from India to Hungary were computers, computers software, machinery and equipment, compressors, pumps, household consumer goods, readymade garments, electrical goods processed foods, electronic items etc.

Export Focus on some items

2788. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have selected some items which will receive the exports focus of his Ministry; and

(b) if so, details thereof alongwith the items those have been selected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). The Government has selected 15 (fifteen) broad sectors, for making special thrust in markets abroad,

without minimising the importance of increasing exports from the other sectors. The 15 thrust sectors are: (1) Tea, especially in package and value added forms; (2) Cereals, (3) Processed foods, including fruit and juices, meat and meat products and fresh fruits & vegetables; (4) Marine products, especially in value added forms; (5) Iron ore; (6) Leather and leather manufactures, with an emphasis on the latter; (7) Handicrafts and jewellery; (8) Capital goods and consumer durables; (9) Electronic goods and computer software; (10) Basic chemicals; (11) Fabrics, piece-goods and made-ups; (12) Readymade garments; (13) Woollen fabrics and knitwear; (14) Projects and services; and (15) Granite.

Income-Tax outstanding against top 20 Defaulters

2789. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of Income-tax outstanding against each of the top 20 defaulters as

on March 1, 1992; and

(b) the steps being taken to recover the outstanding dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The latest information compiled by the Ministry regarding 20 taxpayers against whom maximum amount of income-tax demand was outstanding, is as on 31.12.1991 and it is given in the statement enclosed.

(b) Suitable administrative and legal steps are taken to recover the outstanding dues and recovery action in all these cases is periodically monitored at the level of Commissioner of Income-tax and above. In most of the cases demand is disputed in appeals, etc. and the appellate authorities have been requested to dispose of the appeals on priority basis. In some cases, adjustment of tax refunds against these demands or appeal effect or verification of tax payments in pending.

STATEMENT

S.No. Name of the persons

Amount of Income-tax demand outstanding as on 31.12.1991 (Rs. in crores)

1.	Oil & Natural Gas Commission	495.81
2.	GTC Industries Ltd.	179.66
3.	Peerless General Finance & Investment Co., Ltd.	119.38
4.	Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.	109.11
5.	State Bank of India	82.62
6.	Hindustan Cables Ltd.	63.12
7.	Dunlop India Ltd.	59.99

<i>S.No.</i>	<i>Name of the persons</i>	<i>Amount of Income-tax demand outstanding as on 31.12.1991 (Rs. in crores)</i>
8.	Continental Construction Ltd.	47.53
9.	National Organic Chemical Industries Ltd.	47.17
10.	Aditya Finance & Inv. (I) Ltd.	45.63
11.	United Bank of India	44.61
12.	Modi Rubber Ltd.	40.73
13.	Deposit Insurance & Credit Guarantee Corporation	37.63
14.	Modi Pon Ltd.	36.38
15.	Reliance Petro Chemicals Ltd.	33.88
16.	J.K. Synthetics Ltd.	32.02
17.	Escorts Ltd.	31.74
18.	Sanchaita Investment	30.81
19.	Vinod Kumar Didwania	31.34
20.	Sukar Bhai Narain Bhai Bakhia	30.39

* Subsequently, the demand has been reduced to NIL.

Disinvestment of Share Capital in Banks

2790. **SHRI DATTATRAYA BANSAL:**
SHRIMATI DIPIKA H. TOPIWALA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to dis-invest their share capital in public sector banks;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to allot such disinvested share capital to the employees of the respective banks; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) There is no such proposal under consideration of Government at present.

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

Export of MICA Scrap

2791. SHRI PIUS TIRKEY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bihar Mica Exporters Association (BMEA) has called for the removal of curbs on the export of mica scrap/waste and for revision of the minimum export price of mica products;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the government in this regard;

(d) the foreign exchange earned by the export of mica during each of the last three years; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to increase its export?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). Bihar Mica Exporters Association, Giridi has represented requesting for decontrol of export of mica scrap/waste and review of MEP for mica flakes/power.

(c) There is no proposal presently under consideration for a further review of the export policy of mica scrap/waste. MEP for mica and mica products, including mica flakes/power is reviewed periodically.

(d) Export of mica and mica products during the last three years has been as under:-

Year	Value (in Rs. lakh)
1988-90	5027
1989-90	5123
1990-91	5153

(e) Review of the Export Policy and minimum export prices in respect of mica and mica products, settling up of downstream projects, for manufacture of finished mica products for export and establishment of R&D Centre are some of the steps taken/proposed to be taken to increase export of mica and mica products.

Task force for development of Powerlooms

2792. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any task force has been set up by the Government to assess the existing development of credit to powerlooms in the decentralised sectors and to augment its availability for their modernisation and working capital; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Task Force Committee was constituted by the Ministry of Textiles in May, 1987. The main purpose of the Task Force Committee was to study and recommended schemes for making available credit to decentralised powerloom sector, and to assess the requirement of working capital and credit, and make special recommendations regarding measures to be taken to augment swift credit to the decentralised powerloom sector.

Major recommendations of the Task Force Committee had been that one time requirement of funds for working capital and for modernisation be made available which could be enhanced in subsequent years. These loans should be on the terms and conditions which are applicable to SSI Units.

State governments should encourage co-operativisation in the powerloom sector. State level Apex marketing institutions be encouraged for marketing activities.

Repair of D.T.C. Buses

2793. SHRIMATI DIPIKA H. TOPIWALA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of D.T.C. buses which are out of order/damaged and are standing idle in various depots as on January 31, 1992, depot-wise; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to get them repaired at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Depot-wise details of DTC buses which were out of order/damaged as on 31.1.92 are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) Steps have been taken to ensure scheduled outsheddng of 90% buses. The D.T.C. follows a two-tier unit replacement based maintenance management system where in periodical maintenance, day to day repairs, various dockings, unit replacement, etc. are taking place at the first tier i.e. the depot workshop. Reconditioning of assemblies, retreading/repairs of tyres, major/accidental repairs, etc. are taken up at the second tier, i.e. Central Workshops.

For the above tasks, about 10% of the vehicles are daily detained (except on Saturdays, Sundays, Gazetted Holidays) in Depot Workshops for various preventive maintenance, activities/docking i.e. 8000 kms., 24,000 kms MVI and accident/major repairs etc.

STATEMENT

<i>Depot</i>	<i>Number of buses out of order/damaged</i>
Nand Nagri Depot	2
Patpar Ganj Depot	5
Shahdara Depot-II	2
Dhichaun Kalan Depot	6
Hari Nagar Depot-II	3
Shadipur Depot	2
Peera Garhi Depot	3
G.T. Karnal Depot	1
Wazirpur Depot-II	2
Rohini Depot-I	1
Kalkaji Depot	3
Okhla Depot-I	1
Sarojini Nagar Depot	1
Banda Bahadur Marg Depot-I	6
Noida Depot	3
Shahdara Depot-I	3
Yamuna Vihar Depot	1
Hari Nagar Depot-I	1
Hari Nagar Depot-III	1
Raja Garden Depot	1
Bawana Depot	1

<i>Depot</i>	<i>Number of buses out of order/damaged</i>
Nangloi Depot	1
Wazirpur Depot-III	1
Rohini Depot-III	1
Nehru Place Depot	2
Okhla Depot-II	2
Vasant Vihar Depot	4
Indraprastha Depot	3
Total	63

In addition, 19 Vehicles were held up in Central Workshop-I of DTC for major repairs.

Imports and Exports

2794. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of import and export position of the country in the three quarters of the years 1990-91 and 1991-92;

(b) whether any scheme to improve the level of export and import of the year 1992-93 is under the consideration of the Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) India's imports during the first three quarters of the financially year 1991-92 i.e. April-December, 1991 amounted to Rs. 34238 crores as compared to Rs. 31724 crores during April-December, 1990,

thereby registering an increase of 7.9%. In dollar terms, imports registered a decline of 20.5%. INDIA'S EXPORTS TO General Currency area (GCA) amounted to Rs. 27133 crores during April-December, 1991 as compared to Rs. 18785 crores during April-December, 1990 thereby registering an increase of 44.4%. In dollar terms, the GCA exports registered an increase of 6.3%. India's exports to Rupee Payment Area (RPA) amounted to Rs. 3199 crores during April-December, 1991 as compared to Rs. 4404 crores during April-December, 1990, thereby registering a decline of 27.4%. In dollar terms, the RPA exports registered a decline of 46.5%.

(b) to (d). The Government introduced a package of policy reforms aimed at strengthening of export incentives, and eliminating substantial volume of import licensing. These include: partial convertibility of Rupee, reduction in tariff rates, removal of licensing on most of the imports barring imports of sensitive items, strengthening of advance licensing system etc. Besides, Govt. Have taken other steps which include reducing controls through licensing, simplification of procedures for exports, activation of Board of Trade, bilateral discussions with selected countries, interaction with national organisations of trade and industry, etc.

Letters from MPs

2795. SHRIRAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of letters received by him from the Members of Parliament during the last fifteen months, month-wise;

(b) the number of those which were acknowledged/not acknowledged and given final replies/not given final replies, month-wise; and

(c) the steps taken to expedite the replies and to check such delays in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
 MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) 694 letters were received from Members of Parliament by the Ministry of Law, Justice & Company Affairs during the last 15 months. Month-wise details of the letters received are given in the enclosed Statement

(b) and (c). Letters from the Members of Parliament were invariably acknowledged.

All letters received from the Members of Parliament since June, 1991 have been acknowledged. Final replies were given in 139 cases, details of which are given in the above mentioned enclosed statement Annexure. Information in respect of the remaining letters is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House. In accordance with extant instructions, priority is accorded to the work of replying to the letters of Members of Parliament. Disposal of such cases are regularly monitored at the highest level and remedial steps are taken wherever necessary.

STATEMENT

<i>Month</i>	<i>No. of letters received by Ministry of Law, Justice & Company Affairs month-wise</i>	<i>Final Replies were given, month-wise by Ministry of Law, Justice & Company Affairs</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
1. December, 1990	7	2
2. January, 1991	50	9
3. February, 1991	24	3
4. March, 1991	36	12
5. April, 1991	13	7
6. May, 1991	15	10
7. June, 1991	9	7
8. July, 1991	22	9
9. August, 1991	114	24
10. September, 1991	117	8
11. October, 1991	64	10
12. November, 1991	50	8
13. December, 1991	72	11

<i>Month</i>	<i>No. of letters received by Ministry of Law, Justice & Company Month</i>	<i>Final Replies were given, month-wise by Ministry of Law, Justice & Company No. of letters received Final</i>
14. January, 1992	70	14
15. February, 1992	31	7
Total	694	139

Settlement of Cash Compensatory Support Claims

2796. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:
SHRI SASHI PRAKASH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a strategy to settle over Rs. 1000 crore of pending claims of ash Compensatory Support has been finalised by his Ministry;

(b) if so, the main features of the scheme;

(c) to what extent the disbursement of CCS claims to exporters will be made;

(d) whether the Finance Ministry has been asked to increase CCS allocations so that settlement can be made; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (e). In December 1991 various licensing offices had projected fund requirement for payment of pending CCS claims around Rs. 1190 crores. Ministry of Finance was accordingly approached, for release of the requisite funds. A sum of Rs. 410 crores was released by the Ministry of Finance on this account and the same has been disbursed to various licensing offices

in Jan, Feb., 1992. A further sum of Rs. 260 crores has been provided in the RE for 1991-92 and Rs. 300 crores in the BE for 1992-93. Further allocation of funds will be made to various licensing offices on receipt of the same from the Min. of Finance.

[Translation]

Reduction in number of Employees in Various Departments

2797. SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have constituted any committee to make a review for reducing the number of employees in various Departments of Commerce Ministry;

(b) if so, the time by which the aforesaid committee has been asked to submit its report; and

(c) the criteria adopted by the committee for reducing the number of employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c). A departmental Committee under the Chairmanship of Additional Chief Controller of Imports & Exports and consisting of four others namely JCCI & E (CLA), New Delhi, Deputy Secretary (Admn.), Ministry of Commerce, Deputy

Secretary (Finance), Ministry of Commerce and Jt. CCI&E(Admin.) has been constituted to assess the workload of CCI&E (now DGIT) organisation and its staff requirement in the light of new Trade Policy. The Committee has not been given any time frame to submit its report but is expected to give its recommendations as early as possible. The Committee is expected to take all relevant criteria into account while presenting its report.

[English]

Structural Adjustments in Agricultural Field

2798. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank, the International Monetary fund and the General Agreement on Trade and Tariff have suggested some structural adjustments in the field of agriculture;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) whether the above agencies have also suggested free trade in agricultural items; and

(d) if so, its likely effects on the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d). There is no suggestion jointly from the World Bank, the IMF and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade on structural adjustment in the field of agriculture. However, in August, 1991, the World Bank prepared a Country Economic Memorandum entitled "Agriculture - challenges and Opportunities" covering some aspects of agriculture in India. Some of the main recommendations concerning the agriculture sector relate to increasing overall allocations for agriculture, selective opening up

of agriculture sector to the world markets, improving the efficiency of agricultural investments, rationalising subsidies and targeting them towards deserving people, diversification of agriculture to meet the growing demands, providing better incentives to farmers for crop production and revitalisation of rural banking. The Report advocates integration of Indian agriculture to the rest of the World agriculture economy and places major emphasis on market signals and privatisation as a guiding factor for promoting investments in agriculture.

Some of the recommendations of the Report relating to improving the efficiency of agricultural investments are consistent with the Government of India's policies on agriculture. However, integration of Indian agriculture to the rest of the World Agricultural Economy has to be selective and reciprocal. Similarly, while markets and privatisation have their role, there are certain limitations in their functioning in Indian agriculture, particularly in the case of rain-fed agriculture.

In the Uruguay Round, the proposals on trade in agriculture put forward by Mr. Arthur Dunkel, Director General, GATT envisage progressive reduction of levels of protection and subsidisation of agriculture by the GATT member countries. It is further proposed that countries with a balance of payments problem would be allowed to use quantitative restrictions on imports. For developing countries the proposals envisage special and differential treatment in terms of exemption of certain policies and higher de-minimis level below which they are not required to undertake any commitments.

Analysis of the Dunkel text by Government has led to the conclusion that India would not be adversely affected by the proposals on trade in agriculture.

Export of Ayurvedic and Unani Drugs

2799. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a tremendous increase in Export of Ayurvedic, Unani and other medicines during the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the foreign exchange earned therefrom; and

(c) the assistance/support provided or proposed to be provided to the companies manufacturing these drugs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c). The value of export of Ayurvedic, Unani and Siddha Medicines/ drugs in indicated below:-

1988-89	Rs. 6.47 crores.
1989-90	Rs. 2.92 crores.
1990-91	Rs. 7.29 crores.
1991-92 (April to January)	Rs. 1.90 crores.

Although many of the Ayurvedic, Unani and Siddha medicines have export potential, exports of these medicines have not been very significant, particularly due to problems connected with lengthy and cumbersome procedure for registration of drugs laid down by the health authorities of overseas countries. Moreover, the manufacturers of Ayurvedic, Unani and Siddha medicines do not have the same kind of clinical data to back their products up as is available for Allopathic medicines. Many countries have restrictions on use of this group of medicines because of presence of Metal Oxides in them.

In order to popularise the use of Ayurvedic Medicines in overseas countries, the Basic Chemicals Pharmaceuticals and cosmetics Export Promotion Council (CHEMEXCIL) Bombay, in association with a renowned Ayurvedic Research centre have prepared a monograph on "Selected Medicinal Plants" for publicity abroad and are undertaking all other usual export promotion measures such as sending promotional team abroad and arranging buyer-seller meets etc. to boost exports from this sector.

Export of Betel Leaves

2800. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the steps taken to boost the export of betel leaves during the current year and proposed to be taken during 1992-93?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID): Export of betel leaves is freely allowed on decontrolled basis without any export licence formalities. the agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), an autonomous body under the Ministry of Commerce, assists exporters, *inter-alia* of betel leaves.

Financial Assistance by NABARD to Kerala

2801. SHRI T.J. ANJALOSE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of financial assistance provided to Kerala by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development from 1988 to 1991, year-wise; and

(b) the rate of interest charged thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Amount of refinance assistance provided in Kerala State by the National

Bank for Agriculture and rural Development (NABARD) from 1988-89 to 1990-91 under schematic lending is as under:

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Amount
1988-89	7126
1989-90	8005

Year	Amount
1990-91	8158
1991-92 (upto Feb. 1992)	6064

(b) The rates of interest applicable on refinance to banks and on bank loans to beneficiaries are given in attached Statement.

STATEMENT

The rates of interests applicable on refinance to banks and on bank loan to beneficiaries

i) PRIOR TO 22 SEPTEMBER 1990

S.No.	Purpose	Rates of interest	
		Ultimate Borrower	On NABARD's refinance
1	2	3	4
1.	Minor Irrigation	10%	6.5%
2.	Diversified Purposes		
	a) IRDP		
	b) Small Farmers (as per National Bank's definition)	10%	6.5%
	c) Bio gas development		
	d) Others	12.5%	8%

ii) FROM 22 SEPTEMBER 1990 TO 8 OCTOBER 1991

Size of the Loan Sanctioned	Rates of interest (%)	
	Ultimate Borrower	On NABARD's refinance
1	2	3
Upto and inclusive of Rs. 7500	10.0	
Over Rs. 7500 and upto Rs. 15000	11.5	6.5

<i>Size of the Loan Sanctioned</i>	<i>Rates of interest (%)</i>	
	<i>Ultimate Borrower</i>	<i>On NABARAD's refinance</i>
1	2	3
Over Rs. 15000 and upto Rs. 25000	12.0	
Over Rs. 25000 and upto Rs. 50000	13.0	
Over Rs. 50000	14.0	9.5

- iii) On all outstandings under 8% category as on 22 September 1990 Banks will be charged interest at the rate of 9.5% by NABARAD unless the banks decide to charge the original rate of interest on loans and advice NABARD accordingly.

IV) FROM 9 OCTOBER 1991 and Onwards (In Respect of Farm Sector)

<i>Size of the Loan Sanctioned</i>	<i>Rates of interest (%) on</i>	
	<i>Ultimate beneficiaries</i>	<i>On NABARAD refinance</i>
1	2	3
Upto and inclusive of Rs. 7500	11.5	6.5
Over Rs. 7500 and upto Rs. 15000	13.0	6.5
Over Rs. 15000 and upto Rs. 25000	13.5	7.5
Over Rs. 25000 and upto Rs. 50000	14.0	7.5
Over Rs. 50000 and upto Rs. 2 lakhs	15.0	10.5
Over Rs. 2 lakhs	15.0 (Min) (Below the rate charged by the bank)	4.5

v) From 9 October 1991 in Respect of Non-Farm Sector

<i>Size of the Loan</i>	<i>Rates of interest (%)</i>	
	<i>Ultimate beneficiaries</i>	<i>On NABARAD refinance</i>
1	2	3
Upto and inclusive of Rs. 7500	11.5	6.5

<i>Size of the Loan</i>	<i>Rates of interest (%)</i>	
	<i>Ultimate beneficiaries</i>	<i>On NABARAD refinance</i>
1	2	3
Over Rs. 7500 and upto Rs. 15000	13.0	6.5
Over Rs. 15000 and upto Rs. 25000	13.5	7.5
Over Rs. 25000 and upto Rs. 50000	14.0	7.5
Over Rs. 50000 and upto Rs. 2 lakhs	15.0	10.5
Over Rs. 2 lakhs and upto Rs. 7.5 lakhs	16.5	12.0
Over Rs. 7.5 lakhs	18.0	13.5

Expenditure on Social Services

2802. DR. SUDHIR RAY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of expenditure on social services by Union and State Governments, separately; and

(b) how does this percentage compare with the expenditure of the developed countries?

tries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The share of social sectors in the total expenditure incurred by the Union and State Govts. (including transfer payments from the central Govt.) during 1989-90 was 4.34% & 34% respectively.

(b) A Statement is enclosed.

STATEMENT

Expenditure of Social Services in Different countries - Consolidated Central and States

Sl. No.	Items	India Year ending March, 1982 (Billions of Rs.)	% to total	USA Year ending September 30, 1988 (Billion of Dollars)	% to total	UK Year ending December 31, 1988 (Millions of Pounds)	% to total	Australia year ending June 30, 1988 (Millions of Dollars)	% to total	Canada year March 1988 (Millions of Dollars)	% to total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Expenditure											
	Total	1005.07	100.00	1732.079	100.00	184091	100.00	110229	100.00	250631	100.00
1.	Education	121.14	12.05	243.93	14.08	24091	13.09	15110	13.71	30016	11.90
2.	Health	32.99	3.28	210.79	12.16	23078	12.54	16287	14.77	33601	13.41
3.	Social Security & Welfare, Housing & Community Amenities	83.12	8.28	408.83	23.59	66857	36.32	26691	24.21	67972	27.12

Sl. No.	Items	India Year ending March, 1982 (Billions of Rs.)	% to total	USA Year ending September 30, 1988 (Billion of Dollars)	% to total	UK Year ending December 31, 1988 (Millions of Pounds)	% to total	Australia year ending June 30, 1988 (Millions of Dollars)	% to total	Canada year March 1988 (Millions of Dollars)	% to total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
4.	Recreation, Culture etc.			17.78	1.03	2939	1.60	3562	3.23	5113	2.04

Sources: Government Finance Statistics Year Book International Monetary Fund, 1990.

[Translation]

Waiver of Interest on Bank Loans to Youth

2803. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to waive of the interest charged on the loans given by banks to the unemployed youth;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). There is no proposal to waive of the interest charged on the loans given by banks to the unemployed youth. Loans are provided by the commercial banks to the unemployed youths out of the funds collected from the depositors which bears rate of interest according to the maturity period of the deposits. Any general waiver on the rate of interest charged on the loans sanctioned to the unemployed youth would seriously affect the viability of the banks concerned. The ventures on which bank loans are granted, are formulated in such a way that these would be viable enough to generate sufficient surpluses for the payment of interest alongwith instalments due. Under the Scheme for providing Self Employment to the Educated Unemployed Youth (SEEUY), Government provided capital subsidy at the rate of 25% of the project cost on the loans sanctioned.

[English]

Winding up of I.F.C.I. offices

2804. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to

wind up the offices of Industrial Finance Corporation of India at Cochin, Bhubaneswar, Patna and Guwahati; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The Industrial Finance Corporation of India (IFCI) has reported that it has currently no proposal to close the offices of IFCI at Cochin, Bhubaneswar, Patna and Guwahati.

(b) Does not arise.

Operation of Account by 'Skipper Vihar' in Union Bank of India

2805. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Bank of India has recently acted as agent of SKIPPER, a Delhi based construction company, for the sale of Skipper brochures at Rs. 10/- each of accepting earnest money at the rate of Rs. 10,000/- for booking in 'SKIPPER VIHAR' near Gurgaon;

(b) if so, whether the Haryana Urban Development Authority has protested to the Union Government against the above action of the Union Bank of India;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (d). Union Bank of India, at the specific request of Skipper India Ltd. agreed in the normal course of business to act as collecting agent for accepting applications

and registration deposits on behalf of the company for its scheme for construction of a residential colony in the name and style of "Skipper Vihar". The District Town Planner (Enforcement), Gurgaon however advised the bank's Gurgaon Branch Manager not to accept funds in the name of Skipper India Ltd., and also conveyed that the registration money collected by the bank from the members of public should not be allowed to be withdrawn by the company. On the basis of this advice and reports appearing in some newspapers, the bank put the company on notice that the registration money collected by the banks' designated branches would not be permitted to be released or disbursed and that the amount collected by the company directly from the public and deposited in their account with the Union bank of India's branch at Lajpat Nagar shall remain frozen until such time as the required permission/sanction/licence is received to the satisfaction of the authorities concerned. The entire amount collected through the authorised branches of the bank and the credit balance in the account of the company stand frozen for the time being.

Cut in Aid to India

2806. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some countries have decided to cut the aid being given to India;

(b) if so, the names of those countries and details of the cut proposed in each case; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). The substantial part of foreign aid is received from members of the Aid India Consortium. In its last meet-

ing held on 19-20 September, 1991, the Members of the Consortium have pledged aid assistance of US \$ 6.7 billion, which represents a 6 per cent increase over last year's level. No country has officially communicated any decision to cut aid in terms of these pledges.

(c) Does not arise.

Spinning Mills in Madhya Pradesh

2807. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI SINGH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state the details of spinning mills set up in different districts in Madhya Pradesh so far, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): There are 11 spinning mills (as on 31.1.92) in Madhya Pradesh. The details of mills (district-wise) are given below:

<i>Name of the Distts. (as on 31.1.92)</i>	<i>No. of mills</i>
Khandwa	2
Bilaspur	1
Nagda	1
Rajgarh	2
Indore	1
Dewas	1
Dhar	1
Khargone	1
Sanwad	1
Total	11

[Translation]

Manufacturing of Passenger Aircraft by H.A.L.**2808. SHRI SIMON MARANDI:
SHRI PRAFUL PATEL:**

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hindustan Aeronautics Limited is manufacturing passenger aircraft with a capacity of 120 passengers;

(b) if so, the number of aircraft manufactured since 1988 alongwith the details of expenditure incurred thereon, year-wise;

(c) the percentage of the foreign assistance/cooperation received by HAL and the names of the foreign institutions; and

(d) the number of small aircraft for domestic use and big aircraft for export which are likely to be manufactured by this company during 1992?

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

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

(d). During 1992 no big aircraft is planned for manufacture. HAL presently plans manufacture 6 small aircraft (Dornier-228) for domestic Supply in 1992.

[English]

Special Courts for Trial of Cases under Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985

2809. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number and details of special courts constituted so far for trial of cases under Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic substances Act, 1985;

(b) the financial assistance provided to Kerala by the Union Government and various other organisations to constitute the special court;

(c) whether the special court has been constituted in Kerala; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefore and the time by which it is likely to be constituted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) As per the information available with the Government, the following States have established special courts for trial of cases under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985:

<i>S.No.</i>	<i>Name of the State</i>	<i>No. of Special Courts</i>
1.	Maharashtra	2
2.	Manipur	4
3.	Goa	1
4.	Tripura	1

(b) to (d). Section 36 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985, as amended, provides for trial of offences by special courts which are to be created by the State Governments. As per the information available with the government, the State government of Kerala has not yet established such courts. The government of India has not provided any financial assistance to the Government of Kerala for the purpose.

[Translation]

Tea and Coffee Cultivation in M.P.

2810. SHRIMOCHANLALJHIKRAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted an experiment with a view to assess the cultivation of tea and coffee in some areas of Madhya Pradesh;

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

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to encourage tea and coffee cultivation in those areas where the climatic condition and land are found suitable for their cultivations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). In the case of tea, plantations on trial basis were raised in Sarguja and Bastar districts of Madhya Pradesh in the years 1979 and 1981. These trials proved to be unsuccessful. In the case of coffee, no such experiment has been conducted by the Coffee Board.

(c) With a view to promote tea cultivation in the non-traditional areas, the Tea Board has been extending financial assistance since 1982 under its New Tea Unit Financing Scheme, which envisages both loan and subsidy components. So far as coffee cultivation is concerned, keeping in view the global demand-supply position, Government is not encouraging plantation in new areas.

[English]

Exim Scrip Facility

2811. SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL:
SHRI RAM NAIK:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ministry of Industry has suggested some changes in the Exim Scrip facility;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether with the introduction of Exim Scrip Scheme, Cash Compensatory Support was replaced by equivalent import licences;

(d) if so, the total amount of Cash Compensatory Support replaced during 1991-92;

(e) the rate of premium at present ruling in the import market;

(f) whether it is not recovered by the importers through the price they charge for the imported articles; and

(g) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Ministry of Industry had suggested that, in the interest of further simplification of import procedures, there was need to extend the Exim scrip facility to all industrial materials. As announced in the Budget for 1992-93, all import needs will be met through the provisions contained in the Liberalised Exchange Rate Management System (LERMS). These provisions are consistent with suggestions made by the Industry Ministry.

(c) and (d). CCS was being given by way of refund of un-rebated taxes. With the suspension of CCS, Exim scrips at higher rates were allowed. Since CCS was dependent on the export performance and fulfilment

of the prescribed conditions by each individual exporter, the Govt. presently has no information about the amount of CCS which would have become due in the year 1991-92 after the abolition of this scheme.

(e) to (g). The premium on Eximscripts is determined by the market forces. The Govt. has no role in it.

Appointment of Heads of Banks and Financial Institutions

2812. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:
SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some nationalised banks and financial institutions like Industrial Development Bank of India are without Chairman/top heads of management;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to appoint the top heads of management in banks and financial institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). The position of Chairman and Managing Director is vacant in two nationalised banks, viz. Vijaya Bank and Syndicate Bank. Government have already initiated steps to fill up the vacancies.

Export of Bidis

2813. SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the export of bidis made during the last six months; and

(b) the steps proposed to be taken by the government to boost its export?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID): (a) Export of bidis during the last six months (September, 1991 to February, 1992) was 226 tons valued at Rs. 340 lakhs.

(b) Partial convertibility of Rupee and other liberalisation measures taken recently are expected to promote its export.

Loans given under IRDP

2814. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any reduction in the amount of loans distributed by the Nationalised banks under the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) for various purpose in each State;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the total amount of loans distributed by the nationalised banks under the said programmes from April to October 1991 as compared to the corresponding period during each of the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). State-wise amount of loans disbursed by commercial banks under Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) during April to October of the financial years is given in the enclosed Statement. The data reporting system does not generate purpose-wise details of the loans disbursed. Except for a few States, the disbursements of loans under the programme have shown an increase.

STATEMENT

States/U.T.s	Credit Disbursed	
	(Rs. lakhs)	
	April 1990	October 1991
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	2727	3457
Arunachal Pradesh	9	13
Assam	225	281
Bihar	1907	2171
Goa	89	75
Gujarat	716	1067
Haryana	346	232
Himachal Pradesh	213	258
Jammu & Kashmir	46	121
Karnataka	928	905
Kerala	859	726
Madhya Pradesh	1286	2038
Maharashtra	1739	1980
Manipur	—	—
Meghalaya	—	89
Mizoram	23	—
Nagaland	27	47
Orissa	536	632
Punjab	579	419
Rajasthan	365	1267

*States/U.T.s**Credit Disbursed*

	<i>(Rs. lakhs)</i>	
	<i>April 1990 October 1990</i>	<i>April 1991 October 1991</i>
1	2	3
Sikkim	34	24
Tamil Nadu	2548	1592
Tripura	75	52
Uttar Pradesh	4892	6554
West Bengal	2028	2096
Andaman & Nicobar	10	—
Chandigarh	—	—
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	9	10
Delhi	17	34
Daman & Diu	15	7
Lakshadweep	4	3
Pondicherry	11	16
All India	22244	26087

Election in Delhi

2815. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI:
Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND
COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to hold election for the legislature in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the election in Delhi is likely to be held?

THE MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINIS-
TRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY
AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN
KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) to (c). As a first
step to hold elections for the Legislature in
Delhi, delimitation of Delhi into 70 single
member territorial constituencies is being
taken up by the Election Commission of
India. Further action to hold elections can be
taken only after delimitation is completed. It
is, however, not possible to indicate the
exact time at this stage.

[*Translation*]**Import of Electronic Counting Machines**

2816. SHRI RAM KRISHNA
KUSMARIA:
SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR
GANGWAR:
SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:
SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATH-
ERIA:

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

(a) whether Government propose to
import electronic voting machines;

(b) if so, the number thereof; and

(c) the names of the countries from
which these machines are likely to be pur-
chased?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINIS-
TRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY
AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN
KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) No Sir.

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

[*English*]**Export of Onion and Red Chillies**

2817. DR. V. RAJESWARAN: Will the
Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether traders dealing with onions
and red chillies in Tamil Nadu have been
allowed to export these commodities to gulf
countries to earn foreign exchange; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Govern-
ment to prevent steep rise in prices of these
items in domestic market?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SAL-
MAN KHURSHEED): (a) It is open to any
trader to export onions as an associate ship-
per of NAFED, which is the canalising agency.
Export of red chillies is allowed on de-con-
trolled basis.

(b) In case of items of mass consump-
tion, restrictions such as quantitative ceil-
ings or a complete ban on export of agricul-
tural products are stipulated where neces-
sary.

[*Translation*]**Upgradation of Cities**

2818. SHRI MANPHOOL SINGH: Will
the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have
upgraded Bikaner as 'B' class city;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a number of requests for
upgradation of cities are pending with the
Government;

(d) if so, the names of cities in each
State in respect of which such requests have
been received; and

(e) the time by which decision is likely to
be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHAN-
TARAM POTDUKHE): (a) and (b). Bikaner
has been upgraded as 'B-2' class city for the
purpose of grant of House Rent Allowance/
Compensatory (City) Allowance to Central
Government employees.

(c) to (e). According to the existing crite-
rion, upgradation/re-classification of cities
for the purpose of grant of HRS/CCA is done

on the basis of final population figures as revealed in a decennial Census. The names of cities in respect of which representations have been received for upgradation during the last six months are given in the enclosed Statement. The question of upgradation/re-

classification of cities, wherever necessary, will be taken up after receipt of the final population figures of 1991 Census from the Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India.

STATEMENT

<i>S.No.</i>	<i>Name of Cities/Towns</i>	<i>Name of States /U.T.</i>
1	2	3
1.	Warangal	Andhra Pradesh
2.	Bhavnagar	Gujarat
3.	Jamnagar	
4.	Himmatnagar	
5.	Goa	Goa
6.	Thiruvananthapuram	Kerala
7.	Kaseragod	
8.	Mangalore	Karnataka
9.	Jammu	J & K
10.	Raipur	Madhya Pradesh
11.	Virar	Maharashtra
12.	Aurangabad	
13.	Cuttack	Orissa
14.	Bhubaneshwar	
15.	Puri	
16.	Kota	Rajasthan
17.	Gangapur City	
18.	Dholpur	

S.No.	Name of Cities/Towns	Name of States /U.T.
1	2	3
19.	Thiruchirappalli	Tamil Nadu
20.	Agartala	Tripura
21.	Dehradun	Uttar Pradesh
22.	Aligarh	
23.	Haldwani	
24.	Pauri	
25.	Baraut	
26.	Pondicherry	Pondicherry

[English]

Import of Pulses

2819. SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of pulses imported during the current year and proposed to be imported during 1992-93; and

(b) the reasons for such imports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). Information will be obtained and laid on the Table of the House.

Mysore Spinning and Weaving Mills

2820. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHAKUR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mysore Spinning and

Weaving Mills (Raja Mills) at Bangalore is a unit of the National Textile Corporation;

(b) whether the above Mill was gutted due to fire;

(c) if so, when and the estimated loss incurred thereon;

(d) whether the Government propose to relocate the gutted portion of the above mills near the Minerva Mills;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the time by which it will be relocated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The unit was affected by a major fire on 18.11.1990. The entire spinning department excepting 19520 spindles and one blow room line was completely gutted

alongwith the entire building which was housing these machine. The estimated replacement cost is Rs. 12 crores.

(d) to (f). The alternatives of replacing the gutted machines in the same location and relocating the same in the Minerva Mills were considered. The later alternative was preferred, since there was spare capacity available in Minerva Mills for spinning preparatory and the cost therefor would be far lower. The relocation has already commenced and is in progress.

Vacant Posts in BIFR

2821. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYA:
SHIR BASU DEB ACHARIA:
SHRIRAMASHARAY PRASAD
SINGH:
SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of posts in various

categories including those of Directors in the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) on January 31, 1992;

(b) the number of posts in each category lying vacant on above date; and

(c) the steps taken to fill up the vacant posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). Information relating to the total number of posts sanctioned in the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) as on January 31, 1992 in various categories and the number of posts in each category lying vacant, as on the above date, as reported by BIFR, is as in the enclosed statement.

(c) While BIFR has already initiated necessary steps to fill up the vacant posts in categories other than Members, the Government has also already initiated necessary steps to fill up the 3 vacancies of Members.

STATEMENT

No. of Posts (sanctioned and vacant) in BIFR as on 31.01.92

S. No.	Post	Sanctioned	Vacant
1.	Chairman	1	—
2.	Member	8	3
3.	Secretary	1	—
4.	Director	5	3
5.	Deputy Secretary	2	—
6.	EDP Manager	1	1
7.	Under Secretary	1	1

S. No.	Post	Sanctioned	Vacant
8.	Sr. Research Officer	2	1
9.	Deputy Director	4	2
10.	Principal Pvt. Secretary	9	2
11.	Bench Officer	4	—
12.	Section Officer	7	—
13.	Analyst Programmer	2	1
14.	Hindi Officer	1	
15.	Private Secretary	9	1
16.	Personal Assistant (Steno Gr 'C')	11	—
17.	Assistant	15	1
18.	Librarian	1	—
19.	Accountant	1	1
20.	Sr. Hindi Translator	1	—
21.	Jr. Hindi Translator	1	—
22.	Stenographer Gr. 'D'	9	4
23.	U.D.C.	2	—
24.	L.D.C.	25	1
25.	Staff Car Driver	13	1
26.	Despatch Rider	1	—
27.	Jamadar	5	—
28.	Gestetner Operator-cum-photocopier	2	—
29.	Daftry	4	—
30.	Peon	20	1
31.	Fareesh	1	1
32.	Sweeper	5	1
		174	26

**Agreement with Erstwhile USSR
Regarding Share Market**

2822. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an agreement was signed in December 1991, with erstwhile USSR with regard to Bombay and Moscow Share Markets;

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

(c) the status of the agreement under the changed circumstances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). According to the information furnished by the Stock Exchange, Bombay, a Memorandum of Understanding was entered into between the Bombay Stock Exchange and the Moscow Central Stock Exchange on the 13th December, 1991 to cover certain specific areas of mutual cooperation for setting up and making fully operational the Moscow Central Stock Exchange.

(c) According to the Stock Exchange, the status of the Memorandum of Understanding does not change as a consequence of the political changes in the erstwhile USSR.

DTC Services

2823. SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether old D.T.C. buses are plying under 'Greenline Service', 'Limited Stop Service' and 'R.L. Service' at present; and

(b) if so, the reasons for not providing better bus facilities to the commuters even after charging more fare?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). New buses are deployed on 'Green Line Service' and relatively better buses are deployed on 'Limited Stop' and 'Railway Special' Services.

Export of Cotton/Cotton Yarn

2824. SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the suspension of cotton/cotton yarn export announced in February is likely to affect our export earnings; and

(b) if so, how the Government propose to meet the deficit in export earnings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b). Any marginal decrease in the export earnings on account of restrictions on export of cotton/cotton yarn is likely to be off-set by export of value-added items like fabrics and garments.

**Widening of National Highways to
Four Lanes**

2825. SHRIMATI D.K. BHANDARI:
SHRI DILEEPBHAI SANGHANI:
SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK:
SHRI SURAJBHANU SOLANKI:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of National Highways which have been developed to four lanes during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the names of National Highways proposed to be widened to four lanes during 1992-93, State-wise; and

(c) the amount sanctioned therefor, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) A list is given in the attached statement.

(b) and (c). Since the Demand for Grants for 1992-93 are yet to be passed by the Parliament, it is too early to indicate the details of such proposals as well as the amount ear-marked for them.

STATEMENT

List of National Highways developed to four lanes during the last three years (i.e. 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91)

Chandigarh

Widening of existing 4 lanes to raise level between U.T. boundary on Punjab side to junction 38.

Delhi

Widening from 2 lane to four lanes in the remaining portion of Palam diversion from km. 3.67 to 4.90.

Gujarat

Widening to four lanes in 12.03 km length of NH 8, 3 km of NH 8A and 8.45 km of NH 8C.

Haryana

Widening to 4-lanes from km 56 to 59.05 of Delhi-Mathura Road on NH 2 in Faridabad Distt.

Widening to 4-lanes km 37.3 - 42 Delhi-Mathura Road, NH 2. Gurgaon

bypass 6.57 km length NH 8.

Orissa

Widening to four lanes in 2.8 km length of NH 5 Bhubaneswar-Cuttack Section

Punjab

Widening to 4-lanes in 60.7 km length of NH 1.

[Translation]

Welfare Schemes of Weavers

2826. SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made towards the implementation of schemes for Integrated Handloom Village Development and Margin Money for Destitute Weavers;

(b) the number of villages taken up for Integrated Development and the number of weavers' households covered during 1991-92, State-wise;

(c) the number of cooperatives formed during 1991-92 and the margin money released so far, State-wise; and

(d) the numbers of weavers benefited, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b). Proposals have been received from Governments of Orissa and Assam for providing financial assistance under the scheme of Margin Money for Destitute Weavers.

12 Districts have been identified but concrete proposals for providing financial assistance under the Integrated Handloom Village Development Scheme have not so far been received from any of the State Governments/UTs.

(c)	No. of Cooperatives formed in 1991-92		Amount released (Rs. in lakhs)
(i)	Orissa	9	4.50
(ii)	Assam	22	11.00
(d)	No. of weavers benefitted		
(i)	Orissa	450	
(ii)	Assam	1100	

[English]

Central Road Fund

2827. SHRI A. CHARLES:
SHRI KODDIKUNIL
SURESH:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount credited to the Central Road Fund during each of the last three years, till the June 30, 1991; and

(b) the amount sanctioned and released for various schemes under C.R.F. during 1991-92 and proposed to be sanctioned during 1992-93, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT

(SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The accruals to the Central Road Fund during last three years are as under:

Year	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1988	1415.18
1989-90	1639.46
1990-91 (tentative)	1648.55

(b) The cost of schemes approved as well as funds proposed to be released during 1991-92 to different States are shown in the enclosed Statement. Proposals to be sanctioned during 1992-93 would depend *inter alia* upon actual accruals to the Central Road Fund, free balance of each State and the proposals recommended by the State Governments.

STATEMENT

S. No.	Name of State	Cost of schemes approved during 91-92 under Central Road Fund (Rs. in lakhs)	Fund proposed to be released during 91-92 under Central Road Fund (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	681.40	50.00

S. No.	Name of State	Cost of schemes approved during 91-92 under Central Road Fund	Fund proposed to be released during 91-92 under Central Road Fund
		(Rs. in lakhs)	(Rs. in lakhs)
2.	Assam	108.12	50.00
3.	Bihar	219.17	40.00
4.	Gujarat	154.71	100.00
5.	Haryana	220.00	15.00
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	80.00	20.00
7.	Karnataka	270.00	75.00
8.	Kerala	—	50.00
9.	Madhya Pradesh	215.00	89.00
10.	Maharashtra	1057.64	150.00
11.	Meghalaya	75.10	25.00
12.	Mizoram	56.29	30.00
13.	Manipur	—	1.00
14.	Orissa	70.06	35.00
15.	Tamil Nadu	250.00	100.00
16.	Tripura	25.66	6.00
17.	West Bengal	166.25	64.00
Total		3649.40	900.00

[Translation]

Recruitment in Rajasthan**2828. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:**

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to reintroduce the process of entolment to the various wings of defence services by organising 'Bharti Melas' and by sending officers to recruitment centres;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have received memorandum from various parts of Rajasthan to reintroduce the old procedure of recruitment of defence personnel;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) The Government do not propose to do away with the Application System of Recruitment. However, to cut down postal delays and to enable candidates in the interior areas to appear for screening prior to the common entrance examination, it has been decided to hold a few Recruitment melas in each Zone, after due publicity. Regimental Centres have also been directed to hold such melas in their respective areas.

(b) The Application System of Recruitment, introduced in 1988, is, on the whole, working satisfactorily.

(c) to (e). No, Sir. However, a request for organizing a Recruitment mela at Jhunjhunu has been received.

Cotton Textile Mills in Cooperative Sector in Bihar

2829. MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cotton textile mills under Cooperative Sector at present, State-wise;

(b) whether these mills are capable to meet the demands of handloom and powerloom industries;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government propose for setting up new mills during Eighth Five Year Plan in the country particularly in Darbhanga, Bihar; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) As on 31st Dec. '91 there are 110 Cotton Textile Mills under Co-operative Sector in the country. A State-wise break-up is as under:

<i>Name of the State/U.T</i>	<i>No. of mills</i>
Andhra Pradesh	9
Assam	1
Bihar	3
Gujarat	5
Haryana	1
Karnataka	8
Kerala	4
Madhya Pradesh	2
Maharashtra	35
Orissa	6
Punjab	6
Rajasthan	3
Tamil Nadu	14
Uttar Pradesh	11
West Bengal	1
Pondicherry	1

(b) Since there are no restrictions of inter-state movement of yarn, demands of yarn by handloom and powerloom sectors are met out of the production of all the spinning mills in the country.

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

(d) No, Sir.

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

[English]

Funds Under UN TC-DC Programme

2830. DR. RAVI MALLU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether UN has been providing grants with matching Indian funds under UN TC-DC Programme.

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years;

(c) the funds actually received and the amount actually spent;

(d) reasons for non-expenditure of this amount;

(e) whether Government propose to utilise these funds through several well-established NGOs; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (f). Question does not arise.

Stipend to Ex-Servicemen at Queen Mary's Technical School, Kirkee, Pune

2831. SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Will

the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the monthly stipend given to disabled Ex-Servicemen undergoing vocational training at Queen Mary's Technical School, Kirkee, Pune at present;

(b) the date from which it was revised/enhanced;

(c) whether the Government have any plans to enhance stipend from time to time;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether the Government propose to open more such technical schools in other regions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Disabled ex-Servicemen undergoing vocational training at Queen Mary's Technical School, Kirkee, Pune, are not being paid any monthly stipend.

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

(e) No, Sir.

Devaluation of Rupee

2832. SHRIDILEEP SINGH BHURIA:
SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY:
PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATASWARLU:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to further devalue the rupee in near future;

(b) if so, upto what extent and reasons therefor;

(c) if not, whether the Government propose to pledge gold proportionate to currency notes issued by the Reserve Bank of India for the purpose of maintaining the credibility of the rupee in the international market; and

(d) if not, the other measures being taken or proposed to be taken by the Government and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There is no such proposal.

(d) The Government has already undertaken a package of macro economic stabilisation measures such as the liberalised exchange rate management system (LERMS), restoration of fiscal discipline and a tight monetary policy along with structural reforms in the spheres of trade and industry. These policies are expected to increase efficiency and productivity, impart dynamism to the growth process and thereby provide a solid foundation for higher exports and overall growth. The objective of restoring confidence in the Indian economy has been achieved. Foreign exchange reserves have increased substantially and rate of inflation has decelerated. We have been able to redeem the gold pledged by the RBI and also the gold sold by the SBI earlier.

[Translation]

Seizure of Gold and Contraband Items on Indo-Nepal Border

2833. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:
SHRI RAM PAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of smuggled goods seized on the Indo-Nepal border during the year 1991-92, so far;

(b) the quantum of gold and other contraband items seized from the smugglers and the amount of revenue earned as a result thereof; and

(c) the number of smugglers apprehended and the details of the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). Available reports and the seizures made indicate that gold, synthetic yarn, ball bearings, electronic goods, photographic cameras, films, narcotic drugs, etc. continue to be sensitive to smuggling across the Indo-Nepal border. The quantity and value of gold and the value of other contraband seized in the Indo-Nepal sector of the land border; the value of seized/confiscated gold deposited in the Government of India Mints and the value of other contraband goods disposed of by the Indo-Nepal Border Customs Collectorate, Patna, during the year 1991-92 so far are given below:

Year	<i>Goods Seized</i>		<i>Value of goods disposed of</i>		
	<i>Gold</i>		<i>Other contraband goods</i>		
	<i>Quantity (in kgs.)</i>	<i>Value (Rs. in lakhs)</i>	<i>Value (Rs. in lakhs)</i>	<i>(Rs. in lakhs)</i>	
				<i>Gold</i>	<i>Other contraband goods</i>
1991-92*	6.3	25.39	2986	237	414

*Figures are provisional

(c) *The number of persons arrested, the number of prosecutions launched and*

the number of convictions obtained by this Collectorate in the same period are given below:

<i>No. of persons arrested</i>	<i>No. of prosecutions launched</i>	<i>No. of convictions</i>
186	38	98

[English]

Acquittal of Fera Offenders

2834. SHRI K. THULASIAH VANDAYAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of appeals against acquittals preferred by the Government in regard to offenders under the Foreign Exchange Regulations Act, 1973 pending in various courts;

(b) whether it is contemplated to withdraw such appeals; and

(c) if not, the steps proposed to ensure that the economic offenders are brought to book without delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The Government had preferred 33 appeals against acquittals under FERA, 1973.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Courts are moved for early hearing of the cases.

Loss to STC on Import of Sugar

2835. SHRISHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Trading Corporation has suffered heavy loss in foreign exchange in import of sugar, mainly due to the insertion of a new clause in the standard contract deed, permitting soft options to the

international suppliers;

(b) if so, the precise nature and content of this new clause; and

(c) the estimated loss incurred on this account so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). STC has not imported any quantity of sugar from the year 1988-89 onwards.

(c) Does not arise.

Withdrawals under term Deposit Scheme

2836. DR. A.K. PATEL:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been heavy withdrawals recently under the Term Deposit Scheme from the nationalised banks;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to check such a flight of money and the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Reserve Bank of India has reported that they do not have any information pertaining to heavy withdrawals under the Term Deposits from nationalised banks. The growth in Time Deposits of all commercial banks during the last three months are given below:

(Rs. in crores)

As on	Total amount of Time Deposits	Increase over Previous month
27.12.1991	1,77,589	(+) 2160
24.01.1992	1,79,381	(+) 1792
21.02.1992	1,81,866	(+) 2485

(b) and (c). In view of (a) above, questions do not arise.

[Translation]

Export of Emblic Myrobalan

2837. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH:
DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the countries to which emblic myrobalan has been exported during the last two years and quantity thereof;

(b) the names of the States and places particularly in Uttar Pradesh where emblic myrobalan is produced; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for increasing its production?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED): (a) Myrobalan Amla (Embelica Linn) is being exported to various countries like Bangladesh, France, Italy, Kenya, Pakistan, Singapore and U.K. The exports during the last two years is indicated below:—

1989—90	27343 Kg.
1990—91	18662 Kg.

(b) Embelic myrobalan is mostly grown in UP mainly in eastern part and in particular Pratappgarh, Sultanpur, Allahabad and Varanasi. However, its cultivation is gradually spreading to Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh.

(c) Government through Indian Council of Agricultural Research has initiated an all India research programme on this crop which includes identification of new high yielding varieties, standardisation of vegetative propagation techniques, improvement in production technology etc.

Bypass Road for Hazaribagh

2838. SHRI BHUBANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to construct a bypass road for Hazaribagh city of Bihar; and

(b) if so, by what time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) There is no proposal to construct a bypass for Hazaribagh city at present.

(b) Does not arise.

Credit Deposit Ratio in Uttar Pradesh

2839. DR. RAMESH CHAND
TOMAR:
SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the ratio of the amount of loans advanced to deposits in the Nationalised Banks in Uttar Pradesh during 1990-91 and as on December 31, 1991; and

(b) the area-wise details of the outstanding loans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The Credit: Deposit Ratio of Public Sector Banks in Uttar Pradesh was 45.3% and 42.7% as at the end of March 1991 and September 1991 (latest available) respectively.

(b) Presumably, the Hon'ble Members desire to know the outstanding loans in each district of Uttar Pradesh. The district-wise details of outstanding loans extending by Public Sector Banks, as at the end of September 1991 (latest available), are given in the enclosed Statement.

STATEMENT

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Districts</i>	<i>Amount (Rs. Lakhs)</i>
1.	Agra	31805
2.	Aligarh	15929
3.	Allahabad	28303
4.	Almora	7519
5.	Azamgarh	6654
6.	Bahraich	6011
7.	Ballia	5122
8.	Banda	3247
9.	Barbanki	4405
10.	Bareilly	14148
11.	Basti	7255
12.	Bijnor	11358
13.	Budaun	6679
14.	Buland Shahar	13300

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Districts</i>	<i>Amount (Rs. Lakhs)</i>
15.	Chamoli	757
16.	Dehradun	16477
17.	Deoria	9389
18.	Etah	6496
19.	Etawah	5341
20.	Faizabad	10062
21.	Farrukhabad	9484
22.	Fatehpur	3930
23.	Ferozabad	6492
24.	Garhwal	2298
25.	Gaziabad	62050
26.	Ghazipur	6707
27.	Gonda	9117
28.	Gorakhpur	13987
29.	Hamirpur	3894
30.	Hardoi	5669
31.	Haridwar	10510
32.	Jalaun	5099
33.	Jaunpur	7433
34.	Jhansi	8187
35.	Kanpur City	91616
36.	Kanpur Dehat	4601
37.	Lakhimpur Kheri	10798

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Districts</i>	<i>Amount (Rs. Lakhs)</i>
38.	Lalitpur	2220
39.	Lucknow	92912
40.	Maharajgunj	3128
41.	Mainpuri	3532
42.	Mathura	11577
43.	Mau	3334
44.	Meerut	43958
45.	Mirzapur	8577
46.	Muradabad	22363
47.	Muzaffar Nagar	22452
48.	Nainital	19632
49.	Pilibhit	6639
50.	Pithoragarh	1562
51.	Partapgarh	3775
52.	Rae Bareli	8008
53.	Rampur	7807
54.	Sharanpur	19328
55.	Shah Jahanpur	7450
56.	Siddharthanagar	1797
57.	Sitapur	6008
58.	Sonbhadra	13821
59.	Sultanpur	8204
60.	Tehri Garhwal	1210
61.	Unnao	4167
62.	Uttar Kashi	652
63.	Varanasi	41329

[English]

Central Assistance to Karnataka

2840. SHRI KODAKANI GOWDANA SHIVAPPA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to State:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has submitted a memorandum to the Union Government seeking Central assistance to the tune of Rs. 50 crores;

(b) whether the request of the Government of Karnataka has been agreed to; and

(c) if so, the amount released so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government of Karnataka has submitted a memorandum containing a request seeking *inter alia*, an assistance of Rs. 50 crores to tackle scarcity conditions in Northern Karnataka.

(b) and (c). A Calamity relief Fund based on the recommendations of the Ninth Finance Commission been set up in Karnataka with effect from 1.4.1990 for the period 1990-95. The allocation to the Fund is Rs. 27 crores to which Centre is to contribute Rs. 20.25 crores (75%) and State Rs. 6.75 crores (25%) annually. All expenditure on natural calamities is required to be met out of the Fund without any authorisation from or reference to the Centre. The Centre's contribution to the Fund for the year 1990-91 and 1991-92 amounting to Rs. 40.50 crores have been released. No additional assistance is proposed to be released to the State during the current year.

Cargo Support for Ships

2841. SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA):

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU:

SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1371 on November 29, 1991 and state:

(a) whether the Government have finalised the proposal regarding cargo support for Indian ships;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the time by which the proposal is likely to be finalised?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Reservations have been expressed in some quarters about this proposal and these are being sorted out in consultation with concerned Ministry. It is not possible to indicate the time by which the proposal is likely to be finalised.

[Translation]

Supply of Cotton to NTC Units in Rajasthan

2842. SHRI GIRIDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rajasthan units of the National Textile Corporation are facing great difficulties in production due to non-supply of cotton;

(b) if so, the total demand of cotton of the above units; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken by the Government for the regular supply of cotton to these units?

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

(b) and (c). The mills of National Textile Corporation in Rajasthan require 140 bales per day which are adequately covered.

Salaries and other facilities to judges in Supreme Court and other Courts

2843. SHRI DILEEP BHAI SANGHANI: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to increase the salaries and other facilities of the judges of the Supreme Court and other courts; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b). The pursuance of proposals asponsored by the Chief Justice of India, the Government has issued orders enhancing the Daily Allowance payable on tour and enhancement in the limits for free furnishings in the case of judges of the High Courts and Supreme Court and enhancement in the ceilings for electricity and water charges at the official residence and postretiral benefits in the case of judges of the Supreme Court. As regards the question of enhancement in the pay scales of the Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts, the Conference of Chief Justices in their meeting held during 30th August to 1st September, 91 passed a Resolution proposing such an enhancement.

No decision has yet been taken on this suggestion.

[English]

Changes in Shipping Policy

2844. SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU: SHRI VJAY NAVAL PATIL:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to make changes in the shipping policy to encourage the Indian Shipping Companies; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The salient features may include relaxation in licensing to Indian Shipping Companies to operate on selected liner routes; Grant of freedom of Shipowners for sale of ships and for application of sale proceeds, after meeting outstanding foreign exchange liabilities, for acquiring new ships; encouragement to medium sized shipyards to export fishing trawlers and smaller crafts; promotion of ship building; liberalisation of procedures for acquisition of vessels; encouragement to cross border leasing of vessels; grant of permission to shipowners to mortgage ships abroad to raise foreign exchange resources etc.

Working Group on Credit Requirements of Industries in Punjab

2845. SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has constituted a high level working group to

look into the credit requirements of industries in Punjab;

(b) if so, whether the panel has submitted any recommendations; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). The Reserve bank of India (RBI) had constituted a Working Group consisting of representatives of Reserve Bank of India, commercial banks, Industrial Development Bank of India, Small Industries Development Bank of India, Government of Punjab and Government of India to consider what more could be done to help the industry in Punjab in addition to the existing concessions allowed by the RBI. The Working Group has completed its deliberations and is likely to submit its Report to the RBI shortly for consideration and issue of appropriate guidelines to the banks.

[Translation]

**Utilisation of amount collected through
Indira Vikas Patra**

2846. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount collected through Indira Vikas Patras during the last two years; and

(b) the purposes for which this amount has been utilised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The total amount collected through Indira Vikas Patras during 1989-90 and 1990-91 were Rs. 5153 crores.

(b) The net collections through Indira

Vikas Patra, alongwith the collections under other small savings schemes, are utilised for giving long-term loans to State Governments.

[English]

Acquisition of Land for Defence Purposes

2847. SHRI SHANKARRAO KALE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether while acquiring the land for Defence purposes, the Union Government pays only acquisition charges;

(b) whether the Government of Maharashtra has approached the Union Government with a proposal that in addition to the acquisition charges, the rehabilitation provision must be made and unless such provision is made, the proposed land will not be handed over for acquisition; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) to (c). A statement is attached.

STATEMENT

In determining the amount of compensation payable for lands acquired by Government under the Land Acquisition Act, 1984, the following factors are taken into account:-

- (i) The market value of the land on the date of publication of the notice under Section 4(1) of the Act.

- (ii) Damage, if any, sustained by the interested person on account of removal of standing crops/trees on the land when taken over by Government.
- (iii) Damage, if any, on account of severance of the land from other lands of the interested person.
- (iv) Damage, if any, sustained by person interested at the time of the Collector's taking possession of land, by reason of the acquisition injuriously affecting his other property, movable or immovable, in any other manner, or his earnings.
- (v) If in consequence of the acquisition of the land by the Collector, the person interested is compelled to change his residence or place of business, the reasonable expenses, if any, incidental to such change.
- (vi) Bonafide damage, if any, resulting from diminution of the profits of the land between the time of the publication of the declaration under Section 6 and the time of the Collector's taking possession of the land.

In addition to the market value of the land, as above provided, an amount calculated at the rate of twelve per centum per annum on such market value for the period commencing on and from the date of the publication of the notification under Section 4, Sub-section (1), in respect of such land to the date of the award of the Collector or the date of taking possession of the land, whichever is earlier, is also paid.

In addition to the market value of the

land, as above provided, a sum of thirty per centum of such market value, in consideration of the compulsory nature of the acquisition is paid.

No other compensation in addition to the above is payable by Union of India for the acquisition of land.

However, of late, in certain cases where large areas of land were involved and as a consequence whereof a large number of persons had to be made to vacate their lands, the State Governments had insisted on Rehabilitation Grants for the resettlement of the oustees. The Government of Maharashtra have suggested provision of Rehabilitation Grants in Addition to compensation for lands in respect of certain proposals for the acquisition of land proposals for Defence, in the State. The Government have not taken any decision in this regard.

Chit Fund Companies

2848. SHRI G.M.C. BALAYOGI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to stop the activities of private rural chit fund companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). The activities of chit fund companies are regulated under provisions of Chit Funds Act, 1982. However, conducting of prize chits is banned under the Prize Chits and Money Circulation Schemes (Banning) Act, 1978.

[*Translation*]**Income Tax raids conducted in Rajasthan**

2849. SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of raids conducted by the Income Tax Department in Rajasthan during the last three years;

(b) the details of illegal goods and money confiscated in these raids;

(c) the details of cases disposed of so far;

(d) whether the seized goods and cash have been returned to the concerned persons after settling their cases;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor and the details of the property yet to be returned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). The details of searches conducted by the Income Tax Department in Rajasthan and the seizures of unaccounted valuable assets made during the financial years 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91 are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) to (f). Some of the above 611 cases may not have been finally disposed of as the decisions regarding the release/retention of the seized assets are taken at various stages viz. u/s 132(5) and 132(12), on furnishing adequate security, on completion of assessment and on finalisation of appellate proceedings for which no consolidated case-wise record has been maintained by the Department.

STATEMENT

<i>Financial Year</i>	<i>No. of searches conducted</i>	<i>Seizure of valuable assets (Rs. in lakhs)</i>			
		<i>cash</i>	<i>Jewellery</i>	<i>Others</i>	<i>Total</i>
1988-89	349	83.74	506.79	138.75	729.28
1989-90	158	45.65	303.93	217.54	567.12
1990-91	104	92.51	399.52	502.13	994.16

[*English*]**Compulsory cost Audit of Consumer Items**

2850. SHRI S.B. THORAT: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to extend compulsory cost audit to a number of con-

sumer items; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b). A number of consumer items like drug formulations, milk food, infant milk food, cotton

textiles, paper, sugar, vanaspati etc. are already under cost audit. Prescribing of cost audit in respect of industries engaged in manufacturing or processing of consumer items or other items is a continuous exercise. Steps are taken for covering important industries and products under cost audit from time to time. Government have recently initiated steps to extend compulsory cost audit to such consumer items as edible oils and toilet preparations such as tooth pastes and soaps.

[Translation]

Evasion of Income-Tax by Share-Brokers

2851. SHRI S.N. VEKARIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of income tax outstanding against share-brokers as on December 31, 1991;

(b) whether the Government are aware of the alleged large scale tax evasion by share brokers;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken

by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESH-WAR THAKUR): (a) The statistics relating to collection and payment of taxes and tax in arrears etc. are maintained by the Income-tax Department assessee-wise. Therefore, in order to compile the statistical information for furnishing a reply to the question, data will have to be called from each of the Assessing Officers located all over the country with whom share-brokers are assessed to tax. It is submitted that the time spent and the effort involved in collection of the information may not be commensurate with the result sought to be achieved. In case information about any particular share-broker is desired, the same will be collected and furnished.

(b) to (d). Instances of income tax evasion in cases of some share-brokers have come to light. In the course of the searches conducted by the Income Tax Department, prima facie unexplained cash, jewellery, stock and share scrips and other assets have also been found and seized. The share-brokers also admitted and offered for taxation additional incomes. The results of the searches conducted in cases of share-brokers are as follows:—

<i>Period</i>	<i>No. of searches</i>	<i>Value of assets seized</i>	<i>Disclosure under section 132(4) of Income Tax Act</i>
<i>(Rs. in lakhs)</i>			
1990-91	55	851.16	1532.17
1991-92 (upto Feb. '92)	50	428.72	217.93

Combating tax evasion by persons, including share-brokers, is a continuous exercise and the Income Tax Department conducts searches, surveys and other investigation in

appropriate cases on a regular basis for detecting tax evasion. Such measures, as deemed appropriate from time to time are taken in cases of share-brokers also.

Transportation of Goods by Ships

2852. KUMARI UMA BHARTI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of cargo tonnage handled by Indian ships through inland and international sea routes separately during 1990-91 and 1991-92.

(b) the names of places where the facilities of international transportation services

are available; and

(c) the names of places where the Government propose to extend these facilities in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Information relating to the cargo handled by Indian ships in coastal trade (inland) and overseas trade (international) is as under:—

Year	Overseas Trade	Coastal Trade
		(In Million Tonnes)
1990-91	38.9	47.4
1991-92 (April, 91 to Sept. 1991)	19.8	25.4

(b) The facilities of international transportation of goods by ships are available at all the major ports viz. Bombay, Calcutta/Haldia, Cochin, Kandla, Madras, Mormugao, New Mangalore, Paradip, Tuticorin, Visakhapatnam and Jawaharlal Nehru (Nhava Sheva). Some of the minor/inter-mediate ports are also available for international transportation. Facilities for dealing with export/import cargo are being operated at present by the Container Corporation of India Limited (CONCOR) at the following places:—

New Delhi, Panipat, Moradabad, Wadi Bunder, Mulund, Pune, Ahmedabad, Madras, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Ludhiana, Guntur, Anaparti, Coimbatore and Amingaon (Guwahati).

Under a Protocol signed between the Government of India and the Government of Bangladesh on 3.10.91, international traffic also moves through Inland Waterways routes viz. Calcutta-Pandu via Bangladesh and Calcutta-Karimganj via Bangladesh.

(c) Facilities for international transportation services are already available at all the major ports. As regards the minor ports and inter-mediate ports, the responsibility for extending such facilities for extending such facilities rests with the concerned Maritime State Government.

It is proposed to extend the facilities for dealing with export/import cargo at Allahabad, Vadodara, Indore, Quilon, Vijayawada, Tuticorin, Tirupur and Raipur by the Container Corporation of India Limited.

There is no proposal to extend such facilities in so far as Inland Waterways are concerned.

[English]

Import of Synthetic Substitute of Jute Products

2853. DR. ASIM BALA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

the quantity of synthetic substitutes of jute products being imported during 1991-92?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): Synthetic raw material is used for the manufacture of a variety of end products hence it is not possible to quantify the extent of its imports for manufacture of substitutes to jute products.

Income Tax Clearance Certificates to NRIS

2854. SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are encouraging Non-resident Indian's to establish industries in the country;

(b) whether NRIs have to obtain Income-tax Clearance Certificate when they stay in India for over three months;

(c) whether the Government are aware that it is difficult for Non-resident Indians to complete the formalities to establish industry, which involves a lot of work within the period of three months;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to extend the period of their stay beyond three months;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) and (c). Under Section 230 of Income-tax Act, persons domiciled in India were required to obtain clearance from direct tax authorities if the period of their stay

in India exceeded ninety days. This period has since been extended to 120 days by the Department of Revenue by a Notification dated 13th March, 1990.

(d) No, Sir.

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

[Translation]

Production of Defence Clothing in Ordnance Clothing Factory, Shahjahanpur

2855. SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per report of Quality Control Department the quality of Defence clothing produced by the produced by the private sector factory has deteriorated in comparison to the production made by the ordnance clothing factory, Shahjahanpur;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to arrange the re-production of those 18 items in this factory which were withdrawn in 1986; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) The Directorate General Quality Assurance (DGQA) is responsible for ensuring quality of clothing supplied to the Defence Services. From the reports received from this organisation, it is not possible to draw any generalised conclusion that the quality of Defence clothing produced by the Private Sector has deteriorated in comparison to the production made by the Ordnance Clothing Factory, Shahajahanpur.

(b) and (c). In consonance with the policy to make optimal use of the national industrial infrastructure a number of low-technology and low-value added items were identified for off-loading to the civil sector in a phased manner. 17 clothing items were also identified for off-loading in phase I. A reversal of this decision is not presently contemplated.

[English]

Augmentation of Size of Merchant Fleet

2856. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to augment the size of the countries merchant fleet to reduce pressure on foreign exchange; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

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

(b) This Ministry have taken a number of steps to assist Indian Shipping Companies. These include:—

(a) Streamlining of licensing procedures which has enabled quicker ship acquisition in the fluctuating International Market.

(b) Revised age norms for acquisition of second-hand vessels;

(c) Permitting Shipowners to acquire bulk carriers of 10–30,000 DWT without approaching the Ship Acquisition Licensing Committee;

(d) Proposals for replacement of existing tonnage will not be placed before the

Ship Acquisition Licensing Committee, if the replacement proposal is within 25% in excess of or less than the tonnage to be replaced.

(e) Permitting Private Shipping Companies to place orders on Indian shipyards without reference to assessed requirements.

(f) Simplification of procedure for charter out of vessels by shipping companies.

Exports and Imports

2857. SHRI R. DHANUSKODI ATHITHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the value of export and import targeted for the current financial year and the percentage of these to the Gross Domestic Production;

(b) the actual performance during this year so far;

(c) whether the Exim scrips have been found advantageous for encouraging exports; and

(d) if so, in what manner?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The export target for the fiscal year 1991–92 was not fixed, in view of the uncertainties in the global trading environment, collapse of the erstwhile Soviet Union, a major trading partner of India, and the time lag for the far reaching policy reforms to have full impact on exports. No targets are fixed for imports.

(b) India's exports to General Currency area (GCA) countries amounted to Rs. 27133 crores during April–December, 1991 as compared to Rs. 18785 crores during April–December, 1990, thereby registering

an increase of 44.4%. In dollar terms, GCA exports increased by 6.3%. India's exports to Rupee Payment Area (RPA) amounted to Rs. 3199 crores during April–December, 1991 as compared to Rs. 4404 crores during April–December, 1990, thereby registering a decline of 27.4%. In dollar terms, RPA exports declined by 46.5%. India's imports during April–December, 1991 amounted to Rs. 34238 crores, as compared to Rs. 31724 crores during April–December, 1990, thereby registering an increase of 7.9%. In dollar terms, the import declined by 20.5%.

(c) and (d). Eximscrip scheme has been found advantageous to exports in view of built-in-incentives for exporters in terms of premium in the domestic market. This scheme has since been enlarged and replaced by the Liberalised Exchange Rate Management Systems (LERMS), which provides for partial convertibility of Rupee.

Convertibility of Rupee

2858. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA:
SHRI M. RAMANNA RAI.

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have plan to make the Indian rupee convertible to foreign currencies; and

(b) if so, by when and its effect on the economy of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). The Government introduced a system of partial convertibility of the Rupee effective March 1, 1992 as announced in the Union Budget for 1992–93 by the Finance Minister. The New

system expands the past eximscrip system to the entire current account receipts including workers' remittances, achieves considerably simplification of the trade system, gives a powerful boost to exports and efficient import substitutions, reduces incentive to illegal foreign exchange transactions and introduces a self-balancing mechanism thereby making the management of the balance of payments easy.

[Translation]

Foreign Assistance to Projects in Orissa

2859. SHRI SRIKANTA JENA:
SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to establish new projects in Orissa with foreign assistance;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total amount incurred on the existing projects with foreign assistance in the State;

(d) whether some of such projects have suffered due to non-availability of funds?

(e) if so, the names of such projects; and

(f) the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (f). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Expansion of Shipping Industry

2860. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the estimate of additional cargo tonnage likely to be generated during the next three years; and

(b) the steps taken to increase the shipping fleet to meet the increasing traffic?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYLER): (a) The Working Group on Shipping set up by Planning Commission for the period 1990-95 has assessed the requirement of tonnage at 7.73 Million DWT upto 1994-95. The actual tonnage that may be acquired would depend mainly on the availability of resources including foreign exchange.

(b) The Government have taken a number of steps to increase the shipping fleet to meet the increasing traffic. These include:-

(i) Streamlining of licensing procedures which has enabled quicker ship acquisition in the fluctuating International Market.

(ii) Revised age norms for acquisition of second-hand vessels.

(iii) Permitting Shipowners to acquire bulk carriers of 10-30,000 DWT without approaching the Ship Acquisition Licensing Committee;

(iv) Proposals for replacement of existing tonnage will not be placed before the Ship Acquisition

Licensing Committee, if the replacement proposal is within 25% in excess or less than the tonnage to be replaced.

(v) Permitting Private Shipping Companies to place orders on Indian shipyards without reference to assessed requirements.

[Translation]

Customs Duty Evasion

2862. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some cases of customs duty evasion of more than one thousand crore rupees by misusing the Advance Free Import Licence have come to notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the details of such cases during last three years and action taken there on; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to check such evasion in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c). No case involving Customs duty evasion of more than rupees one thousand crores by misusing the Duty Exemption Entitlement Scheme has been noticed. The Customs authorities are vigilant against the evasion of Customs duty.

[English]

Priority sector lending by Banks

2863. SHRINIRMALKANTICATTERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating of reducing the share of priority sector lending by commercial banks; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). The Committee on The Financial System (Narasimham Committee) has suggested in their report, submitted to the Government in 1991, that the existing directed credit programmes should be gradually phased out. At present, the Priority Sector consists of banks advances to agriculture, small scale industries, small road and water transport operators, retail trade, small business, professional and self employment, State sponsored organisations of SC/ST for purchase and supply of inputs, education, consumption loans and housing loans. In terms of recommendations of Narasimham Committee the re-defined Priority Sector shall have small and marginal farmers, tiny sector of industry, small business and transport operators, village and cottage industries, rural artisans and other weaker sections. At present Reserve Bank of India has fixed a target of 40% of lending by banks to the Priority Sector. The Narasimham Committee has recommended that for the re-defined Priority Sector the target should be 10% of the aggregate bank credit and a review may be undertaken after three years to see if the directed limit needs to be continued. The Government is yet to take a final view on the recommendations of the Narasimham Committee.

Modernisation of Ports

2864. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry has urged the Government to immediately undertake an extensive modernisation programme of ports for creating adequate capacity to cope with the requirements of shippers;

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

(c) whether due to inadequate modernisation and development of port facilities, the ports remained ill equipped to serve the needs of shippers and exporters; and

(d) if so, the steps the Government propose to take to modernise and develop various ports in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No proposal has been received in this Ministry.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). Modernisation is a continuous process. The capacity of the ports which was 20 million tonnes in 1951 has increased to 168 million tonnes in 1991-92. The requirements of Indian Shippers and Exporters have been met.

In the 8th Plan, the Government proposes to further improve the functioning of the ports by concentrating on:

1. Development of infrastructure in ports in consonance with the overall economic growth;
2. Increasing level of containerisation in the country;
3. Deepening of ports for handling the bigger sized ships in ore handling ports;

4. Mechanisation of loading/unloading facilities; and
5. Improving productivity in labour and equipments.

Setting up of Public Interest Litigation Cell in High Courts

2865. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India Chief Justices Conference has recommended for the setting up of a Public Interest Litigation Cell in each High Court;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations made thereon;

(c) the names of High Courts which have implemented the recommendations;

(d) the categories of persons or bodies who can submit their petitions for seeking judicial relief; and

(e) whether the Supreme Court have also issued any guidelines to the Government in this regard and if so, the details thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b): Yes, Sir. The All India Chief Justices' Conference, 1991 has recommended the setting up of a Public Interest Litigation Cell in each High Court to enable the poor, oppressed and economically or physically handicapped to seek judicial relief.

(c) As per the information received from the Supreme Court, the recommendations have so far been implemented by the High Courts of Andhra Pradesh, Bombay, Delhi, Guwahati, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Sikkim.

(d) and (e). As per the information received from the Supreme Court of India, the All India Chief Justices' Conference referred to in the Question also resolved that the guidelines dated 1.12.1988 followed by the Supreme Court for entertaining letters/petitions received as public interest litigation may be followed by the High Courts subject to modifications having regard to local conditions. These guidelines enumerate a wide variety of categories of matters/persons in respect of which/whom letters/petitions will ordinarily be entertained such as bonded labour, neglected children, non-payment of minimum wages, petitions from jails complaining harassment, complaints of death in police custody, petitions against atrocities on women, etc. as well as matters of public importance but excluding individual/personal matters.

Export Price of Cotton

2866. SHRI GANGADHARA SANIPALLI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether export price of cotton is less than domestic price;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for exporting cotton at lower price than the domestic price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLÔT): (a) The export price of Bengal Deshi cotton which has only been allowed

for export during the current cotton season has been higher than the domestic price.

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

Mechanised Coal Berth at Paradip Port

2868. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have since approved the proposal for introduction of multipurpose cargo berth and mechanised coal berth at Paradip Port;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). The proposals for creation of a multipurpose cargo berth at an estimated cost of Rs. 24.94 crores and mechanised coal berth at an estimated cost of Rs. 511.25 crores at Paradip Port are being processed for investment decision by the Government.

(c) Does not arise.

Pension-Cum-Insurance Scheme for Farm Labourers

2869. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce Pension-cum-Insurance Scheme for the Welfare of farm labourers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A group insurance scheme for Landless Agricultural Labourers is already in operation, all over the country, under which the head of an agricultural labourer's family, not owning any land, is covered for a sum assured for Rs. 2000/-. The enquire premium for this insurance cover is met from the social security fund maintained by the Life Insurance Corporation of India.

Financial Assistance to Small Scale Sector

2870. SHRI HARI KISHROE SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from the Federation of Associations of Cottage and Small Industries for making available need based finance at affordable rates of interest to the small scale sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). While no specific proposal has been received from the Federation of Associations of Cottage and Small Industries (FACSI), Government has received various representations regarding making available need based finance at affordable rates of interest to the Small Scale Sector. RBI has reported that for term loans upto Rs. 2 lakhs, the SSI Sector enjoys concessional rate of interest. For term loans over Rs. 2 lakhs, the rate of interest has been

reduced from 20% (minimum) to 19% (minimum) per annum w.e.f. 2nd March, 1992. The Reserve Bank of India has also constituted a Committee to review the arrangements for meeting the working capital requirements to the SSI Sector, review the guidelines for the rehabilitation of Sick SSI Units, and examine any other related matters.

Pre – Shipment Inspection of Goods by a Swiss Multi – National Company

2871. SHRI BHOY KRISHNA HANDIQUE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government have taken any decision in regard to handing over the pre-shipment inspection of goods imported into the country to a swiss multi-national company;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c). There is no formal proposal under consideration of the Government for engaging the services of any pre-shipment inspection agency for inspection of goods imported into the country.

Travelling Facilities to Freedom Fighters in D.T.C. Buses

2872. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide free travelling facility to freedom fighters in DTC buses;

(b) if so, by what time a decision is likely to be taken in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). DTC is already providing free all route passes to all those freedom fighters who are residents of Delhi and are drawing freedom fighters' Pension. These passes are valid in all types of city bus services except Tourist Services, Palam Coach and Green Line Services of DTC.

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

Import of Jute Bags

2873. SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARAYA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to import jute bags from Bangladesh;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the likely effect of such import on the jute industry?

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

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

UNCTAD Meeting

2874. SHRI RABI RAY:
SHRI SIMON MARANDI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India participated in the meeting of UNCTAD held recently;

(b) if so, the outcome of the point discussed in the meeting; and

(c) the effects of the decisions taken in the meeting on the developing countries like India and its advantages and disadvantages to the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c). A Statement is enclosed.

STATEMENT

The eighth Session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD VIII) was held in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia from 8 to 25 February 1992. The Indian Delegation to the Conference was led by the Minister of State for Commerce.

The Conference adopted a political Declaration calling for a new partnership for development. The Conference also adopted a document on 'strengthening National and International Action and Multilateral Co-operation for a healthy, Secure and Equitable World Economy' outlining the policies on the agenda items.

On International Trade the Conference called for action to halt and reverse protectionism in order to bring about further liberalisation and expansion of world trade, to the benefit of all, in particular the developing countries and to ensure that environmental and trade policies were mutually supportive, with a view to achieving sustainable development. It also called for strengthening the international trading system through an early, balanced comprehensive and successful outcome of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations. On Technology, the Conference recognised that technology capability is one of the fundamental factors for social and economic development, and therefore, recommended that emphasis be put on policies and measures that promote

technological innovation in developing countries, including the provision of adequate financial resources. Given the importance of technologies to the development process, the Conference called upon the developed countries to consider ways of facilitating technology co-operation with the developing world. On debt, the Conference commended the actions of low income countries with substantial debt burdens which continue, at great cost, to service their debt and safeguard their credit worthiness and called for particular attention being paid to their resources needs. The Conference observed that the process of structural adjustment in developing countries needed to be adequately supported and funded. The Conference stressed that substantial additional efforts were required to enhance both the quantity and quality of support for developing countries. It called upon the developed countries to implement the understanding they have made to attain the agreed international target of devoting 0.7 per cent of GNP to ODA. On services, the Conference agreed that all governments should be encouraged to support progressive multilateral liberalisation of market access in sectors and modes of supply of export interest to developing countries including through the temporary movement of labour for the supply of services. On commodities, the Conference invited the Secretary General of UNCTAD to hold Consultations on the possibility of holding a world Conference on commodities, which would bring together producers, consumers, marketing enterprises and other market actors with the objective of shaping a coherent international commodity strategy, which takes into account the specific problems of selected commodity sectors.

The Conference also recognized good management as an essential element for sustainable, broadly based development and sound economic performance at all development levels.

The policy decisions taken at the Conference are recommendatory in nature and would be followed-up by the Committees created for the purpose. From our point of view and also of other developing countries, the outcome is considered positive.

Export Obligations of Multinationals

2875. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the multinationals operating in the country failed to fulfil their export obligations during 1990-91 and 1991-92 so far;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total net out-flow of foreign exchange by these companies during 1990-91 and 1991-92 till date;

(d) whether the Government have taken any action to check such loss of foreign exchange; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESH-WAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). According to the information furnished by the Reserve Bank of India the following companies did not fulfil their export obligations:

1. Audco India Limited.
2. Sandoz (India) Ltd.
3. Johnsons & Johnson.
4. Roche Products Limited.
5. Bayer India Ltd.
6. Union Carbide Limited

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

Resumption of Residential Land of Cantonment Area

2876. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANG-WAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government can resume the residential land in cantonment areas purchased by ex-servicemen or others on the expiry of old lease;

(b) if so, the details of the procedure/ rules prescribed in this regard;

(c) the compensation given to the owners of such land and buildings;

(d) whether any special facilities are given to the ex-servicemen whose land and buildings are acquired; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Lands within the Cantonment areas are, by and large, owned by Defence and such lands cannot be purchased by individuals, including ex-Servicemen, but are merely permitted to be held on lease-hold/ old grant terms with the occupancy rights in respect of structures thereon. The Government can resume lands which are held on resumable tenures subject to the terms of the lease/grant. Purchase of land by individuals within the Cantonment areas is permissible only in the case of privately owned lands/free-hold lands which are not resumable and can be acquired in accordance with the provisions of Land Acquisition Act.

(b) and (c). Lands held on resumable tenures can be resumed by the Government as per the terms of the lease/old grant, by giving one month's notice to the holder of occupancy rights, on payment of due compensation for the authorised structures standing on such lands, as determined by a committee consisting of Station Commander, DEO, Garrison Engineer and a representative of Regional Controller of Defence Accounts. The occupancy holder is also given a reasonable opportunity of being heard, before deciding the amount of compensation. Occupancy holders who do not possess any other residential plot/house in the Cantonment or in the adjacent area/town etc. are given sites equivalent in area to the site resumed, subject to a maximum of 500 sq. yards and entitlement to hold land under the provisions of Urban Land (Ceiling & Regulation) Act, 1976, wherever applicable, on payment of 50% of market value thereof. No compensation is payable for the land resumed as the ownership vests in the Government.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Imports/Exports

	US \$ Million	
	1989-90	1990-91
Exports	16626	18128
Imports	21269	24080

(b) The trade data for the financial year 1991-92 is available upto April-December, 1991. According to the provisional estimates, India's exports to the General Currency Area (GCA) amounted to US \$ 11310 million during April-December, 1991 as compared to US \$ 10636 million during April-December, 1990, thereby registering a growth of 6.3%. In Rupee terms, GCA exports registered a growth of 44.4%. India's exports to the Rupee

2877. SHRI CHANDRAJEET YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total imports and exports, separately in terms of foreign exchange at the end of 1991 as compared to those in 1989 and 1990;

(b) the overall export performance since the two-stage or rupee devaluation in mid-1991;

(c) the major items of imports and exports during 1991;

(d) the overall trade deficit at the end of 1991 as compared to the trade deficit at the end of 1990; and

(e) the manner in which the Government propose to reduce the trade deficit during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) the foreign trade data is compiled on financial year basis. The figures of India's exports and imports during 1989-90 and 1990-91, in Dollar terms, are given below:

Payment Area (RPA) amounted to US \$ 1333 million during April-December, 1991 as compared to US \$ 2494 million during April-December, 1990 hereby registering a decline of 46.5%. In Rupee terms, RPA exports declined by 27.4%.

(c) The major items of imports during April-December, 1991 were, Petroleum and Petroleum Products, Fertilizers, Iron & Steel,

Pearls, precious & semi-precious stones, machinery, project goods, Organic & Inorganic chemicals, Artificial resins & plastic materials, etc. The major items of export during April-December, 1991 were Gem & Jewellery Readymade Garments, cotton yarn & fabrics, Engineering Goods, Electronics Computer Software, Chemicals & related materials, leather & manufactures, Iron ore, Marine products, processed foods, oilmeams, cashew kernels, tea, coffee etc.

(d) The trade deficit during April-December 1991 was US \$ 1628 million as compared to US\$ 4832 million during April-December 1990. In Rupee terms, the trade was Rs. 3906 crores during April-December, 1991 as compared to Rs. 8535 crores during April-December, 1990.

(e) The Government introduced a package of policy reforms aimed at strengthening of export incentives, eliminating a substantial volume of import licensing and optimal import compression. These include: partial convertibility of Rupee reduction in tariff rates, removal of licensing on all imports barring a few sensitive items, strengthening of advance licensing schemes, etc. Besides, Government have taken other steps which include reducing controls through licensing, simplification of procedures for exports, activation of Board of Trade, bilateral discussions with selected countries, interaction with national organisations of trade and industry etc.

NCC Units in Maharashtra

2878. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of units of different NCC wings in Maharashtra;

(b) whether the Government propose to raise the number of NCC Units in all the

districts of Maharashtra;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Maharashtra has the following NCC Units:

Army wing	...	51
Naval wing	...	5
Air wing	...	3

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Raising of new units is not being considered due to paucity of resources.

[Translation]

Tea Production

2879. SHRI SURYANARAYAN YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some new areas have been selected for increasing the production of tea and coffee;

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

(c) the total amount spent so far in this regard; and

(d) the results likely to be achieved therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d). Potential for ex-

tending tea cultivation in the States of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Manipur, Sikkim, Orissa, UP, Tamilnadu, Kerala and Karnataka has been identified. Proposals for all tea projects have been received by the Tea Board for cultivation in a total area of 6689 Ha. Statewise area is not readily available and will be laid on the Table of the House later. The Tea Board has extended financial assistance against these projects by way of Rs. 149.68 lakhs as long term loan and Rs. 59.57 lakhs as capital subsidy. An additional production of 16.72 m. kgs. is expected from these projects.

With regard to Coffee, keeping in view the global demand supply position. Govern-

ment do not propose to encourage plantation in new areas.

[English]

Length of National Highway

2880. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state the length of National Highways at the end of V, VI and VII Plans, statewise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): A statement indicating the details is annexed.

STATEMENT

S. No.	State	5th plan	6th Plan	7th plan
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2299	2299	2519
2.	Arunchal Pradesh	-	330	330
3.	Assam	1468	2273	2296
4.	Bihar	2117	2117	2117
5.	Chandigarh	24	24	24
6.	Delhi	72	72	72
7.	Goa	229	229	229
8.	Gujarat	1352	1398	1631
9.	Haryana	698	698	698
10.	Himachal Pradesh	644	644	854
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	648	648	648
12.	Karnataka	1996	1996	1996

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>5th plan</i>	<i>6th Plan</i>	<i>7th plan</i>
1	2	3	4	5
13.	Kerala	784	784	940
14.	Madhya Pradesh	2670	2736	2946
15.	Maharashtra	2861	2888	2918
16.	Manipur	211	431	431
17.	Meghalaya	345	472	472
18.	Nagaland	113	113	113
19.	Orissa	1649	1649	1649
20.	Pondicherry	-	23	23
21.	Punjab	882	882	892
22.	Rajasthan	2157	2557	2931
23.	Tamil Nadu	1749	1766	1896
24.	Uttar Pradesh	2328	2613	2613
25.	West Bengal	1419	1561	1561
26.	Mizoram	-	245	551
27.	Sikkim	62	62	62
28.	Tripura	200	200	200
Total:		28,977	31,710	33,612

Functioning of Banks in Haryana[*Translation*]

2881. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the functioning of regional rural banks and nationalised banks in Haryana particularly in Faridabad district is not

satisfactory;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR
SINGH): (a) to (c). Reserve Bank of India
(RBI) has reported that the aggregate de-

posits and advances as at the end of September, 1991 in respect of public Sector banks functioning in the State of Haryana stood at Rs. 3,970 crores and Rs. 2,197 crores respectively. The Faridabad district of Haryana is covered by Gurgaon Gramin Bank. The deposits and advances of Gurgaon Gramin Bank in Faridabad district on the above date stood at Rs. 22.38 crores and Rs. 25.85 crores respectively. Similar figures for Public Sector Banks in respect of Faridabad district were Rs. 493 crores and Rs. 378 crores respectively. RBI has further reported that implementation of the annual credit plans of the banks in Haryana State as also in Faridabad district is generally satisfactory in terms of percentage of achievements over the targets prescribed.

Assistance to handloom Weavers in Rajasthan

2882. SHRI RAM NARIN BERWA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the financial assistance provided to handloom weavers of Rajasthan during the last three years for yarn production, year-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to expand this sector in the State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) No financial assistance was provided for establishing spinning mills in the handloom weavers cooperative sector in Rajasthan during the last three years as no proposal to this effect was received by the Government.

(b) to (c). Under the Central Sector Scheme for share capital participation in

Weavers Cooperative Spinning Mills, Government provides loan assistance through the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) for setting up new handloom weavers cooperative spinning mills, expansion of existing mills to make them economically viable and for modernisation on the basis of specific proposals received from the concerned State Governments, including Rajasthan.

[English]

Supply of Controlled Cloth to Poor

2883. SHRI M. G. REDDY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government provide controlled cloth to the poor/weaker sections of the society through public distribution system; and

(b) if so, the details of control cloth given to public distribution system during the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) NTC does not directly deal with Public Distribution System but distributes controlled cloth through National Co-operative Consumers Federation, State Co-operative federations, State Food and Civil Supplies Corporations, NTC's own retail show-rooms and authorised dealers as approved by the Government.

Employment to Displaced Persons at Ordnance Factory, Sainitala

2884. SHRI SARAT CHANDRA PATANAYAK: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of displaced persons so far provided with job by the Ordnance Factory, Sainitala;

(b) whether the number of displaced persons are yet to be provided with employment there; and

(c) the other steps taken by the government to rehabilitate the displaced families so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) 239.

(b) The number of persons to be recruited depends on the needs of the project and the candidates, meeting the job requirements. Hence, it is not expected that members representing every one of the displaced families will be provided with employment. Presently there are 781 displaced persons (families) who have not been provided with employment.

(c) A sum of Rs. 140.84 lakhs has been placed at the disposal of government of Orissa for rehabilitation measures for the displaced families.

Free Trade Zones

2885. SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Free Trade Zones functioning in the country as on date;

(b) the achievements made by them during the last three years;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to set up more such zones; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) There are six Export

Processing Zones functioning in the country at Kandla, Bombay, Maras, Cochin, Nodia and Falta. The seventh zone at Visakhapatnam is under implementation.

(b) The export performance of the zones during the last three years is as below:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>Exports (Rs. Crores)</i>
1988-89	516.52
1989-90	732.08
1990-91	982.72

(c) There is no proposal at present to set up more such Zones.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Compensation to States for Loss of Revenue Due to Ban on Recovery of Cess on Coal

2886. SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ninth Finance Commission had recommended for compensating the loss of revenue suffered by States due to ban on the recovery of cess on coal;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) No, Sir.

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

NRI Bonds for sardar sarovar Project

2887. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR:
SHRIMATI BHAVNA
CHIKHALIA:
SHRI SHANKERSINH
VAGHELA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the union Government have accorded approval for the issue of NRI Bonds for the Sardar Sarovar Project;

(b) if so, the nomenclature and terms and conditions of these bonds; and

(c) the time frame for launching of these bonds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c). In view of (a) above, this does not arise.

Assistance to Uttar Pradesh

2888. SHRI GAYA PRASAD KORI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to State:

(a) whether the Union Government have decided to grant financial assistance to the Government of Uttar Pradesh to meet its financial crisis;

(b) if so, the details therefor,

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) to (c). Uttar Pradesh along with the other States is entitled for Normal Central Assistance, Additional Central Assistance for Externally Aided

Projects, Share in Central Taxes, Grants in lieu of Railway Passenger Fare, Small Savings Loans, Revenue Gap Grants, Allocation under Hill Area Development Programme, etc. In addition to the aforesaid, a Special Loan of Rs. 127 crores to Uttar Pradesh has been approved to meet 50% of the local cost on the Externally Aided Anpara 'B' Thermal Power Project. In addition, the Centre has decided to pass on 100% of the bilateral assistance for the above project to the State with effect from 1.4.1991.

[English]

Subsidies to Big Industrial Houses

2889. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large amount of subsidy is provided on various items to big industrial houses in spite of the fact that huge amount of income-tax and excise duty arrears remain pending against them; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and reaction of the government in his regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Subsidies are given by the Government on the basis of basic social and economic considerations. The principal subsidies on food products are distributed through the public distribution system and on fertilisers distributed to farmers. No specific subsidies are provided to big industrial houses.

(b) Does not arise.

Waiver of Interest on Government Borrowings

2890. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have asked the Reserve Bank of India to waive interest on Government borrowings from the RBI;

(b) if so, the total amount of interest accrued on Government borrowings from RBI as on December 31, 1991;

(c) the reasons for asking waiver of the interest obligations by the Government; and

(d) the reaction of the RBI in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SNAN-TARAM POTDUKHE): (a) No, Madam.

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

CESS Collection From Pepper

2991. SHRI K. MURALEE DHARAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of CESS on pepper collected during the last two years and during 1991-92 so far;

(b) how the amount has been utilised and proposed to be utilised;

(c) whether the Government propose to utilise the amount on the welfare of cardamom planters; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SAL-MAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (d). Any amount collected by way of cess on export of spices including pepper is credited to the Consoli-

dated Fund of India, from which funds are released to the Spices Board for carrying on export promotion measures for all spices and for the development for cardamom in the country. Under the provisions of the Spices Board Act, 1986 (No. 10 of 1986), the Board has been given the responsibility of development, both production and export, of cardamom. The amount realised from export cess on black pepper is indicated below:-

1989-90	Rs. 0.75 crores
1990-91	Rs. 0.65 crores
1991-92	Rs. 0.40 crores

Allocation of Fund to Maharashtra from Workers Rehabilitation Fund

2892. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total fund allocated to Workers Rehabilitation fund by the Government;

(b) the amount allocated out of the Fund to the Textile Mills, State-wise particularly in Maharashtra; and

(c) the amount actually disbursed to the workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b). The total fund allocated to workers under Textile Workers' Rehabilitation Fund Scheme is Rs. 40.00 crores (R.E.) during 1991-92, which are placed at the disposal of the Textile Commissioner, Bombay who disburses the amount to the eligible mills/workers.

(c) A Statement is attached.

STATEMENT

S. No.	Name of the Mill	Amount disbursed under TWRSF (Rs. in crores)
1	2	3
	Tamil Nadu	(rounded off)
1.	M/s Cauvery Spg. Mills, Coimbatore	0.42
2.	Radhkrishna Mills, Coimbatore	1.91
	Maharashtra	
3.	Modella Textile Ind. Ltd., Thane	1.35
4.	Kishco Mills P. Ltd., Bombay	0.53
	Delhi	
5.	D. C. M. Ltd.	7.67
	Gujarat	
6.	Bansidhar Mills, Ahmedabad	1.92
7.	Nagari Mills, Ahmedabad	3.26
8.	P. G. Textiles, Baroda	2.38
9.	Shree Yamuna Mills, Baroda	2.18
10.	Ajit Mills, Ahmedabad	2.79
11.	Bharat Suryodaya Mills, Ahmedabad	2.28
12.	Prasad Mills Ltd., Ahmedabad	1.26
13.	Ahmedabad Shri Ramkrishna Mills Ltd.	2.47
14.	Aryodhaya Spg. & Wvg. Mills Ahmedabad	-
15.	New Gujarat Synthetic Ltd. No. 1	0.72
16.	New Gujara synthetic Ltd., No. 2	1.39

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Mill</i>	<i>Amount disbursed under TWRSF (Rs. in crores)</i>
1	2	3
17.	Ahmedabad Commercial Mills Ahmedabad	-
18.	Navjivan Mills (Kalol)	1.46
19.	Kalol Mills (Kalol)	-
20.	Omex Investors, Ahmedabad	1.34
21.	Aryodaya Spg. Mfg. Mills, Ahmedabad	0.41
22.	Ahmedabad jubilee Mills, Ahmedabad	0.52
Total:		36.26

Representation of Public Representatives in Cantonment Boards

2893. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal before the Government to involve the MPs and MLAs in the activities of cantonment boards;

(b) if so, the details of such proposals;

(c) by when it is likely to be implemented; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

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

(d) The Cantonments Act, 1924 does not provide for a direct role for MPs and MLAs in the administration of Cantonment

Boards. The local civil population have their own elected representatives on the Cantonment Boards.

Rate of Interest of deposits in General Provident Fund

2894. SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Govt. have enhanced the rate of interest on the fixed deposits in the banks and post offices;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to increase the rate of interest on the deposits in the General Provident Fund;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if no, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHIE): (a) During the year 1990-91, the rates of interest on the fixed deposits in the banks were raised by the Reserve Bank of India and that on Post Office Time Deposits by the Government.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) General Provident Fund cannot be equated to term deposits with Banks, being a social security measure enjoying liberal conditions for temporary and permanent withdrawals of deposits. In addition, GPF enjoys tax benefits under Section 88 of the Income Tax Act. Interest on GPF enjoys complete exemption from income tax making the effective return much higher than the nominal rate of 12 percent, depending on the tax bracket of the subscriber.

Study on Shortcomings in Joint Ventures Abroad

2895. DR. KRUPASINGHU BHOI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the study conducted by F.I.C.C.I. on the shortcomings of joint ventures executed abroad; and

(b) if so the details thereof and the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to rectify the deficiencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Summary of the recommendations made in the workshop on Indian Joint Ventures Abroad organised by FICCI are as per attached statement.

The revision of guidelines for overseas joint ventures/ W.O.S. is under consideration.

STATEMENT

Recommendations of the Workshop on Indian Joint Ventures Abroad organised by F.I.C.C.I. on 14.12.1991.

1. A Single Window Clearance system should be adopted.
2. The Government should gear up commercial intelligence section in Indian Embassies abroad.
3. The Government should select a few areas in which the Indian entrepreneurs are capable of setting up JV projects.
4. E.C.G.C. should extend its coverage to protect Indian JVs.
5. Bilateral Agreement for investment guarantee should be entered with other countries.
6. FERA needs to be reviewed.
7. The Indian JVs should fully utilise the services of skilled and technical manpower.
8. Transfer of Inter corporate dividends should be allowed.

Additional Suggestions:

- a) Collective presence of Indian industry specially in the Software Sector is required.
- b) Local Govt's interference in day to day management of JVs should be sorted out at Govt. level.
- c) Bank guarantee and loan facilities should be extended.
- d) Incentives on repatriation of dividends be given.
- e) Tax concession under 80 RRA be given to Indians employed in the JV Co.

- f) For the JVs providing erection services, export of plant & machinery towards equity should not be insisted.

Revision of Pay Scales

2896. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to revise the pay scales of Government employees working in the grades of Rs. 1400-2300 to Rs. 1640-2900;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which their pay scales are likely to be revised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) No, Sir.

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

By-pass to NH No. 44

2897. SHRI PETER G. MARBANIANG:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to construct a by-pass to National Highway No. 44 at Shillong and Jowai;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) the total expenditure involved in the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Yes, sir. Land acquisition for Shillong Bye-pass (26.5 km long) and Jowai Bye-pass (40.70 km long) is included in Annual Plan 1991-92 for sanction.

(c) Construction of these by-passes will be considered after land for these has been acquired. As such it is too early to give details of the total expenditure involved.

Handing over of Vallarpadam Oil Tanker Berth to Private Party

2898. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to hand over the proposed Vallarpadam oil tanker berth in Cochin to private party:

(b) if so, the detail thereof; and

(c) the terms and conditions on which the tanker berth is proposed to be given to the party?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir, No oil terminal is proposed at Vallarpadam.

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

Construction of Bridges over Ganga

2899. SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI:

SHRI PRAHMANAND
MANDAL:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the policy of Government in regard to the construction of bridges on the river Ganga from Haridwar to the Bay of Bengal;

(b) the total number of bridges constructed so far on the river Ganga;

(c) whether the Government have approved the recommendations of National Transport Development Council to include

Farakka National Highway (via Sultanpur, Johnpur, Gazipur, Buxar, Areah, Patna, Monghyr, Bhagalpur and Shibganj) in the master plan of the Eighth Plan;

(d) if so, whether the government propose to give financial assistance for the construction of a bridge on the river Ganga in Monghyr under Iner-state and economic importance programme; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Constitutionally, the Government of India are primarily concerned only with roads declared as National Highways. The policy of the Government with regard to construction of bridges on the river Ganga from Haridwar to Bay of Bengal is that high level bridges will be provided at all points where National Highways cross the river Ganga.

(b) The total number of bridges on National Highways across the river Ganga constructed by the Central Government so far is six.

(c) Sultanpur-Jaunpur road is already forming part of NH 56. No other decision regarding declaration of any road as a National Highway has been taken pending finalisation of the Eighth Plan.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Export of Rubber Footwear

2900. **SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a great scope to increase the export of rubber footwears;

(b) if so, the strategies adopted therefor; and

(c) the target fixed for export of rubber footwears during Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). Yes Sir. Good scope exists to increase export of rubber footwears to various countries including West Europe and U.S.A.

The Government has allowed import of sophisticated plant and equipment at concessional rate of customs duty for the industry to modernise their production base and upgrade their technology for manufacture of modern rubber footwear as per specifications and demands in the overseas markets, particularly, in West Europe and U.S.A. Manufacture-exporters of rubber footwears/sportshoes can avail themselves of the benefit of DEEC Scheme under the current IMPEX Policy for supply for raw materials and components.

(c) No specific export target has been fixed for rubber footwear during the Eighth five Year Plan.

Propellent Factory in Warrangal

2901. **SHRI DHARMABIKSHAM:** Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government propose to establish a propellent factory in Warrangal district of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government so far in this regard; and

(c) the estimated cost and expected production of the factory?

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

(b) Do not arise.

Missile Warning Satellite

2902. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to develop Missile-Warning Satellite in near future; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Facilities Provided to Weavers in Bihar

2903. SHRI BRAHMANAND MANDAL:
SHRI MUMTAZ ANSARI
SHRI LALIT ORAON:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the grants provided to Bihar from 1990 till date for promotion of handlooms and the amount thereof;

(b) the details of the raw material facilities and marketing facilities made available by the Union Government to weavers in Bihar during 1989-90, 1990-91 and 1991-92 (upto January 1992);

(c) whether the Government have conducted any survey during the above period with regard to assessment to improve the economic conditions of the weavers;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the government propose to start any new welfare scheme for the weavers in Bihar; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) During 1990-91 the State of Bihar was given Central Assistance for the schemes of Handloom Development Projects (Rs. 8.32 lakhs), Share Capital Assistance to Apex Societies. (Rs. 5.00 lakhs), setting up of processing facilities (Rs. 23.51 lakhs), Janata Subsidy (Rs. 409.54 Lakhs). During the current year the state has been granted a sum of Rs. 158.18 lakhs on Janata Subsidy.

(b) Handloom weavers throughout the country could avail of assistance for meeting their raw material and marketing needs. The schemes in operation include the Janata Cloth Scheme, Market Development Assistance Scheme Share Assistance to Primaries and margin money for destitute weavers. Under the Janata Cloth Scheme a sum of Rs. 3.40 is paid as subsidy per sq. metre of cloth woven for cotton. Assistance under the Marketing Development Assistance Scheme is linked to the performance of the handloom organisations. This assistance is to be utilised for improving marketing and infrastructural facilities of the concerned handloom organisations. The share Capital Assistance to primaries helps the concerned primary weavers cooperative societies to raise working Capital for purchase of raw material etc. Similarly the margin money for destitute weavers also helps those weavers to raise working capital. During 1990-91 a Special Package Scheme to help he riot hit weavers of Bhagalpur was launched. Assistance provided to the State of Bihar during the past 3 years is given below:-

1989-90	Rs. 902.20 lakhs
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1990-91	Rs. 545.45 lakhs
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1991-92	Rs. 158.18 lakhs
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(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f). The Thrift Fund Scheme and the Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme have been revised. Under the revised Thrift Fund Scheme weavers outside cooperative fold are also included, and the amount of participation has been raised from 12% of wages earned to 16% of wages earned. Out of this 8% would be borne by the weaver, 4% by State government and 4% by Central Government. Under the Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme the scale of unit cost has been revised, and provision for electrification and land cost has been included. These schemes are applicable throughout the country including the state of Bihar.

[English]

Exports to China

2904. DR. Y. S. RAJASEKHAR REDDY:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the products exported to China during 1990-91 and their value in rupee terms;

(b) the products imported from China during the above period and their value in rupee terms;

(c) whether following the recent visit of Chinese Prime Minister, exports to China are likely to be increased; and

(d) if so, the details thereof/

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The major items exported during 1990-91 to China were:

Value (in Rs. crores)

		Value (in Rs. crores)
1.	Processed Minerals	9.38
2.	Iron ore	2.10
3.	Ores and minerals (other than iron ore and processed minerals).	4.26
4.	Tobacco (Unmanufactured)	3.21
5.	Other commodities	13.60
		32.55

(b) The major items imported during 1990-91 from China were:

Value (in Rs. crores)

		Value (in Rs. crores)
1.	Coal, coke.	17.56
2.	Raw silk	12.01

		Value (in Rs. crores)
3.	Minerals	5.73
4.	Organic chemicals	3.66
5.	Textile yarns, fabrics, made-up articles	2.70
6.	Artificial resins, plastic material, etc.	2.11
7.	Inorganic Chemicals	1.43
8.	Medicinal & pharmaceutical products	1.30
9.	Pulp and waste paper	1.17
10.	pearls precious and semi-precious stone	1.12
11.	Others	14.83
		63.62

(c) Trade talks with Chinese side were held in an atmosphere of mutual cooperation during this visit. It is expected therefore that there will be greater scope for trade and economic cooperation.

(d) A Trade Protocol for the Calendar Year 1992 was signed during the Chinese Prime Minister's visit. This identifies items of export and import interests for either side and envisages increase in the quantity of export of iron ore including concentrates and chrome ore.

World Bank Assistance for National Development Fund

2905. SHRI KODIKKUNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether World Bank has given any assurance for making contribution to National Development Fund;

(b) if so, the total amount proposed to be

given by the World Bank for this purpose; and

(c) the details of the conditions laid by the World Bank in his regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAESH-WAR THAKUR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (c). Question does not arise.

Export Performance

2906. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that postdevaluation growth in exports in dollar terms has been far from satisfactory;

(b) if so, the actual export during July-December, 1991 in dollar terms, and how does it compare with the same period of last year;

(c) the reasons for poor export performance; and

(d) the anticipated commodity trade deficit in dollar terms during 1991-92?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c). The foreign trade data is compiled on financial year basis. According to provisional estimates, India's exports to general currency Area (GCA) during April-December, 1991 amounted to US\$ 11310 million as compared to US \$ 10636 million during April-December, 1990, there by registering an increase of 6.3%. In Rupee terms, GCA exports increased by 44.4% India's exports to Rupee Payment Area (RPA) amounted to US\$ 1333 million during April-December, 1991 as compared to US\$ 2494 million during April-December, 1990 thereby registering a decline of 46.5%. In Rupee terms, RPA exports declined by 27.4%. the reasons for the decline in exports to RPA countries are mainly external and include the political changes that have taken place in the erstwhile Soviet Union. Other factors which have affected export growth include a slow-down in the world economy and recession in major developed countries, unavoidable import compression and high rate of export credit.

(d) The trade deficit during April-De-

cember 1991 amounted to US\$ 1628 million, which is less as compared to the trade deficit of US\$ 4832 million during April-December 1990. It is difficult to precisely estimate the trade deficit at the end of fiscal year 1991-92 at this stage. However, on the basis of current performance it is expected to be significantly less than the trade deficit of S\$ 5932 million during the fiscal year 1990-91.

[*Translation*]

Loans to SCs/STs Under SEEUY

2907. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of loans given to educated unemployed youth under SEEUY during each of the last three years; and

(b) the percentage of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes among them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). The amounts of loans sanctioned to the beneficiaries under the scheme for providing Self Employment to the Educated Unemployed Youth (SEEUY) during each of the last three years and the percentages of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes among them were as under:-

Year	Loan amount sanctioned to the beneficiaries (Rs. in lakhs)	Percentage of SC/ST beneficiaries to the total number
1988-89	40460.61	8.88
1989-90	22481.04	10.78
1990-91	22097.07	11.76

Setting up of Separate Shipping Corporation for Andaman and Nicobar Islands

2908. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government have given consent to have a separate Shipping Corporation for Andaman and Nicobar Islands to operate Islands-Mainland and inter-Islands vessels; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No such proposal has been received from Andaman and Nicobar Administration.

(b) Does not arise.

Japanese Investment

2909. SHRI KAMLA MISHRA MADHUKAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Japan has set out harsh business reforms, as preconditions to its agreement for investment in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have examined the impact of these conditions on the problems of inflation, price-rise and unemployment etc;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the sectors in which such investment is proposed to be made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: (a) No, Sir.

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

Export of Agricultural and Industrial Goods

2910. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase export of Agricultural and Industrial Goods to earn More foreign exchange; and

(b) if so, the items proposed to be exported during 1992-93 and to which countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Govt. proposes to continue exporting the items in our export basket to all the countries to whom we are currently exporting. These are broadly the agricultural products such as cereals, tobacco, spices, cashew kernels, oilmeals, processed foods, marine products, ores and minerals, leather and leather manufactures, gems and jewellery, sports goods, chemicals and related products, engineering goods, electronics and computer software, textiles, handicrafts, carpets, petroleum products etc. Our principal markets include USA, UK, Belgium, France, FRG, Italy, Netherlands, Australia, Iran, Japan, Rep. of Korea, Singapore, Hongkong, Saudi Arabia & U.A.E.

Price of Viscose Fibre

2911. SHRI KARIYA MUNDA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to control the price of viscose fibre produced indigenously to enable the Kutch Udyog to run their handloom business;

(b) if not, the reasons therefore;

(c) the price of Indian viscose fibres at present vis-a-vis to foreign fibre; and

(d) whether the Government propose to refer the matter to the bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices to give fresh look into the pricing of viscose fibre?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) At present the Govt. has no proposal to control The price of Viscose Staple Fibre produced indigenously.

(b) There is no unwarranted or steep increase in prices of Viscose Staple Fibre as compared to rise in general price level. As such the need for intervention of Govt. to control the price does not arise.

(c) A statement is attached.

(d) The matter has already been referred to the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices.

STATEMENT

Prices of Viscose Staple Fibre

Period	Indigeno (Rs. per Kg.)	Overseas	
		Dollar per kg.	Rupees per kg.
April, 91.	44.29	2.23	41.50
May, 91	44.29	2.23	41.54
June, 91	44.29	2.22	52.36
July, 91	44.29	2.36	55.45
Aug, 91	44.83	2.38	55.96
Sept., 91	44.83	2.35	55.76
Oct., 91	44.83	2.36	55.06
Nov., 91	44.83	2.37	56.36

Commodity Boards

2912. SHRI SUDARSAN RAY-CHAUDHURI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to hand over running of the commodity Boards to the respective industries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Amount Allocated for legal aid Scheme in U.P.

2913. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated to Uttar Pradesh under Legal Aid Scheme during the last three years;

(b) the number of persons benefited under this scheme during the above period district-wise;

(c) whether his scheme has failed in the State; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) The amounts allocated by the Uttar Pradesh Government and the Committee for implementing Legal Aid Schemes (CILAS) to carry out Legal Aid Schemes in Uttar Pradesh during the financial years 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91 are as under:-

<i>Financial Year</i>	<i>Budget allocation by U.P. Government</i>	<i>Special grant by CILAS</i>
1988-89	29,78,000/-	Nil
1989-90	50,35,000/-	1,00,000/-
1990-91	48,55,000/-	1,00,000/-

(b) 9,60,212 persons benefited under the U.P. Legal Aid & Advice Scheme during the financial years 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91. The districtwise details are given in the enclosed statements.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) In view of reply to part (c), the question does not arise.

STATEMENT

Sl.No	Name of the District	Financial Year 1989-89	Financial Year 1989-90	Financial Year 1990-91	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Agra	2,162	4,165	1	6,328
2.	Aligarh	2,694	3,884	2,560	9,138
3.	Allahabad	5,262	10,482	4	15,748
4.	Almorah	592	334	395	1,321
5.	Azamgarh	7,187	4,711	6,272	18,170
6.	Badaun	7,128	3,728	4,394	15,248
7.	Bahrach	8,089	5,798	7,791	21,678
8.	Balla	111	4,790	4,511	9,412
9.	Banda	5,181	2,449	4,623	12,235
10.	Barabanki	3,095	3,935	4,479	11,509
11.	Bareilly	8,152	4,211	4,243	16,606

Sl.No	Name of the District	Financial Year 1988-89	Financial Year 1989-90	Financial Year 1990-91	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
12.	Basti	3,341	2,747	4,427	10,515
13.	Bijnore	323	2,444	4,043	6,810
14.	Bulandshahar	4,001	3,148	4,845	11,794
15.	Chamoli	861	583	443	1,887
16.	Dehradun	606	1,094	3,788	5,488
17.	Deoria	6,965	19,812	11,180	37,957
18.	Etah	2,983	1,486	1,014	5,483
19.	Etawah	9,905	13,520	6,653	30,078
20.	Faizabad	18,551	16,611	5,911	41,073
21.	Farrakhabad	9,407	8,446	10,481	23,334
22.	Fatehpur	17,735	17,769	10,145	45,649

Sl.No	Name of the District	Financial Year 1988-89	Financial Year 1989-90	Financial Year 1990-91	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
23.	Ghaziabad	833	536	614	1,983
24.	Gazipur	21,718	16,932	11,390	50,040
25.	Gonda	6,921	5,809	5,120	17,650
26.	Gorakhpur	4,674	12,457	9,588	26,719
27.	Hamirpur	3,020	2,776	3,524	9,320
28.	Hardoi	16,211	14,896	16,384	47,491
29.	Jaluan	2,231	2,305	9	4,545
30.	Jhansi	3,097	5,387	5,850	14,334
31.	Jaunpur	2,355	7,042	32,562	41,959
32.	Kanpur (S)	297	12,396	11,997	24,690
33.	Kanpur (D)	3,976	3,478	3,878	11,332
34.	Khera Lakhimpur	5,301	8,254	7,640	21,195

Sl.No	Name of the District	Financial Year 1988-89	Financial Year 1989-90	Financial Year 1990-91	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
35.	Lalitpur	3,358	2,453	1,397	7,208
36.	Lucknow	15,178	7,878	18,665	41,721
37.	Manipur	2,699	2,422	2,526	7,647
38.	Mathura	1,474	527	-	1,971
39.	Meerut	5,482	11,130	2,136	18,748
40.	Mirzapur	5,002	3,440	4,886	13,328
41.	Moradabad	2,702	2,223	2,576	7,501
42.	Muzzafarnagar	1,282	5,558	5,440	12,280
43.	Nainital	1,738	2,291	2,444	6,473
44.	Pauri Garhwal	752	90	237	1,079
45.	Pilibhit	3,630	3,636	1,189	8,455

Sl.No	Name of the District	Financial Year 1988-89	Financial Year 1989-90	Financial Year 1990-91	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
46.	Pithoragarh	1,000	21	989	2,010
47.	Pratapgarh	1,677	5,349	7,147	14,178
48.	Raibareilly	6,813	10,301	18,524	35,638
49.	Saharanpur	5,387	3,213	2,968	11,568
50.	Suketpur	8,496	13,118	6,619	28,226
51.	Shahjahanpur	4,747	3,999	4,489	13,235
52.	Sitapur	3,534	4,226	3,940	11,700
53.	Rampur	4,257	9,444	3,197	16,898
54.	Tehrigarhwal	1,336	1,144	1,103	3,583
55.	Unnao	5,013	7,357	14,489	26,859
56.	Uttarkashi	301	36	590	927
57.	Varanashi	4,675	10,242	13,387	28,304

Sl.No	Name of the District	Financial Year 1988-89	Financial Year 1989-90	Financial Year 1990-91	Total
1.	2	3	4	5	6
58.	H.C. Allahabad	38	60	6	104
59.	H. C. Lucknow	30	14	146	190
60.	Haridwar			721	721
61.	Sonabhadra			2,382	2,382
62.	Firozabad		Newly created districts	935	935
63.	Sidharthnagar			2,618	2,618
64.	Mau Natu			-	-
Total		2,85,533	3,38,382	3,36,297	9,60,212

*[English]***Cases pending in Karnataka High Court**

2914. SHRI G. MADE GOWDA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending as on January 1, 1992 in the Karnataka High Court;

(b) the number of cases writ petitions filed in the Karnataka High Court from January 1, 1991 to the end of December, 1991; and

(c) the number of writ petitions and other cases disposed of as on January 1, 1992?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) 99067.

(b) Writ Petitions- 29365
Other cases- 34923

(c) Writ Petitions- 23689
Other cases- 29385

Introduction of New Technologies in Ordnance Factories

2915. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHONSLE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce some new defence technologies in Ordnance Factories to produce most advanced arms and ammunition;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether for this purpose some new factories are also likely to be set up;

(d) if so, the locations thereof;

(e) whether these changes can meet the emerging challenges; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNAKUMAR): (a) Ordnance Factories are in the process of production of certain new items of arms & ammunition involving new design technologies.

(b) It would not be in the public interest to disclose the details thereof.

(c) There is no proposal at present to set up any new ordnance factory.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f). The emerging challenges are taken into account while planning manufacture of new items.

Seizure of Narcotic Drugs in Delhi

2917. SHRI BAREL AL JATAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the value of each of the narcotic drugs seized in Delhi during the last three months; and

(b) the number of persons arrested and the action taken against them.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) As per the information available with the Government, the quantity of drugs seized by various enforcement agencies in Delhi during the last three months is as given below:

Name of the Drug	(Provisional) Quantity seized (In kgs.)		
	December 1991	January 1992	February 1992
Charas	29.272	30.355	-
Opium	1.480	1.813	-
Heroin	0.609	1.303	2.818
Ganja	10.000	19.500	-

No precise valuation of the narcotic drugs, which are often of indeterminate strength and composition, and are liable for destruction, is feasible.

(b) 154 persons were arrested. Appropriate action under the relevant law has been taken against the offenders.

Development of Sericulture in Karnataka

2918. SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has sent any plan for development of sericulture in the State to the Union Government for approval;

(b) if so, whether the Government have received any request to stop the import of silk as it would affect the interest of farmers in the state; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY FOR TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLO): (a) No, sir.

(b) and (c). The Government of India has recently decided, in the context of outbreak of pebrine disease which had affected production as well as prices of silk in the

country, to import 200 metric tonnes of silk. The Government of Karnataka has not sought any review of his decision. Some of the Government sponsored organisations of Karnataka have approached the Central Silk Board for allocation of imported silk.

Revamping of NABARD

2919. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to revamp the functioning of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development for providing timely credit and other facilities to farmers, weavers, etc; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b).: National bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has been providing refinance facilities to the eligible banks to help them provide credit to farmers, weavers, etc. There is no proposal with the Government to revamp the functioning of NABARD.

Production of Cotton and Textiles by Various Sectors

2920. SHRISYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of cotton as well as mixed textiles in the country during 1990-91, including the handloom and powerloom sectors and the estimated production for 1991-92;

(b) the total exports and imports during 1990-91 and estimated for 1991-92; and

(c) the change in per capita availability of such textiles in 1991 as compared to last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Total production of cloth (Cotton, man-made and blended) in the country during the period is:

(In million sq. metres)

<i>Sector</i>	<i>1990-91</i>	<i>1991-92 (Estimated)</i>
Mill Sector	2,720	2,544
Powerloom Sector	10,988	12,955
(Hoisery)	1,758	1,783
Handloom Sector	4,888	4,967
Total	20,354	22,249

(b) Exports and Imports of various textile items during the period is:

<i>Year</i>	<i>(Rs. in crores)</i>	
	<i>Exports</i>	<i>Imports</i>
1990-91	8361.77	787.64
1991-92 (Estimated)	11167.00	693.00

(c) The per capita availability of cloth in 1991-92 is expected to be 18.22 linear metres, in comparison to 17.75, 17.32 and 18.21 for 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91 respectively.

Cotton Demand

2921. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state the total demand of cotton for the mill, powerloom and handloom sectors and the

quantum of imported cotton assigned to each sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): The Cotton Advisory Board at its meeting held on 14th February, 1992 has estimated the total consumption of cotton during 1991-92 season at 106.25 lakh bales and the non-mill consumption at 8 lakh bales. The modalities for import of cotton are being worked out.

Cluster and Satellite Offices of Banks

2922. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:
SHRIMATI MAHENDRA
KUMARI:
SHRIMATI RITA VERMA:
SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA
KAUR (DEEPA):
SHRIMATI DIPIKA H.
TOPIWALA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Cluster and Satellite Offices of the public sector banks opened during 1990-91 and 1991-92 in rural areas in each State; and

(b) the amount of assistance given through these offices during the above period, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (b). Reserve Bank of India has reported that during 1990-91 and 1991-92 the Public Sector Banks have not opened any cluster/satellite offices. With the adoption of Service Area Approach to rural lending and allocation of a number of 15 to 25 villages per branch, the role of cluster or satellite office has minimised as the concerned branch can directly reach its clientele.

Credit-Deposit Ratio of Nationalised Banks in Karnataka

2923. SHRI S. B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has submitted any representation for increasing the credit deposit ratio of the nationalised banks in the State:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). The problem of regional imbalances in the deployment of bank credit in various states is in the knowledge of Government and Reserve Bank of India (RBI). A statement giving Statewise Credit Deposit Ratio of the commercial banks is attached. It will be seen that C:D Ratio for the State of Karnataka has been considerably higher than the All India average. Suggestions are received by the Government and RBI from the states from time to time at various levels for larger deployment of resources mobilised by the banks locally. The credit deployment in a particular area depends on various factors like economic activities, entrepreneurship, availability of raw materials and other infrastructural facilities, investment opportunities and also law and order situation in that area. However, RBI has advised the banks to ensure the wide regional disparities amongst various states in credit deployment is reduced and steps are taken to increase the flow of credit to all productive and identified viable proposals in different areas.

STATEMENT

<i>State/Union Territory</i>	<i>March 1990 CDR (%)</i>	<i>March 1991 CDR (%)</i>
1	2	3
Northern Region	54.8	63.6

<i>State/Union Territory</i>	<i>March 1990 CDR (%)</i>	<i>March 1991 CDR (%)</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
Haryana	61.2	60.3
Himachal Pradesh	38.6	37.4
Jammu & Kashmir	31.8	48.7
Punjab	45.5	44.8
Rajasthan	62.2	56.5
Chandigarh	65.5	82.2
Delhi	58.6	78.6
North Eastern Region	51.7	45.6
Arunachal Pradesh	20.1	16.4
Assam	55.5	51.2
Manipur	69.9	65.4
Meghalaya	24.6	10.1
Mizoram	34.2	22.1
Nagaland	42.6	38.5
Tripura	72.2	58.4
Eastern Region	52.6	51.8
Bihar	40.0	39.6
Orissa	81.3	76.5
Sikkim	28.3	18.3
West Bengal	54.9	54.5
Andaman & Nicobar Isld.	35.1	34.3
Central Region	52.8	51.6

<i>State/Union Territory</i>	<i>March 1990 CDR (%)</i>	<i>March 1991 CDR (%)</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
Madhya Pradesh	68.6	67.1
Uttar Pradesh	47.0	45.8
Western Region	74.0	71.4
Goa	31.9	33.2
Gujarat	61.3	59.7
Maharashtra	79.7	76.3
Dadra & Nagar	55.5	51.7
Daman & Diu	22.4	23.4
Southern Region	87.4	84.5
Andhra Pradesh	87.1	82.6
Karnataka	91.0	85.7
Kerala	64.0	59.1
Tamil Nadu	99.4	100.1
Lakshadweep	16.2	16.9
Pondicherry	57.4	55.1
All India	65.8	66.2

Construction of Shahdara Flyover

2924. SHRI S. B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether changes in the design have pushed up project costs by atleast Rs. 12 crores on the eight lane Shahdara Flyover in East Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons for the change in design;

(c) the time by which the flyover is expected to be completed; and

(d) the time by which two key subways for pedestrians are likely to be constructed on either side of the railway lines over which the Shahdara Flyover is being constructed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JUGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). According to the information received from

Municipal Corporation of Delhi, who are the executing agency of the project, there is no change in design of the flyover, and consequently no increase in cost on this account. However, the cost estimate is being revised by Municipal Corporation of Delhi to take care of escalation and other factors.

(c) The flyover is expected to be completed by October, 1993 subject to the availability of land which is being acquired by Municipal Corporation of Delhi.

(d) According to Municipal Corporation of Delhi, two pedestrian subways would be constructed after acquisition of land and completion of the main flyover.

Minting of Five Rupee Coins

2925. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have cleared a proposal for the minting of 5 rupee coins;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the weight and diameter of the coin; and

(c) the weight and diameter of the present one rupee coin, fifty paise coin, ten paise coin, and ten paise coin respectively?

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

(b) The new Rs. 5/- Coin will be of cupro-nickel alloy with a diameter of 23 millimeters, round shape having security edges and serrations, weighing 8 grams.

(c) The relevant details of Re.1/-, 50 paise, 25 paise and 10 paise coins, presently being minted, are as under:-

<i>Denomination</i>	<i>Weight (in grams)</i>	<i>Diameter (in mm)</i>	<i>Metal Composition</i>
Re. 1/-	6.00	26	Cupro-Nickel
50 paise	3.79	22	Stainless Steel
25 paise	2.83	19	-Do-
10 paise	1.75	23 (across scallops)	Aluminium Magnesium
- do -	2.00	16	Stainless Steel

Acquisition of Sea Control Ship

2926. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to acquire a sophisticated sea control ship in place of INS Vikrant;

(b) if so, the details of the new ship proposed to be acquired and the cost thereof; and

(c) the steps taken so far to acquire the new ship?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) to (c). No decision has been taken regarding the acquisition of a Sea Control Ship for the Indian Navy, as a replacement for INS Vikrant.

Supply of Goods to Republics of Erstwhile USSR

2927. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to prevent 'over supply' of goods to the Republics of Erstwhile USSR and to check the possibility of losing our on the present market share;

(b) whether export trading houses are also permitted to have counter trade with each Republics; and

(c) if so, the system proposed to be introduced to register all export contracts and to monitor the total value and quantity of exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c). India has signed trade protocols with the Government of Russia and Uzbekistan providing for two-way trade on a balanced basis with clearing in non-convertible Indian rupees. A ceiling has been placed on the technical credit, wherever provided, so that Indian exports do not outstrip imports from these Republics. Besides, to provide freedom to Indian exporters to retain and enlarge their markets in the Republics of the erstwhile Soviet union, the trade protocols also permits natural and juridical persons to conduct trade on the basis of barter, counter trade and through payment in hard currency. It is expected that trade protocols will be signed with the other Republics in the near future.

Appointment of Auditors for public Sector Undertakings

2928. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:
Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are formulating a proposal to dilute the role of the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India (C & AG) in specifying the auditor (s) to be appointed to look into the accounts of Public Sector Undertakings;

(b) if so, the rationale behind whittling down the Comptroller and Auditor General's role in naming auditors for Public Sector Undertakings; and

(c) how far it is likely to be an improvement on the existing procedure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUARAMANGALAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (c). Question does not arise.

[Translation]

Committee on Balance of Payments

2929. SHRI BARE LAL JATAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the committee on Balance of Payments set up to investigate the present structure of debt has submitted its report to the Government;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations made by the Committee; and

(c) if not, the time by which the Committee is likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) No, Sir. The Committee has not yet submitted any report on the present structure of debt.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Committee has sought extension till the April, 30, 1992 for submission of the final Report.

[English]

Financial Assistance by NABARD for Rural Electrification

2930. SHRI BARE LAL JATAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development for rural electrification in the Seventh Five Year Plan period, State-wise and district-wise;

(b) the amount spent so far; and

(c) the details of the proposals for rural electrification in each State during the Eighth Five Year Plan under consideration of Na-

tional Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). The Special Project Agriculture (SPA) is a programme of Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) to provide finance to State Electricity Boards (SEBs) to draw transmission lines and other infrastructure support for pumpsets energisation in rural areas. The Programme is financed by REC, Commercial Banks and National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) by providing financial support to SEBs in the States. District-wise allocation is done by the SEBs. The amount allocated by NABARD under the Programme, State-wise, during the years 1986-87 to 1991-92 and the achievements made hereunder are given in the attached statement, NABARD has reported that they have not worked out allocation for various States for Eighth Plan period.

STATEMENT

Sl.No	States	(Rs. in lakhs)											
		1986-87		1987-88		1988-89		1989-90		1990-91		1991-92	
		Alloc- tion	Achi- eve- ment	Alloc- tion	Achi- eve- ment	Alloc- tion	Achi- eve- ment	Alloc- tion	Achi- eve- ment	Alloc- tion	Achi- eve- ment	Alloc- tion	Achieve- ment- Apr., 91 to Jan 92.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Haryana	150	215	200	213	-	276	256	259	250	237	566	109
2.	Punjab	700	682	700	341	-	94	482	189	175	175	46	30
3.	Rajasthan	400	185	200	94	145	96	328	325	500	460	482	134
4.	Bihar	150	39	50	13	9	15	-	-	-	-	-	-
5.	Orissa	150	158	200	77	81	58	100	81	270	264	-	62
6.	West Bengal	300	204	250	377	369	298	478	439	450	365	499	137
7.	Madhya Pradesh	1200	1233	1500	1498	1931	1409	3328	1891	3123	3123	2500	1351
8.	Uttar Pradesh	500	260	600	227	61	552	485	367	300	186	130	79

(Rs. in lakhs)

SLNo	States	1986-87		1987-88		1988-89		1989-90		1990-91		1991-92	
		Allocation	Achievement	Allocation	Achievement	Allocation	Achievement	Allocation	Achievement	Allocation	Achievement	Allocation	Achievement
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
9.	Gujarat		1143	500	918	494	592	578	381	800	820	1132	511
10.	Maharashtra	120	3433	900	1512	1614	3418	3325	3022	4100	3832	3752	1993
11.	Andhra Pradesh	1600	2168	1780	2496	1696	2841	3100	2705	1900	1981	3581	1283
12.	Karnataka	400	851	650	1069	608	530	149	241	57	36	-	-
13.	Kerala	150	306	250	312	256	314	371	372	410	487	632	310
14.	Tamil Nadu	700	646	800	798	866	1165	1600	1623	1500	1568	1600	506
	Total	6520	11523	8500	9835	8679	11658	14500	11895	13835	13456	15000	6505

No separate allocation for REC/SPA programme was made as the same was clubbed with allocation made under Minor Irrigation.

[Translation]

Over Subscription of Public Issues

2931. SHRI BHAWAN SH-
ANKAR RAWAT:
SHRIRAJNATH SONKAR
SHASTRI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the public issues which were heavily over-subscribed during the last twelve months;

(b) whether some of the central organisations are investigating the heavily over-subscribed public issues of some companies;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the number of persons who submitted applications for more than 10,000 shares in any issue;

(e) whether the investment of black money in the shares etc. has come to fore and if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the number of persons booked under the Income Tax Act for possession of black money during 1991?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) According to the information furnished by Stock Exchange, Bombay, out of 177 public issues made by companies during January-December, 1991, 56 equity issues and 11 convertible debenture issues were over-subscribed by more than 10 times.

(b) No Central Organization has been asked to investigate into this matter.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) According to the information furnished by Stock Exchange, Bombay 1220 persons applied for more than 10,000 shares in 27 public issues out of total of 67 issues referred to in (a) above.

(e) to (f). Instances of unexplained investment in shares have come to notice from time to time and suitable penal action as provided under the law has been taken but no details in this regard are separately maintained or compiled.

[English]

Increase in Marriageable Age

2932. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any request from the Andhra Pradesh Government to increase the marriageable age as a means of population control;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) No, Sir.

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

Trade Relations With EEC

2933. SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the European Economic Community group has been apathetic towards India so far trade relations are concerned despite recent economic changes and investment opportunities in India;

(b) if so, the manner in which the Government have convinced The President of EEC to persuade other member countries of the Group to have a liberal and positive attitude towards India in their relations; and

(c) the details of negotiations held during the current visit of Portuguese President in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c). During the visit of the President of Portugal to India, the European Community's willingness to further strengthen economic relations with India was reiterated. The EC is at present the largest market for Indian exports and the most important source of foreign investment.

Some initiatives taken recently to upgrade the Indo EC relationship include:-

i) the decision to establish a technical working group for exploring possibilities of upgrading economic and technical cooperation.

ii) Signing of the Indo-EEC International Partners Scheme to provide for EEC assistance in establishing Indo-EEC Joint Ventures in India.

iii) the decision to hold negotiations for concluding a comprehensive Indo-EEC Fisheries Agreement and

iv) providing for EC financial and technical assistance for trade promotion programmes in selected sectors, besides support in upgradation of standards.

Intensification of Military Activity by Pakistan

2934. SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI:
SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY:
SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan has intensified its military activities along the line of control recently;

(b) if so, he details thereof;

(c) the retaliatory measures taken by the Government in this regard since January 1992 onwards; and

(d) whether the Government propose to complete the fencing on Indo-Pak border from Jammu and Kashmir to Gujarat under the present situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b). Government have received no reports regarding Pakistan having recently intensified its military activities along the Line of Control.

(c) Adequate measures exist to insure inviolability of the Line of Control and our borders, at all times.

(d) Construction of fencing in selected stretches of the Indo-Pak border has already been undertaken.

Indo-Chinese Trade

**2935. SHRI R. SURENDER
REDDY:
SHRI SURYA NARAIN
YADAV:**

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether after the visit of the Chinese Prime Minister to India, the scope for raising Indo-Chinese trade have improved;

(b) if so, the extent to which the trade between India and China have improved;

(c) the details of agreements reached in this regard; and

(d) the steps being taken to further improve the trade between the two countries?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The period is too short to assess the progress in this regard.

(c) and (d). During the recent meeting of India-China Joint Group on Economic Cooperation, Trade Science and Technology held in New Delhi on 12-13 December, 1991, the following areas of Economic Cooperation were identified:

- (i) To explore the possibilities for establishment of joint ventures.
- (ii) To explore possibility of bilateral cooperation in iron ore mining, railway sector, communication, aviation, waste conservancy, construction, iron and steel processing.
- (iii) To participate in tenders for proj-

ects to be financed by World Bank, by World Bank, ADB or other international financial institutions in either country.

(iv) To explore the possibility of jointly participating in third country projects.

(v) To explore the possibility of export of constancy services from India.

(vi) The items of export and import interest for either country were identified and included in the trade protocol for the calendar year 1992.

(vii) A memorandum for resumption of border trade with China was also signed on 13.12.91.

[Translation]**Return of Goans Gold Jewellery by
Portugal**

2936. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the gold jewellery of Goans held in Portuguese banks has since been returned fully;

(b) if not, the value of jewellery which is still in Portuguese custody;

(c) whether the interest for the period for which the gold jewellery of Goans remained with Portugal was also paid by them;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to claim the interest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) In terms of an agreement entered into between State bank of India (SBI) and Banco Nacional Ultramarino (BNU), Lisbon, sealed packets containing the 'security' for gold loans was repatriated to India in August, 1991.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No interest for the period for which the gold/jewellery remained with BNU, Lisbon has been paid by BNU to the borrowers.

(d) and (e). The Goans had taken gold loans from the then branches of BNU in Goa against the security of gold ornaments. In all such cases, the interest is payable by the borrowers and not by the bank.

[English]

Deductions Made by Coffee Board

2937. SHRI C. P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the deductions made by the Coffee Board from coffee growers for marketing expenses such as cost of storing, curing, marketing and also statutory taxes and duties are much higher than all other such boards in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) he steps proposed to be taken by the Government to minimise such deductions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). The actual marketing expenses of coffee are deducted from

the total sales realisation before making payments to the coffee growers for the value of the coffee delivered by them. The marketing expenses are around 5 percent of the total realisations. Such centralised marketing is not done by the Tea, Rubber or Spices Board.

(c) The steps being taken to minimise marketing expenses include identification and phasing out surplus staff, stoppage of new recruitment, surrendering of telephones etc.

Import of Newsprint

2938. SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to double the import of newsprint to meet the country's demand;

(b) whether any concrete proposals in this regard have been prepared for the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(c) if so, the main points of the proposed plan; and

(d) the quantity of newsprint imported during 1990-91 and proposed to be imported during the next three years,

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No, Sir.

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

(d) The quantity of newsprint imported during 1990-91 and 1991-92 along with the names of the countries of import are given below:-

<i>Financial Year</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Qty. in 1000 Mt Names of the Countries</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
1990-91	226	China, Canada, GDR, Romania, Sweden, Yugoslavia, New Zealand, Finland, USSR, Norway, Bangladesh, USA, Poland, South Korea
1991-92 (Prov.)	215	China, New Zealand, Japan, Canada, Poland, France, Germany, Hungary, Sweden, Finland, USSR, Bangladesh, Austria

Future estimation for import of newsprint has not been made.

[*Translation*]

Assets of Industrial Houses

2939. SHRI RAM TAHAL CH-
OUDHARY: Will the Minister of LAW, JUS-
TICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased
to state:

(a) the efforts made by the Govern-
ments to prevent concentration of wealth in
the hands of a few industrial houses;

(b) the value of the asses of the twelve
industrial-houses three years ago and the
present value thereof, year-wise;

(c) whether the asses of industrial
houses have increased inspite of MRTP Act;
and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINIS-
TRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY
AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN
KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) The objective of
Government policy is not to prevent concen-
tration of wealth per se but to prevent such

concentration of economic power as oper-
ates to the *common detriment*. Before the
recent amendments all large industrial
houses were required to clear their projects
by seeking prior approval for expansion of
capacity and setting up fresh capacity.
However, even under the previous system
exemptions were provided to the large
houses from seeking government approval
for certain priority industries. The intention
of the government was not to prevent industrial
growth but to prevent abuse of economic
power to the common detriment. For this
purpose, the policy focus has shifted to
regulation and control of monopolistic and
restrictive trade practices. Section 27 of the
MRTP Act also empowers government to
order division of undertakings if it is found
that the working of these undertakings is
prejudicial to public interest.

(b) A statement showing assets in 1987-
88, 1988-89 and 1989-90 (latest available)
of the companies registered under section
26 of the MRTP Act and belonging to the top
12 industrial houses ranked according to
their assets in 1989-90 (Accounting year
ending in April, 1989- March, 1990) is en-
closed.

Subsequent to the amendment to the MRTTP Act with effect from 27.9.1991, the provisions relating to registration of such companies has been deleted.

(c) The assets of the industrial houses under the MRTTP Act increased by 24.84%

and 23.91% during 1989-90 and 1988-89 respectively over the preceding year.

(d) The assets of the large industrial houses increased due to various factors like expansion, diversification, establishment of new undertakings, modernisation, amalgamation, etc.

STATEMENT

(Rs. in crores)

Sl.No	Industrial House	No. of undertakings				Assessts		
		1988	1989	1990		1987-88	1988-89	1989-90
1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8
1.	Tata	82	83	85		5558.56	6621.38	8530.93
2.	Birla	169	170	166		5564.37	6974.06	8473.35
3.	Reliance	14	14	15		2033.15	3241.24	3600.27
4.	Thapar	47	45	49		1317.10	1762.52	2177.15
5.	J.K. Singhania	53	59	62		1566.41	1828.75	2139.00
6.	Larsen & Toubro	7	7	7		931.28	1130.33	1681.52
7.	Modi	38	43	44		902.52	1192.34	1399.37
8.	Bajaj	30	27	34		953.68	1228.37	1391.06
9.	Maftatal	41	42	44		1131.18	1296.55	1343.55
10.	M.A. Chidambaram	33	34	35		866.56	1032.23	1273.35

Sl.No	Industrial House	(Rs. in crores)						
		No. of undertakings			Assets			
		1988	1989	1990	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
11.	Hindustan Lever	13	16	16	775.42	924.85	1209.46	
12.	United Breweries	31	34	47	488.84	715.71	1189.24*	

The figure of United Breweries Industrial house at Sl.No. 12 includes those of the erstwhile 'Best & Crompton' Industrial house of 1988-89.

Agitation by Employees of Jute Corporation of India

2940. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of TEXTILE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the employees of Jute Corporation of India have called for a nation-wide agitation;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the details of their demands; and

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

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

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

[*English*]

Token Strike in Banks

2941. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether employees of the nationalised banks went on one day token strike recently;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have instructed the concerned banks to deduct a day's salary; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). 20 nationalised banks have reported that their employees affiliated to certain specific unions/associations went on one day token strike on 29.11.1991 in

response to strike call given by these All India Organisations of Bank Employees against privatisation of banks; ban on recruitment, etc.

(c) and (d). Government have, inter alia, issued standing instructions to public sector banks to deduct wages on the principle of 'No work no pay' if an employee participates in strike.

Aid Disbursement by NHB

2942. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Housing Bank has fixed a target of Rs. 1000 crores for disbursement during the current year beginning from July, 1991;

(b) if so, the States to which this aid has been provided;

(c) whether the State Housing Boards have been asked to submit their plans for providing aid under the scheme;

(d) if so, the amount of this aid that is proposed to be earmarked to the States for providing houses to the low income/weaker sections of the society; and

(e) the amount of loans so far provided by the National Housing Bank under the proposed scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (e). No such targets have been fixed by National Housing Bank (NHB). The capacity of NHB to provide financial assistance to eligible primary lending institutions depends on the resources it is able to raise. The cumulative refinance assistance from NHB to all eligible institutions upto February, 1992 amounted to Rs. 907 crores.

NHB has, also, formulated guideline for providing financial assistance for land development and shelter projects undertaken by public agencies such as Housing Boards and Development authorities.

Expenses on Foreign Business Guests

2943. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision that the expenses on foreign business guests of multi-national companies will be met in Indian rupees;

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

(c) whether the visiting guests of companies have to get a certificate from the concerned companies; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). Reserve Bank have issued a notification on 13th September 1991 granting general permission to persons resident in India, including Indian firms/companies and other organisations, to meet expenses in Indian Rupees on account of lodging, board and related services and for travel within India, of their non-resident guests visiting India in connection with business activity or any other work of the host without obtaining specific prior permission of the Reserve Bank. This decision was taken in pursuance of the liberalised Industrial Policy of the Government.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Talks on American Intellectual Property Rights

2944. SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether US and India have decided to have a bilateral talks in Geneva regarding lack of protection to the American intellectual property rights in India;

(b) whether the talks have since been held;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof and to what extent these have been fruitful; and

(d) the time by which the agreement reached in this regard is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d). As part of the ongoing multilateral negotiations in the Uruguay Round at Geneva, there have been consultations between participants from time to time at bilateral and plurilateral levels. Such bilateral consultations have also been held with the United States on various issues under negotiation including on Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs).

Though these consultations have helped to clarify the respective stands of India and the United States to each other, no agreement has been reached bilaterally in these consultations on the issue of TRIPs.

[Translation]

Trade Relations with Portugal

2945. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA:
SHRI CHANDRAJEET YADAV:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any discussion were held with the President of Portugal during his recent visit to India regarding the trade prospects between the two countries;

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

(c) the extent to which the trade relations between the two countries are likely to be improved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Discussions held on the occasion of the visit of the Portuguese President, referred to the possibilities of establishment of joint ventures in Europe and Africa, using Portugal as an entry point for the European Common Market and tapping the potential of the Indian Community in Portugal in furthering trade and economic ties between the two countries.

A collaboration agreement between the federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (F.I.C.C.I.) and the Foreign Trade Institute of Portugal was also signed which would facilitate exchange of commercial economic and technical information for enhancing trade between the two countries.

[English]

Export of Wheat and Sugar

2946. SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and value of wheat and sugar exported during the last six months;

(b) the companies which exported the wheat and sugar and the quantum exported

by each;

(c) whether the exports were made against payment or barter system; and

(d) the details thereof in each case?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED): (a) and (b). Indian Sugar and General Industry Export Import Corporation exported sugar, and MMTC and STC exported wheat, on payment basis. As per details furnished by them, the export during 1991-92 of wheat and sugar are given below:-

Wheat: Qty:	672019 tonnes.
Value:	Rs. 178.44 crores
(upto 20.2.92)	
Sugar: Qty:	4.492 lakh tonnes
(upto 21.2.92)	
Value:	Rs. 323.15 crores.

Production of Cotton

2947. SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the production of cotton and cotton yarn during the last three years, year wise;

(b) whether the farmers are getting remunerative prices for cotton;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) A statement is attached.

(b) Yes, Sir.

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

STATEMENT

(a) Details of production of cotton and cotton yarn during the last 3 years are as follows:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>Production of cotton according to cotton Advisory Board's estimates (in lakh bales)</i>	<i>Production of cotton yarn (in million Kgs.)</i>
1988-89	106	1302
1989-90	133.50	1367
1990-91	117	1467

Note: The Production figures for cotton are cotton year-wise (1st September to 31st August).

Economic Development of Rural Areas

2948. SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Regional Rural Banks functioning at present in each State, district-wise; and

(b) the role played by these banks in the economic development of rural areas in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR

SINGH): (a) The details regarding the number of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) functioning in the country State-wise, and the districts covered by them as at the end of March, 1991 are given in the attached Statement.

(b) The RRBs have played an important role in achieving the objective of providing access to institutional credit to the weaker sections of the society. The credit support provided by these banks amounted to Rs. 3535 crores in 171 lakh accounts as on March, 1991. Further as of March, 1991 deposits amounting to Rs. 4979 crores were mobilised by RRBs in 334 lakh accounts. By their presence and operation in the rural areas, RRBs have helped in the development of such areas as also economic upliftment of its clientele.

STATEMENT

Sl.No.	State	No. of ARBs functioning in the State	Districts covered	
			Number	Names
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Haryana	4	14	Bhiwani, Hissar, Mahendragrah, Rohtak, Gurgaon, Faridabad, Rewari, Sirsa, Ambala, Kaithal, Kurukshetra and Yamuna-Nagar.
2.	Himachal Pradesh	2	4	Mandi, Kulu, Kangra & Chamba.
3.	J & K	3	10	Jammu, Kathua, Rajouri, Poonch, Singar, Anantnag, Badgam, Pulwama, Baramulla & Kupwara.
4.	Punjab	5	10	Ropar, Hoshiarpur, Kaurthala, Ferozpur, Gurdaspur, Amritsar, Sangrur, Patiala, Faridkot & bhatinda.
5.	Rajasthan	14	27	Jaipur, Nagaur, Pali, Sirohi, Jalore, Sikar, Jhunjhunu, Churu, Alwar, Bharatpur, Dholpur, Tonk, Sawai Medhopur, Kota, Jhalawar, Udaipur, Jodhpur, Jaisalmer, Barmer, Bundi, Chittorgarh, Bhilwara, Ajmer, Dungarpur, Banaswara, Sriganganagar and Bikaner.
6.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	4	East Siang, West Siang, Upper-Subansiri, Lower-Subansiri.
7.	Assam	5	22	Karbi aulong, North Cachar, Earpeta, DArrang, Dhubri, Goalpara, Kamrup, Kokrajhar, Nalbari, Pragjyotishpur, Sonitpur, Cachar, Dibrugarh, Jorhat, Karimganj, Lakhimpur, Nowgong, Sibsagar, Golaghat, Tinsukia, Marigon, Halla Kandi.

Sl.No.	State	No. of RRBs functioning in the States	Districts covered	
			Number	Names
1	2	3	4	5
8.	Manipur	1	9	Bishenpur, Imphal, Manipur East, Manipur North, Manipur South, Manipur West, Tengnoupal & Toubal.
9.	Meghalaya	1	3	Jaintia Hills, East Khasi Hills & West Khasi Hills.
10.	Mizoram	1	3	Aizawl, Lungleh, Chhimituiput.
11.	Nagaland	1	7	Kohima, Mokokchung, Mon, Phek, Wokha, Tuesnsang, Zunheboto.
12.	Tripura	1	3	North Tripura, West Tripur and South Tripura.
13.	Andhra Pradesh	16	23	Mahbubnagar, Medak, Viskhatpatnam, Vizianagaram, Warangal, Adilabad, Karimnagar, Khammam, Nalgonda, Nizamabad, Rangareddy, E. Godavari, W. Godavari, Guntur, Srikakulam, Chittoor, Krishna, Ananthapur, Nellore, Cuddapah, Kurnool, Prakasam and Hyderabad.
14.	Bihar	22	40	Bhojpur, Rohtas, E. Champaran, W. Champaran, Nawadah, Aurangabad, Gaya, Jehanabad, Madhepura, Katihar, Saharsa, Purnea, Araria, Gopalganj, Sitamarhi, Muzaffarpur, Vaishali, Monghyr, Khatgria, Sahabganj, Deogarh, Dumka, Godda, Madhubani, Nalands, Srirangbhum, Darbhanga, Samas-

Sl.No.	State	No. of RRBs functioning in the State	Districts covered	
			Number	Names
1	2	8	4	5
15.	Madhya Pradesh	24	44	tripur, palmau, Gumla Lohardagga, Ranchi, Kishangan, Saran, Siwan, Giridih, Hazaribagh, Patna, Bhagalpur and Begusarai.
				Hoshangabad, Raisen, Bilaspur, Rewa, Raipur, Sidhi, Chhatrapur, Tikamgarh, Satna, Surguja, Bastar, Durg, Dhar, Rajnandgaon, Jhabua, Raigarh, Guna, Shivpuri, Damoh, Panna, Sagar, Dewas, Shejpur, E. Nimar, W. Nimar, Mandial, Balaghat, Chhindwara, Seoni, Raigarh, Sehore, Shahdol, Ratlam, Mandasaur, Bhind, Morena, Narsinghpur, Jabalpur, Indore, Ujjain, Gwalior, Datia, Vidisha and Bhopal.
16.	Kerala	2	6	Kozhikode, Mallapuram, WYNad, Cannanore and Kasargod.
17.	Uttar Pradesh	40	60	Moradabad, Rampur, Deoria, Mau, Gorakhpur, Maharajganj, Azamgarh, Ghazipur, Barabanki, Raebareilly, Farukhabad, Sitapur, Sultanpur, Ballia, Lucknow, Kanpur Dehat, Bahraich, Etawah, Eudaun, Mainpur, Varanasi, basti, Allahabad, Faizabad, Pratapgarh, Fatehpur, Pilibhit, Gonda, Aligarh, Banda, Etawah, Jalouns, Jaunpur, Lalitpur, Jodni, Eijnor, Hardwar, Shahjahanpur, Mainital, Mirzapur, Lakhimpur Khery, Agra, Muzaffarnagar, pithoragarh, Tehri-

Sl.No.	State	No. of RRBs functioning in the State	Districts covered	
			Number	Names
1	2	3	4	5
18.	West Bengal	9	18	Garhwal, Garhwal, Bulandshahr, Unnao, Kanpur City, Firozabad, Bareilly, hamirpur, Almora, Sonbhaora, Dehradun, Chamoli, Ghaziabad, Uttar Kashi, Hardoi, Meerut.
19.	Gujarat	9	17	Malda, Mushidabad, Mankura, West Dinajpur, Midnapore, Nadia, Purulia, Birbhum, Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri, Coochbehar, Hoogly, N. parganas, S. parganas, Burdwan, Howrah,
20.	Orissa	9	13	Jamnagar, Kutch, Rajkot, Surat, Mehsana, Banaskantha, Panchmahal, Vadodra, Bhavnagar, Surendranagar, Valsad, Dangs, Bharuch, Gandhinagar, Sabarkantha, Amreli and Junagarh.
21.	Maharashtra	10	17	Puri, sundargarh, Sambalpur, bolangir, Cuttack, Koraput, Ganjam, Phulbani, Kalahandi, Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar, Balasore, Dhenkanel.
22.	Karnataka	13	20	parbhani, Beed, Usmanabad, Nanded, Latur, Aurangabad, Jalna, Akola, Chandrapur, Gadchiroli, Hatnagiri, Sindhudurg, Solapur, Bhandara, Yavatmal, Buldhana and Thane.
				Bidar, Gulberga, Raichur, Mysore, Tumkur, Banga-

Sl.No.	State	No. of RRBs functioning in the State	Districts covered	
			Number	Names
1	2	3	4	5
23.	Tamil Nadu	3	7	<p>lore (Rural), Bangalore (Urban), Chitradurga, Hassan, Kolar, Shimoga, Chikmagalur, Madikeri, Belgaum, Bellary, Bijapur, Dakehina Kannada, Uttara Kannada, Dharwad, Mandya.</p> <p>Ramanathapuram, Tirunelveli, Pudukottai, Muthuramalingam, Dharmapuri, Chidambaram, South Arcot and Kamarajar.</p>

Pension for DTC Employees

2949. SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the employees of the Delhi Transport Corporation have been persistently demanding pension as a retirement benefit; and

(b) if so, the decision taken in the matter?

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

(b). The matter regarding the introduction of Pension Scheme to the DTC employees is under consideration of the Government.

Ozhar Airstrip

2950. DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the HAL-Ozhar Airstrip is proposed to be made available for domestic and cargo traffic;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) to (c). Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) have agreed to the use of HAL Ozhar Aerodrome by National Airport Authority for civil air traffic subject to certain conditions relating to lease of land, hours of use, development of passenger terminal facilities etc. It is for Ministry

of Civil Aviation and National Airport Authority to process the matter further.

Legal Advisors in Nationalised Banks

2951. DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria adopted for appointing legal advisors for branches of nationalised banks;

(b) whether the Government have assessed their performance; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). The system and procedure followed by public sector banks for appointment of advocates to attend to their litigation cases was reviewed by Reserve Bank of India (RBI). Detailed guidelines were issued by RBI in January, 1991, in the light of the review. The guidelines, inter alia, prescribe desirable experience and standing for empanelment of advocates, programme for collection of particulars of suitable advocates, periodicity of review of the panels, allotment of work to encourage healthy competition, framing of a schedule of fees, etc. The guidelines also provide that other things being equal, special endeavour should be made to encourage advocates belonging to SC/ST/OBC by enrolling them in the panels and allotting work to them. All the public sector banks were advised to prepare fresh panels of advocates by meticulously following the guidelines. The banks have also been advised to ensure that the panels are reviewed every 3 to 4 years.

Point to Point Taxi Service

2952. DR. C. SILVERA: SHRIMATIDILKUMARIBHANDARI:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the routes on which share taxi service has been introduced in Delhi so far;

(b) the details of the fares charged by these taxis; and

(c) the routes on which this service is proposed to be introduced in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). The point to point taxi service was introduced on 32 different routes by the Delhi Administration. The details of the routes and the fare charged for different points is given in the enclosed Annexure.

(c) No new route is proposed at present.

STATEMENT

Route/Fare Chart for Share Taxi Service (w.e.f. 1.9.91)

EAST DELHI

Route Shahadara to Connaught Place (Kasturba Gandhi Marg, Hindustan Times House, New Delhi) via I.S.B.T. Delhi Gate

Sl. No	From	To	Distance in Kms	Fare per Passenger
1.	Shahadra	I.S.B.T.	6	500
2.	Sahadra	Delhi Gate	12	900
3.	Shahadra	Connaught Place	15	1100
4.	I.S.B.T	Delhi Gate	6	500
5.	I.S.B.T.	Connought Place	9	700
6.	Delhi Gate	Connaught Place	3	300

EAST DELHI

Route Laxmi Nagar (Radhu Place) to Karol Bagh (on the Footpath of Arya Samaj Road opp MCD office, New Nagar Double Story Outer Karol Bagh) via ITO. Super Bazar

Sl. No	From	To	Distance in Kms	Fare per Passenger
1.	Laxmi Nagar	I.T.O.	5	400
2.	Laxmi Nagar	Super Bazar	8	800
3.	Laxmi Nagar	Karol Bagh	12	900

<i>Sl. No</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>	<i>Distance in Kms</i>	<i>Fare per Passenger</i>
4.	I.T.O.	Super Bazar	3	300
5.	I.T.O.	Karol Bagh	7	500
6.	Super Bazar	Karol Bagh	4	300

EAST DELHI

*Route Preet Vihar (Shanti Vihar) to Rajendra Place near Vikram Tower eastern side
Rajendra Place) via I.T.O Gole Market*

<i>Sl. No</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>	<i>Distance in Kms</i>	<i>Fare per Passenger</i>
1.	Preet Vihar	I.T.O	0.	500
2.	Preet Vihar	Gole Market	11	800
3.	Preet Vihar	Rajinder Place	15	1100
4.	I.T.O	Gole Market	5	400
5.	Gole Market	Rajinder Place	4	300
6.	Rajinder Place	I.T.O	9	700

EAST DELHI

*Route Krishna Nagar (Chander Nagar) to Connaught Place (Kasturba Gandhi Marg,
Hindustan Times House. New Delhi) via I.T.O.*

<i>Sl. No</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>	<i>Distance in Kms</i>	<i>Fare per Passenger</i>
1.	Krishna Nagar	I.T.O.	8	800
2.	Krishan Nagar	Connautht Place	11	800
3.	I.T.O.	Connautht Place	3	300

EAST DELHI

Route Mayur Vihar Phase 1 to Connaught Place (Kasturba Gandhi Marg, Hindustan Times House, New Delhi) via Noida Crossing Pragati Madan

Sl. No	From	To	Distance in Kms	Fare per Passenger
1.	Mayur V Ph-I	Noida Crossing	2	200
2.	Mayur V Ph-I	Pragati Maidan	75	600
3.	Mayur V Ph-I	Connaught Place	115	900
4.	Noida Crossing	Pragati Maidan	55	400
5.	Noida Crossing	Connaught Place	95	700
6.	Pragati Maidan	Connaught Place	4	300

EAST DELHI

Route Mayur Vihar Phase II to Connaught Place (Kasturba Gandhi Marg, Hindustan Times House, New Delhi) via Noida Crossing Pragati Madan

Sl. No	From	To	Distance in Kms	Fare per Passenger
1.	Mayur V Ph-II	Noida Crossing	3	300
2.	Mayur V Ph-II	Pragati Madan	95	700
3.	Mayur V Ph-II	Connaught Place	125	900
4.	Noida Crossing	Pragati Madan	55	400
5.	Noida Crossing	Connaught Place	95	700
6.	Pragati Maidan	Connaught Place	4	300

WEST DELHI

Route Moti Nagar (Moti Nagar crossing, Najafgarh Road) to Connaught Place (Haryana Emporium Baba Kharak Singh Marg) via Rajinder Place

<i>Sl. No</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>	<i>Distance in Kms</i>	<i>Fare per Passenger</i>
1.	Moti Nagar	Rajinder Place	45	400
2.	Moti Nagar	Connaught Place	95	700
3.	Rajindra Place	Connaught Place	5	400

WEST DELHI

Route Rajori Garden (near Meorial forging Bus Stand Rajouri Garden) to Connaught Place (Haryana Emporium Baba Kharak Singh Marg) via Shadipur Depot Shanker Road

<i>Sl. No</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>	<i>Distance in Kms</i>	<i>Fare per Passenger</i>
1.	Rajouri Garden	S.P. Depot	4	300
2.	Rajouri Garden	Shanker Road	7	500
3.	Rajouri Garden	Connought Place	12	900
4.	S.P. Depot	Shanker Road	3	300
5.	S.P. Depot	Connaught Place	8	600
6.	Shanker road	Connautht Place	5	400

WEST DELHI

Route Route Punjabi Bagh (Punjabi Bagh Club) to Connaught Place (Haryana Emporium, (Baba Kharak Singh Marg) via Liberty Cinema

<i>Sl. No</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>	<i>Distance in Kms</i>	<i>Fare per Passenger</i>
1.	Punjabi Bagh	Liberty Cinema	7	500
2.	Punjabi Bagh	Connaught Place	12	900
3.	Liberty Cinema	Connaught Place	5	400

WEST DELHI

Route Naraina Community Centre Payal Cinema, Naraina) to Connaught Place (Haryana Emporium, Baba KharaK Singh Marg) via Rajindra Place

<i>Sl. No</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>	<i>Distance in Kms</i>	<i>Fare per Passenger</i>
1.	Naraina	Rajindre Place	6	500
2.	Naraina	Connaught Place	11	600
3.	Rajinder Place	Connaught Place	5	400

WEST DELHI

Route Uttam Nagar (near Bus Terminal Uttam Nagar) to Karol Bagh (on the footpath of Arya Samaj Road opp MCD office Raj. Nagar Double Storey outer Karol Bagh) via West Patel Nagar

<i>Sl. No</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>	<i>Distance in Kms</i>	<i>Fare per Passenger</i>
1.	Uttam Nagar	West Patel Nagar	105	800
2.	Uttam Nagar	Karol Bagh	145	1100
3.	West Patel Nagar	Karol Bagh	45	300

NORTH DELHI

Route Madhuban Chowk (Madhuban Chowk) to I.T.O (near Masjid. I.T.O. Crossing) via Delhi University I.S.B.T.

<i>Sl. No</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>	<i>Distance in Kms</i>	<i>Fare per Passenger</i>
1.	Madhuban Chowk	Delhi University	10	800
2.	Madhuban Chowk	I.S.B.T.	14	1100
3.	Madhuban Chowk	I.T.O.	20	1500
4.	Delhi University	I.S.B.T.	4	300
5.	Delhi University	I.T.O.	10	800
6.	I.S.B.T.	I.T.O.	6	500

NORTH DELHI

Route Ashok Vihar (near A-Block Bus Stand, Phase I, Ashok Vihar) to I.S.B.T. (near Kashmere Gate DTC Bus Stand opp Bata) via Delhi University

<i>Sl. No</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>	<i>Distance in Kms</i>	<i>Fare per Passenger</i>
1.	Ashok Vihar	Delhi University	65	500
2.	Ashok Vihar	I.S.B.T.	105	800
3.	Delhi University	I.S.B.T.	4	300

NORTH DELHI

Route Rani Bagh (Rani Bagh Market) to I.S.B.T. (near Kashmere Gate DTC Bus Stand opposite Bata) via Delhi University

<i>Sl. No</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>	<i>Distance in Kms</i>	<i>Fare per Passenger</i>
1.	Rani Bagh	Delhi University	10	800
2.	Rani Bagh	I.S.B.T.	14	1100
3.	Delhi University	I.S.B.T.	4	300

NORTH DELHI

Route Paschim Vihar to I.T.O. (near Masjid I.T.O. crossing) via Lawrence Road. I.S.B.T.

<i>Sl. No</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>	<i>Distance in Kms</i>	<i>Fare per Passenger</i>
1.	Paschim Vihar	Lawrence Road	7	500
2.	Paschim Vihar	I.S.B.T.	18	1300
3.	Paschim Vihar	I.T.O.	24	1800
4.	Lawrence Road	I.S.B.T.	11	800
5.	Lawrence Road	I.T.O.	17	1300
6.	I.S.B.T.	I.T.O.	6	500

NORTH DELHI

Route Azadpur (Near Azadpur DTC Bus Stand) to I.T.O (near Masjid I.T.O. crossing) via Delhi University I.S.B.T.

<i>Sl. No</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>	<i>Distance in Kms</i>	<i>Fare per Passenger</i>
1.	Azadpur	Delhi University	4	300
2.	Azadpur	I.S.B.T.	8	600
3.	Azadpur	I.T.O.	14	600
4.	Delhi University	I.S.B.T.	4	300
5.	Delhi University	I.T.O.	10	800
6.	I.S.B.T.	I.T.O.	6	500

SOUTH DELHI

Route Dr. Ambedkar Nagar Depot (Dr. Ambedkar Nagar Depot) To Pragati Maidan (NSCI Club) via Moolchand. I.T.O.

<i>Sl. No</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>	<i>Distance in Kms</i>	<i>Fare per Passenger</i>
1.	Dr. A. N. Depot	Mool Chand	6	500
2.	Dr. A.N. Depot	I.T.O.	15	1100
3.	Dr. A.N. Depot	Pragati Maidan	17	1300
4.	Mool Chand	I.T.O.	9	700
5.	Mool Chand	Pragati Maidan	11	800
6.	I.T.O.	Pragati Maidan	2	200

SOUTH DELHI

Route Saket (N. Block Saket) to I.T.O. (Near Masjid I.T.O Crossing) via A.I.I.M.S. Udyog Bhawan

<i>Sl. No</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>	<i>Distance in Kms</i>	<i>Fare per Passenger</i>
1.	Saket	A.I.I.M.S.	7	500
2.	Saket	Udyog Bhawan	125	900
3.	Saket	I.T.O.	165	200
4.	A.I.I.M.S.	Udyog Bhawan	55	400
5.	A.I.I.M.S.	I.T.O.	95	700
6.	Udyog Bhawan	I.T.O.	4	300

SOUTH DELHI

Route Mehrauli (Opp. Police Station Mehrauli) to I.T.O. (near Masjid I.T.O. Crossing) via A.I.I.M.S. C.G.O. Complex

<i>Sl. No</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>	<i>Distance in Kms</i>	<i>Fare per Passenger</i>
1.	Mehrauli	A.I.I.M.S.	6	500
2.	Mehrauli	C.G.O. Complex	10	800
3.	Mehrauli	I.T.O.	165	1200
4.	A.I.I.M.S.	CGO Complex	4	300
5.	A.I.I.M.S.	I.T.O.	105	800
6.	C.G.O. Complex	I.T.O.	65	500

SOUTH DELHI

Route Okhala Phase II to I.T.O. (near Masjid I.T.O. Crossing) via Lajpat Nagar C.G.O. Complex

<i>Sl. No</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>	<i>Distance in Kms</i>	<i>Fare per Passenger</i>
1.	Okhla Ph-II	Lajpat Nagar	6	500
2.	Okhla Ph-II	C.G.O. Complex	10	800
3.	Okhla Ph-II	I.T.O	165	1200
4.	Lajpat Nagar	C.G.O. Complex	4	300
5.	Lajpat Nagar	I.T.O	105	800
6.	C.G.O. Complex	I.T.O.	65	500

SOUTH DELHI

Route Siri Fort Auditorium (Siri Fort Auditorium) to Cannought Place (Y.M.C.A. Jai Singh Road) via C.G.O. Complex Shastri Bhawan

<i>Sl. No</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>	<i>Distance in Kms</i>	<i>Fare per Passenger</i>
1.	S.F. Auditorium	C.G.O. Complex	55	400
2.	S.F. Auditorium	Shastri Bhawan	115	900
3.	S.F. Auditorium	Connaught Place	14	1100
4.	C.G.O Complex	Connaught Place	6	500
5.	C.G.O. Complex	Connaught Place	85	700
6.	Shastri Bhawan	Connaught Place	25	200

SOUTH DELHI

Route Malviya Nagar (HKN Block Malviya Nagar) to Connaught Place (Y.M.C.A. Jai Singh Road) via A.I.I.M.S. Shastri Bhawan

Sl. No	From	To	Distance in Kms	Fare per Passenger
1.	Malviya Nagar	A.I.I.M.S.	5	400
2.	Malviya Nagar	Shastri Bhawan	11	800
3.	Malviya Nagar	Connaught Place	35	9000
4.	A.I.I.M.S.	Shastri Bhawan	6	500
5.	A.I.I.M.S.	Connaught Place	85	700
6.	Shastri Bhawan	Connaught Place	25	200

SOUTH DELHI

Route Dhaula Kuan (Defence Club Gurgaon Road. Dhaula Kuan) to I.S.B.T (near Kashmere Gate D.T.C. Bus Stand. opp Bata via Gole Market Delhi Gate

Sl. No	From	To	Distance in Kms	Fare per Passenger
1.	Dhaulta Kuan	Gole Market	6	500
2.	Dhaulta Kuan	Delhi Gate	10	800
3.	Dhaulta Kuan	I.S.B.T.	15	1100
4.	Gole Market	Delhi Gate	4	300
5.	Gole Market	I.S.B.T.	9	700
6.	Delhi Gate	I.S.B.T.	5	400

SOUTH DELHI

Route Route Nehru Place (Parking area in of Delhi Chamber, Punjab National Bank Nehru Place) to Connaught Place (near Place footpath, oppsite 22 Janpath New Delhi) via Moolchand Udyog Bhawan

<i>Sl. No</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>	<i>Distance in Kms</i>	<i>Fare per Passenger</i>
1.	Nehru Place	Mool Chand	6	300
2.	Nehru Place	Udyog Bhawan	12	900
3.	Nehru Place	Connaught Place	145	1100
4.	Mool Chand	Udyog Bhawan	8	600
5.	Mool Chand	Connaught Place	75	600
6.	Udyog Bhawan	Connaught Place	25	200

SOUTH DELHI

Route Green Park (near Uphar Cinema Connaught Place (Y.M.C.A. Jai Singh Road) via A.I.I.M.S. Shastri Bhawan

<i>Sl. No</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>	<i>Distance in Kms</i>	<i>Fare per Passenger</i>
1.	Green Park	I.N.A.	2	200
2.	Green Park	Udyog Bhawan	65	500
3.	Green Park	Connaught Place	9	700
4.	I.N.A.	Udyog Bhawan	45	400
5.	I.N.A.	Connaught Place	7	500
6.	Udyog Bhawan	Connaught Place	75	700

SOUTH DELHI

Route Nehru Place (Parking area in Front of Dehil Chamber Punjab Punjab National Bank Nehru Place to Rajendra Place (near Vikram Tower eastern side Rajendra Place) via A.I.I.M.S. Gole Market

<i>Sl. No</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>	<i>Distance in Kms</i>	<i>Fare per Passenger</i>
1.	Nehru Place	A.I.I.M.S.	6	500
2.	Nehru Place	Gole Market	15	1100
3.	Nehru Place	Rajinder Place	19	1400
4.	A.I.I.M.S.	Gole Market	8	700
5.	A.I.I.M.S.	Rajinder Place	13	1000
6.	Gole Market	Rajinder Place	4	300

SOUTH DELHI

Route Masjid Moth (near STA office) to I.S.B.T. (near Kashmere Gate D.T.C. Bus stand opposite Bata) via C.G.O. Complex Delhi Gate

<i>Sl. No</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>	<i>Distance in Kms</i>	<i>Fare per Passenger</i>
1.	Masid Moth	C.G.O. Complex	4	300
2.	Masijid Moth	Delhi Gate	15	900
3.	Masjid Moth	I.S.B.T.	65	200
4.	C.G.O. Complex	Delhi Gate	75	600
5.	C.G.O. Complex	I.S.B.T.	25	900
6.	Delhi Gate	I.S.B.T.	6	400

SOUTH DELHI

Route Kalkaji (near Bhagat Singh College Kalkaji) to I.S.B.T. (near Kashmere Gate. DTC Bus stand Opp Bata) via C.G.O. Complex Delhi Gate

<i>Sl. No</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>	<i>Distance in Kms</i>	<i>Fare per Passenger</i>
1.	Kalkaji	C.G.O. Complex	8	600
2.	Kalkaji	Delhi Gate	155	1200
3.	Kalkaji	I.S.B.T.	205	1500
4.	C.G.O. Complex	Delhi Gate	75	600
5.	C.G.O. Complex	I.S.B.T.	125	900
6.	Delhi Gate	I.S.B.T.	5	400

SOUTH DELHI

Route Munirka (Outer Ring Road Munirka) to Connaught Place (Y.M.C.A. Jai Singh Road) via Chanakya Cinema Shastri Bhawan

<i>Sl. No</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>	<i>Distance in Kms</i>	<i>Fare per Passenger</i>
1.	Munirka	Chanakya Puri	6	500
2.	Munirka	Shastri Bhawan	10	800
3.	Munirka	Connaught Place	125	900
4.	Chanakya Puri	Shastri Bhawan	4	300
5.	Chanakya Puri	Connaught Place	65	500
6.	Shastri Bhawan	Connaught Place	25	200

SOUTH DELHI

Route Bhikaji Cama Place (Bhikaji Cama Place) to Connaught Place (Y.M.C.A. Jai Singh Road) via Chanakya Cinema. Udyog Bhawan

<i>Sl. No</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>	<i>Distance in Kms</i>	<i>Fare per Passenger</i>
1.	B. Cama Place	Chanakya Cinema	2	200
2.	B. Cama Place	Udyog Bhawan	55	400
3.	B. Cama Place	Connaught Place	8	600
4.	Chanakya Cinema	Udyog Bhawan	35	300
5.	Udyog Bhawan	Connaught Place	25	200
6.	Chanakya Cinema	Connaught Place	6	500

SOUTH DELHI

Route Greater Kailash-I (M Block) (M-Block Market Greater Kailash) to Connaught Place (Y.M.C.A. Jai Singh Road) via C.G.O. Complex Udyog Bhawan

<i>Sl. No</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>	<i>Distance in Kms</i>	<i>Fare per Passenger</i>
1.	G.K. (M-Block)	C.G.O. Complex	6	500
2.	G.K. (M-Block)	Udyog Bhawan	12	900
3.	G.K. (M-Block)	Connaught Place	145	1100
4.	C.G.O. Complex	Udyog Bhawan	8	500
5.	C.G.O. Complex	Connaught Place	85	700
6.	Udyog Bhawan	Connaught Place	25	200

SOUTH DELHI

Route Jamia University (Holy Family Hospital) to I.T.O. (near I.T.O. crossing) via Ashram, Nizamuddin Railway Station

Sl. No	From	To	Distance in Kms	Fare per Passenger
1.	Jamia University	Ashram	3	300
2.	Jamia University	Nizamuddin Rly. Station	5	400
3.	Jamia University	I.T.O.	10	800
4.	Ashram	Niza Rly Station	2	200
5.	Ashram	I.T.O.	7	500
6.	Niz. Rly. Station	I.T.O.	5	400

Refinery in AhmedabadSHRI RAM TAHAL CH-
OUDHARY:SHRIMATI MARAATHAM
CHANDRASEKHAR:

2953. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to close the Gold Refinery in Ahmedabad; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) There is no Gold Refinery at Ahmedabad. However, there is one Gold Collection-Cum-Delivery Centre at Ahmedabad, which has been closed down with effect from 1st March, 1992.

(b) Consequent upon the repeal of Gold (Control) Act, 1968, the Gold Collection-cum-Delivery Centre has been closed down.

Return of Deposits by B.C.C.I.

2954. SHRI HARIN PATHAK:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the deposits made by the Indian customers with the Bank of Credit and Commerce International at the time of its closure;

(b) the number of persons who have received back their money after the closure of the bank; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to recover the amount of those Indian customers who have not received their money back?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI)

have reported that at the time of closure of the Bombay branch of Bank of Credit and Commerce International (Overseas) Ltd.; and deposits (other than bank deposits) stood at Rs. 285 crores.

(b) No deposits have been repaid so far.

(c) The Bank is under liquidation. The provisional liquidator has taken steps to recover the dues and ensure that the depositors receive their money back to the maximum extent possible.

LIC Divisional Office in Karnataka

2955. SHRI C.P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA:
SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a Divisional Office of the Life Insurance Corporation of India in "Up Ghat" area in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Keeping in view various factors such as area under control of the existing Divisional Office, number of branches supervised, business potential, premium income, economic viability, availability of infrastructure etc., the opening of a new Divisional Office in Up Ghat area in Karnataka is not considered viable for the present.

Export of Arecanut

2956. SHRI C.P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of arecanut exported during the last three years;

(b) the share of Karnataka therein; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to increase the export of arecanut?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) The quantity of arecanut exported during the last three years is as under:

(Qty: in kilograms
Value: in Rs.)

	Qty.	Value
1988-89	99171	1424787
1989-90	1000	27000
1990-91	Nil	Nil

(b) State-wise statistics are not maintained.

(c) Export of arecanut is freely allowed without any export licence formalities.

Licences of Coffee Merchants

2957. SHRI C.P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a demand to cancel the licences of coffee merchants;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to allow the merchants to bid for coffee in the auction; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). There is no demand to cancel the licences of coffee merchants.

(c) and (d). The Coffee Board is already allowing Pool Sale Dealers to participate in the auctions. The Coffee Board is marketing coffee in the domestic market mainly through Pool Sale auctions attended by Pool Sale Dealers.

[Translation]

Smuggling of Cotton from Maharashtra

2958. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether cotton is being smuggled out from Maharashtra in large quantity;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the value of cotton smuggled out during the current season;

(d) the total loss suffered by the Government thereby; and

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b). There are reports of some cotton being smuggled out of Maharashtra to the neighbouring States as the

guaranteed prices under the Cotton Monopoly Procurement Scheme in the State are less as compared to the market prices in the neighbouring States.

(c) and (d). In view of the nature of such operation, the value of cotton smuggled is not known and the total loss suffered by the Maharashtra Government on this account also can not be ascertained.

(e) The steps taken by the Govt. of Maharashtra to prevent smuggling of cotton from the State include the payment of 35% advance additional price over the support price to the growers, intensification of vigil in the border areas and cancellation of licenses of vehicles carrying smuggled cotton.

[English]

Reclamation of Cochin Port

2959. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in the reclamation of South-end at Cochin Port;

(b) the total cost of this project; and

(c) how this area is proposed to be used?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Out of 19 hectares of land which has been undertaken by Cochin Port for reclamation, 7 hectares have already been reclaimed. The rest of the reclamation is scheduled to be completed by November, 1992.

(b) The total cost of the project is Rs. 4.77 crores.

(c) The area when developed will be

used for commercial purposes connected with the port activities.

Export Processing Zones

2960. SHRI ANNA JOSHI:
SHRIMATI MAHENDRA
KUMARI:
SHRI CHETAN P.S.
CHAUHAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up some more Export Processing Zones in the country during the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). There is no proposal at present to set up more Export Processing Zones.

Indian Investment Centre

2961. SHRI ANNA JOSHI:
SHRI DATTATRAYA BAN-
DAREE:
SHRIMATI DIPIKA H.
TOPIWALA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to strengthen the Indian Investment Centre to encourage large scale foreign investments;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c). The performance

of Indian Investment Centre is reviewed from time to time and necessary measures taken regarding its role in mobilizing foreign investment.

[Translation]

Women Judges in High Courts

2962. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS
VARMA:
DR. Y.S. RAJASEKHAR
REDDY:

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

(a) the reasons for not filling up the vacant posts of judges in various High Courts, particularly in Gujarat High Court;

(b) the number of vacant posts filled up during the last six months, court-wise; and

(c) whether adequate number of vacancies are not being filled up from amongst the senior lady advocates in the High Courts, particularly in Gujarat High Court; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to fill up these vacant posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) to (d). A statement indicating the appointments made in the High Courts from 1.9.1991 till date is attached.

For filling up the vacant posts in the High Courts the process of consultation among the Constitutional authorities concerned has been expedited.

As on date there are 17 women Judges in the High Courts. The Chief Justices of High Courts and the State authorities have been addressed by the Union Law Ministers requesting them to locate suitable women from the Bar to give them adequate representation in the High Courts. Recommendations received from the Chief Justices of the High Courts and the State authorities for appointment of women Judges are given due consideration by the Central Government.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	High Court	Fresh appointment made from 1.9.1991 till date
1.	Allahabad	21
2.	Andhra Pradesh	4
3.	Bombay	3
4.	Calcutta	—
5.	Delhi	—
6.	Gauhati	4
7.	Gujarat	—
8.	Himachal Pradesh	—
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	2
10.	Karnataka	2
11.	Kerala	—
12.	Madhya Pradesh	—

13.	Madras	—
14.	Orissa	—
15.	Patna	7
16.	Punjab & Haryana	—
17.	Rajasthan	3
18.	Sikkim	—
Total		46

Wholesale Price Index

2963. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS
VARMA:
DR. RAMESH CHAND
TOMAR:
SHRIMATI BHAVNA
CHIKHALIA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the weekly position of wholesale price index from July 1, 1991 upto date; and

(b) the percentage increase in wholesale price index in comparison to the corresponding period last year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). The weekly position of wholesale price index (WPI) from June 29, 1991 (nearest to July 1, 1991) up to date along with percentage increase in WPI over corresponding period last year is given in the enclosed statement.

STATEMENT

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Week ending (Date)</i>	<i>WPI (Base: 1981-82=100)</i>		<i>Percentage change over last year</i>
		<i>1990-91</i>	<i>1991-92</i>	
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
1.	29.6.91	178.2	200.1	12.29
2.	06.7.91	178.8	201.0	12.42
3.	13.7.91	179.2	201.8	12.61
4.	20.7.91	179.5	202.6	12.87
5.	27.7.91	179.8	205.8	14.46
6.	03.8.91	180.2	207.2	14.98
7.	10.8.91	180.2	208.4	15.65
8.	17.8.91	180.2	209.6	16.32
9.	24.8.91	180.3	210.4	16.69
10.	31.8.91	180.7	210.3	16.38
11.	7.9.91	180.7	210.6	16.55
12.	14.9.91	180.8	210.6	16.48
13.	21.9.91	180.9	210.4	16.31
14.	28.9.91	181.2	210.1	15.95
15.	05.10.91	182.1	210.0	15.32
16.	12.10.91	182.3	210.1	15.25
17.	19.10.91	184.3	210.2	14.05
18.	26.10.91	184.6	210.4	13.98
19.	02.11.91	184.8	211.1	14.23
20.	09.11.91	185.1	212.1	14.59
21.	16.11.91	185.1	212.6	14.86

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Week ending (Date)</i>	<i>WPI (Base: 1981-82=100)</i>		<i>Percentage change over last year</i>
		<i>1990-91</i>	<i>1991-92</i>	
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
22.	23.11.91	185.3	213.0	14.95
23.	30.11.91	185.7	212.9	14.65
24.	07.12.91	186.1	212.9	14.40
25.	14.12.91	187.0	212.8	13.80
26.	21.12.91	187.0	212.9	12.85
27.	28.12.91	187.4	214.2	14.30
28.	04.1.92	188.5	213.3 (P)	13.16
29.	11.1.92	189.1	213.8 (P)	13.06
30.	18.1.92	190.2	214.1 (P)	12.57
31.	25.1.92	190.6	214.5 (P)	12.54
32.	01.2.92	191.1	214.2 (P)	12.09
33.	08.2.92	191.8	214.4 (P)	11.78
34.	15.2.92	191.8	214.8 (P)	11.99
35.	22.2.92	191.8	215.0 (P)	12.10

P = Provisional

Outstanding Income-Tax

2964. SHRI UPENDRA NATH
VERMA:
SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD
YADAV:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of income tax payees in the country and the amount of income tax outstanding against them as on December 31, 1991, State-wise;

(b) the number of persons and organisations against whom income tax amounting to Rupees one crore and above is outstanding; and

(c) the number of persons of organisations penalised during the last three years for not making payment of income-tax?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) (a) The information regarding the number of income-tax payers and the

amount of income-tax outstanding against them is compiled Chief Commissioner's region-wise. The same is given in the Statement enclosed.

(b) As on 31.12.1991, there were 587 taxpayers against each of whom income-tax amounting to Rs. one crore and above, was outstanding.

(c) Statistics regarding the number of taxpayers on whom penalty under section 221 of the Income-tax Act for non-payment of Tax demand was levied, is not compiled in the Income-tax Department. Collection of such information from Assessing Officers all over the country will involve considerable time and effort which may not be commensurate with the result sought to be achieved.

STATEMENT

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Region of the Chief Commissioner of Income-tax (CCIT)/Director General of Income-tax (DGIT).</i>	<i>Effective number of Income-tax assesseees as on 31.12.1991</i>	<i>Amount of Income-tax demand outstanding as on 31.12.1991 (Rs. in crores)</i>
1	2	3	4
1.	CCIT, Ahmedabad	3,33,734	144.96
2.	CCIT-II, Ahmedabad	4,24,450	177.63
3.	CCIT, Bangalore	4,12,865	164.23
4.	CCIT, Bhopal	4,13,689	128.66
5.	CCIT, Bombay	3,80,546*	806.22
6.	CCIT-II, Bombay	3,08,099	608.63
7.	CCIT-III, Bombay	3,80,620	393.09
8.	DGIT (Investigation), Bombay	877	313.9
9.	CCIT, Calcutta	3,61,036*	232.67
10.	CCIT-II, Calcutta	2,71,892	425.78
11.	CCIT-III, Calcutta	3,32,255	206.97
12.	DGIT (Investigation), Calcutta	983	135.69
13.	CCIT, Cochin	1,89,979	116.21
14.	CCIT, Delhi	2,04,354*	135.93

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Region of the Chief Commissioner of Income-tax (CCIT)/Director General of Income-tax (DGIT).</i>	<i>Effective number of Income-tax assesseees as on 31.12.1991</i>	<i>Amount of Income-tax demand out-standing as on 31.12.1991 (Rs. in crores)</i>
1	2	3	4
15.	CCIT-II, Delhi	2,34,032***	279.39
16.	CCIT-III, Delhi	1,31,042***	232.39
17.	CCIT, Hyderabad	3,26,537	176.67*
18.	CCIT, Kanpur	3,06,335	603.80
19.	CCIT, Lucknow	2,44,953	137.07
20.	CCIT, Madras	4,91,514	183.99
21.	CCIT-II, Madras	1,25,830	123.99
22.	CCIT, Patna	5,76,187**	126.35*
23.	CCIT, Patiala	4,78,492	86.12
24.	CCIT, Pune	6,41,528	184.40
25.	CCIT, Jaipur	2,63,267	64.45
26.	CCIT (Central) South, Bangalore	2,321	209.60
27.	CCIT (Central) North, Delhi	3,972	324.07
28.	DGIT (Investigation), Ahmedabad	943	96.67

* (as on 30.11.1991)

** (as on 31.12.1991 for Ranchi and Bhubaneswar charges but as on 30.11.1991 for Patna charge and as on 31.10.1991 for Shillong charge).

*** (as on 31.10.1991)

[English]

Growth Rate of Exports to G.C.A. and R.P.A.

2965. SHRI E. AHAMED: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the growth rate of export to General Currency Area and Rupee Payment Area from June to November 1991 and from December 1991 to February, 1992;

(b) the effect on the export due to the dissolution of former Soviet Union; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to restore the growth rate of exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The trade data is compiled on financial year basis and at present is available for the period April-December, 1991. According to the provisional estimates, India's exports to the General Currency Area (GCA) registered a growth rate of 6.3% in dollar terms and 44.4% in rupee terms during April-December, 1991 as compared to April-December, 1990. During the same period, India's exports to the Rupee Payment Area (RPA) registered a decline of 46.5% in dollar terms and 27.4% in rupee terms.

(b) The decline in exports to the Rupee Payment Area is primarily due to the political changes that have taken place in the erstwhile Soviet Union.

(c) The Govt. introduced a package of policy reforms aimed at strengthening of export incentives, and eliminating substantial volume of import licensing. These include; partial convertibility of Rupee, reduction in tariff rates, removal of licensing on all imports barring import of sensitive items, strengthening of advance licensing system etc. Besides, Govt. have taken other steps

which include reducing controls through licensing, simplification of procedures for exports, activation of Board of Trade, bilateral discussions with selected countries, interaction with national organisations of trade and industry, etc.

Mopping up Black Money

2966. SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN:
SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:

SHRI KODAKANI GOWDANA
SHIVAPPA:

PROF. PREM DHUMAL:

SHRI MORESHWAR SAVE:

SHRI JEEVAN SHARMA:

SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA
VERMA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the amount of black money unearthed under the National Housing Bank (Voluntary Deposit) Scheme, the Remittance is Foreign Exchange (Immunities) Scheme and the India Development Bond Scheme has been satisfactory;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to make such schemes a grand success in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). Out of the three schemes mentioned by Hon'ble Members, National Housing Bank (Voluntary Deposits) Scheme, 1991 framed under the Voluntary Deposits (Immunities & Exemptions) Act, 1991 aimed at mopping up of black money. The other two schemes, namely, Remittances in Foreign Exchange (Immunities) Scheme, 1991 and the India Development Bonds scheme, 1991 related to mopping up of foreign exchanges. No targets for collection were made.

(c) The schemes were closed on 31st January, 1992 and no further steps are proposed to be taken for them.

[Translation]

Loans Advanced to Companies/Firms by Banks and Financial Institutions In Maharashtra

2967. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of companies/firms to which loans of more than Rs. one crore have been given by the banks and financial institutions in Maharashtra during each of the last two years;

(b) whether these companies/firms are regularly repaying the interest and the principal amount;

(c) if not, the number of the companies/firms that defaulted in the matter of repayment of loan; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (d). The data reporting system does not generate the information in the manner asked for. However, the total amount of outstanding advances of scheduled commercial banks in Maharashtra stood at Rs. 26145 crores and Rs. 29910 crores as at the end of March 1990 and March 1991 respectively. Further, the amount sanctioned and disbursed by all Financial Institutions to Industry Sector in the State of Maharashtra for the year 1989-90 and 1990-91 was as under:

(Rs. in Crores)

Year	Sanctioned	Disbursed
1989-90	3644	1878
1990-91	4438	2567

Various steps have been taken by RBI to reduce the amount of overdues and also to improve the recovery performance of the commercial banks in respect of their advances to various Sectors. Some of the important steps are as follows:

1. Banks have been impressed upon to institute a viable recovery system with a view to help recycling the scarce resources of the Banks to the needy and productive sectors of the economy on the one hand, and to improve the profitability and viability of the lending banks, on the other.

2. The Chief Executives of the banks have been advised to pay personal attention to the monitoring of large advances.

3. Introduction of a comprehensive and uniform grading system to indicate the health of individual advances for the purpose of their effective monitoring and follow up.

4. To keep a watch on the recovery of top sticky accounts at the Board Level.

5. Taking action against the officials where advances are found to have become sticky due to their negligence, inefficiency etc.

LIC Branches

2968. SHRI VILASRAO NAG NATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Life Insurance Corporation branch offices functioning in each State at present; and

(b) the details of new LIC branch offices proposed to be opened during 1992-93 State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The total number of Life Insurance Corporation Branch Offices functioning in India at present is 1761. State/Union Territory-wise break-up is as follows:-

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>No. of Branch Offices</i>
1.	Andhra Pradesh	151
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1
3.	Assam	41
4.	Bihar	90
5.	Goa	10
6.	Gujarat	126
7.	Haryana	36
8.	Himachal Pradesh	20
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	17
10.	Karnataka	122
11.	Kerala	72
12.	Madhya Pradesh	105
13.	Maharashtra	220
14.	Manipur	3
15.	Meghalaya	3
16.	Mizoram	1
17.	Nagaland	3
18.	Orissa	45
19.	Punjab	56
20.	Rajasthan	89

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>No. of Branch Offices</i>
21.	Sikkim	1
22.	Tamil Nadu	152
23.	Tripura	3
24.	Uttar Pradesh	212
25.	West Bengal	121
<i>Union Territory</i>		
26.	Andaman & Nicobar	1
27.	Chandigarh	4
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	—
29.	Daman & Diu	—
30.	Delhi	55
31.	Lakshaw Dweep	—
32.	Pondicherry	1
Total		1761

(b) The Life Insurance Corporation of India has proposed to open about 110 Branch Offices during the year 1992-93. The State/ Union Territory-wise location thereof has not yet been decided.

[English]

Exports by STC

2969. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of

COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the items exported by the State Trading Corporation during the last three financial years alongwith their quantity and value; and

(b) the countries to which exported?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Value: Rs. Crores

Qty : OGO MT in brackets

Major Countries

Exports	1988-89	1989-90	1990-91	
1	2	3	4	5
Jute Goods	4.70	17.96	14.46	USA, Belgium, UK, Sweden, USSR, Syria
Castor Oil	42.26 (25)	82.57	9.40	Czech. USSR, Japan, UK, Thailand.
Molasses	3.23	11.55	25.54	USSR, Italy, Nether lands, Germany, Spain, UK.
Alcohol	7.99 (18)	21.00 (41)	21.75 (36)	Japan, Korea.
Sugar	20.62 (32)	22.37	51.90 (65)	Sri Lanka, Belgium, Netherlands, Germany, Nepal, USA
Opium	—	8.95	9.68	USSR
Castor Oil	—	22.32	5.09	
Jute Goods	1.05	7.57	14.46	

Value: Rs. Crores

Qty : OGO MT in brackets

Exports	Major Countries				
	1988-89	1989-90	1990-91		
1	2	3	4	5	
Rice	13.02	64.14 (58)	5.51 (5)	Kuwait, S.Arabia, Oman, Bahrain Baharain, Sri Lanka, Yeman.	
Tobacco	3.03	0.88	1.20	Belgium, FRG, USSR, UK.	
Coffee	10.03	5.97 (2)	4.76 (2)	USA, Yugoslavia, Germany, Italy, Kuwait	
Spices	3.09	6.47	1.02	USA, Sri Lanka.	
Tea	12.02 (3)	4.66 (1.6)	1.73 (0.7)	Tunisia, Iran, Libys	
Extractions	40.39	21.07	21.00 (26)	USSR, S.Arabia, Hungary, R.Korea, Singapore, Poland, Japan, UAE, S.Lanka, Hongkong, Iran.	
Wheat	2.31	—	11.45	Sundan, Korea, Nepal.	

Value: Rs. Crores
Qty : OGO MT in brackets

Exports	1988-89	1989-90	1990-91	Major Countries
1	2	3	4	5
Sports Goods	2.22	2.58	2.27	Ethiopia, UK, USSR.
Textile/RMG/Coir	8.57	1.23	6.60	USA, Singapore, France, USSR, Bangladesh, Germany, Sweden, Thailand
Consumer Products	10.24	14.18	9.45	USSR, UK, USA, Algeria, UAE, FRG
Engg./Const. Materials	12.88	7.75	13.39	UK, Singapore, USA, Australia, Afghanistan, Taiwan, UAE, Iraq.
Chemicals & Drugs	31.18	31.17	29.25	Algeria, China, Hongkong, Germany, USA, S. Arabia, Japan, Switzerland.
Meat & Marine Products	1.44	0.96	.08	Malaysia, UAE, Afghanistan, USA.
Fresh & Processed Foods (Ind. salt)	4.95	4.05	7.47	Italy, Germany, Netherlands, Australia, Japan, USA, UK, Singapore, Nepal, B. Desh, Switzerland.

Value: Rs. Crores

Qty : OGO MT in brackets

Major Countries

Exports	1988-89	1989-90	1990-91		
1	2	3	4	5	
Leather & Leatherware	71.76	66.56	34.07	R. Korea, Portugal, USA, Germany, USSR, Netherlands.	
Center Trade	217.71	341.01	83.00		
Off Shore Trade	4.92	14.50	2.81		
Others	1.25	0.17	2.81		
Total Exports	529.51	751.70	368.79		

Goa Shipyard

2970. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from the Goa Shipyard for its development;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

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

(b) and (c). A proposal for the construction of a new slipway at a cost of Rs. 6.88 crores was received from GSL. Government approval of this proposal has already been conveyed.

Construction of Bridges in Goa

2971. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the proposals for construction of bridges in the State sent by the Government of Goa pending with the Union Government; and

(b) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). The following two estimates pertaining to construction of bridges which form part of realignment project between km. 68-85 of NH-17 were received from the State Government of Goa in November, 1991;

(i) Construction of bridge at km. 70 across river Talpona on NH-17.

(ii) Construction of bridge across river Galgibagh at km. 75 on NH-17.

The two estimates are under examination.

Dredging of Rivers in Goa

2972. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent by Dredging Corp. of India in Goa during each of the last three years; and

(b) the details of the dredging work done during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The amount spent by Dredging Corporation of India during last three years on dredging of Rivers in Goa is as follows:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Rs. in lakhs</i>
1988-89	NIL
1989-90	88.33
1990-91	59.49

(b) The details of dredging work done during the last three years in River Mandovi is as follows:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Quantity in Cubic Metres</i>
1988-89	NIL
1989-90	67,388
1990-91	46,810

[Translation]

Interest Charged by Banks

2973. SHRIDILEEP SINGH BHURIA:
SHRI RABI RAY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government, have received complaints from borrowers against nationalised, cooperative and other banks in regard to charging of high percentage of interest rates more than fixed by the Reserve Bank of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). Reserve Bank of India has reported that several representations/complaints have been received by them from various associations, etc. regarding hike in lending rate and also charging of arbitrary interest by banks in respect of advances over Rs. 2 lakhs. RBI advised Banks on February 18, 1992 that while they are free to determine the actual lending rates, it is necessary to adopt an objective and rational criteria for deciding the range of rate between the minimum lending rate as fixed by the RBI and the actual rates charged to different borrowers. With effect from 2nd March, 1992 the lending rate on credit limits of over Rs. 2 lakhs has been reduced by one

percentage point, from 20% (minium) to 19% (minimum) and the banks have already been advised to reduce the rates for all borrowers under this category by a minimum of one percentage point over the rates charged from such borrowers before 2nd March, 1992.

[English]

Seizure of Narcotic Drugs

2974. SHRISHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and details of the narcotic drugs seized by various agencies in the country and particularly in Rajasthan during each of the last three calendar years;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Central Bureau of Investigation had seized a large quantity of opium in Rajasthan in December, 1991;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the number of persons apprehended in this regard and the details of action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The quantity and details of the narcotic drugs seized by various enforcement agencies in the Country and in Rajasthan during the last three years are as given below:

Quantity seized in kgs.

Sl. No.	Name of the Drug	1989		1990		1991 (Provisional)	
		All over Country	Rajasthan	All over Country	Rajasthan	All over Country	Rajasthan
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Opium	4855	887	2114	139	1977	634

Quantity seized in kgs.

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Drug</i>	<i>1989</i>		<i>1990</i>		<i>1991 (Provisional)</i>	
		<i>All over Rajasthan Country</i>	<i>All over Rajasthan Country</i>	<i>All over Rajasthan Country</i>	<i>All over Rajasthan Country</i>	<i>All over Rajasthan Country</i>	<i>All over Rajasthan Country</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>
2.	Heroin	2714	369	2193	399	621	60
3.	Morphine	92	—	6	—	5	—
4.	Ganja	54463	2	39090	49	48210	418
5.	Hashish	8179	1801	6388	1870	4397	825
6.	Cocaine	3	0.100	1	—	—	—

(b) to (d). The Central Bureau of Investigation seized 88.4 kgs. of opium near Bus Stand in Jhalawar, Rajasthan on 20th December, 1991. Two persons were arrested in this case. Appropriate action under the relevant law has been taken in the case.

Barter Agreements

2975. SHRISHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry has urged the Government to treat barter agreements entered into by the Indian parties with foreign companies under the deferred payment scheme at par with the sale proceeds accrued from exports in convertible foreign exchange; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Rupee Funding for Aided Project

2976. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has agreed to initiate discussions with multilateral agencies and the developed donor countries to ensure that India's exceptional financing needs for 1992-93 and 1993-94 are met through fast disbursing assistance and loans like to sectoral adjustment;

(b) if so, whether the World Bank has also agreed to the India's suggestion for enhancing the share of the rupee funding of projects aided by it;

(c) whether the World Bank has also suggested that any help to fiscal adjustment, the Government goal was to reduce the fiscal deficit;

(d) if so, whether this suggestion has been accepted by the World Bank; and

(e) by what time a final decision is likely to be taken by the World Bank to provide funds for 1992-93 and 1993-94?

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

(b) It is at a preliminary stage of discussion and no commitments have yet been made.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir.

(e) Decision will be taken at the annual aid India Consortium meetings of 1992 & 1993.

Indo-French Cooperation in Defence Field

2977. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:
SHRI RABI RAY:
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MAN-
DAL:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and France have agreed in principle to cooperate each other in defence field;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) to (c). Cooperation in the Defence field between India and France has been continuing for the past several years. It is Not in the national interest to furnish the details thereof.

Seizure of Gold at Bombay International Airport

2978. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether gold bars worth crores of rupees were seized by the Customs authorities from a cargo consignment at Bombay International airport in January, 1992;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the quantity and value of gold seized; and

(c) the details of persons prosecuted in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c). On 13/01/1992, the officers of Sahar Airport Customs, Bombay, acting on information intercepted one circular wheel like iron structure weighing 575 kgs. which has arrived from Sharjah by Gulf Air and was described as forged carbon blind steel flange in the Airway Bill for delivery to a party in Bangalore. Preliminary inquiries indicate that the import was under a fictitious name and address and have not thrown any light about the persons involved. The steel flange was cut and this resulted in recovery and seizure of 1832 gold bars weighing 213.72 kgs. approximately and valued at Rs. 10.58 crores approximately.

Assistance to Small and Medium Newspapers

2979. SHRIGEORGE FERNANDES:
SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has issued guidelines to Scheduled Commercial Banks to the effect that advances made to small and medium Newspapers may be treated as priority sector advances;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether facilities provided to the small-scale industries are also proposed to be extended to small and medium newspapers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. All the commercial banks are under instructions of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to treat the advances granted to small and medium newspaper units which satisfy the investment criteria laid down for the small scale industrial units as priority sector advances. The banks are required to extend to such units the concessions in the rate of interest margin etc., as are normally available to other small scale industrial units.

Agreement between Bombay Dock Labour Board and B.P.T.

2980. SHRIGEORGE FERNANDES:
SHRI RABI RAY:

Will the Minister of State of the Ministry of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have signed a tripartite agreement with the Bombay Dock Labour Board, the Labour Unions and The Bombay Port Trust to solve labour problems;

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

(c) whether the Government are considering to have agreements on the similar lines in other major ports in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir. The Management of the Bombay Dock Labour Board, Representatives of the Bombay Stevedores Association and the Labour Unions have signed a tripartite agreement for solving the financial crisis of the Bombay Dock Labour Board.

(b) The salient features of the agreement are given in the attached Statement.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

Salient features of the agreement signed between the Management of the Bombay Dock Labour Board, representatives of the Bombay Stevedores Association and the Labour Unions to solve the Financial Crisis of the Bombay Dock Labour Board

1. The entry of casual workers into the Bombay Port docks will be prohibited. All schemes operated by the Dock Labour Board except the chipping and painting workers schemes will be merged into one single scheme. There will be complete interchangeability between workers belonging to different schemes.
2. The chipping & painting workers will be absorbed by the Bombay Port Trust.
3. The surplus labour, if any, will be suitably redeployed after training given to them.
4. The workers agree to maintain certain output levels depending upon the performance during the last 3 years and if that performance level is not maintained, an appropriate wage cut would be enforced.
5. A voluntary retirement scheme will be introduced for reducing the surplus manpower.
6. After the scheme becomes financially viable, the Dock Labour Board

workers will be absorbed by the Bombay Port Trust and later on, the Dock Labour Board will be absorbed by the Bombay Port Trust and later on, the Dock Labour Board will be abolished and merged with the Bombay Port Trust.

7. There will not be any deregistration of the workers so long as the objective of reducing the number of workers by about 2000 is achieved through voluntary retirement scheme.
8. The Government of India and the Bombay Port Trust will adopt suitable measures to assist the Bombay Dock Labour Board to meet their financial commitments including payment of arrears for the month beginning from September, 1991.

[Translation]

Export of Coconut

2981. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for 1990-91 for the export of coconut;

(b) whether export was done in accordance with the fixed target;

(c) whether the target fixed for 1991-92

is more than the target fixed for 1990-91; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Export of coconuts is not allowed.

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

Issue of Bonds by Public Sector Industries Companies

2982. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH:
DR. LAL BAADUR RAWAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have given permission to the public sector industries/companies to raise additional resources by issue of bonds during 1991 and 1992 so far;

(b) if so, the names of these industries/companies; and

(c) the rate of interest/dividend to be paid in each case?

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

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

STATEMENT

1991

(Rs. in crores)

Sl.No.	Name of the Company	Amount Approved		Rate of Interest	
		3	4		
1.	Nuclear Power Corpn. Ltd., Bombay	Rs. 162.18		13% Taxable Bonds.	
2.	Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd	Rs. 435.00		— do —	
3.	Housing Urban Development Corpn.	Rs. 400.00		— do —	
4.	Power Finance Corpn. Ltd.	Rs. 300.00		— do —	
5.	National hydro - electric Power Corpn. Ltd.	Rs. 615.00		(250.00 % Tax from 365.00 Taxable *	
6.	Indian Railway Finance Corpn. Ltd.	Rs. 800.00		9% Tax-Free Bonds	
7.	Coal India Ltd.	Rs. 400.00		13% Taxable Bonds	
8.	Tourism Finance Corpn. of India Ltd.	Rs. 50.00		— do —	
9.	Indian Railway Finance Corpn. (for KRC)	Rs. 150.00		9% Tax-free Bonds	
10.	Indian Railway Finance Corpn.	Rs. 700.00		— do —	
11.	Housing & Urban Dev. Corpn.	Rs. 300.00		— do —	

(Rs. in crores)			
1991			
Sl.No.	Name of the Company	Amount Approved	Rate of Interest
1	2	3	4
12.	Damodar Valley Corpn. Ltd.	Rs. 200.00	Taxable Bonds *
13.	Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd.	Rs. 422.00	— do —
14.	National Thermal Power Corpn. Ltd.	Rs. 800.00	250 9% Tax-free 550 Taxable * Bonds
15.	Nuclear Power Corpn. Ltd.	Rs. 586.00	100 9% Tax free 486 Taxable * Bonds
16.	Rural Electrification Corpn. Ltd.	Rs. 260.00	Taxable Bonds *
<u>1992 (upto 5th March, 1992)</u>			
1.	National Power Transmission Corpn. Ltd.	Rs. 200.00	100 9% Tax-free 100 Taxable * Bonds
2.	Steel Authority of India Ltd.	Rs. 500.00	Taxable Bonds *

(Rs. in crores)

Sl.No.	Name of the Company	Amount Approved	Rate of Interest
1	2	3	4
3.	Indian Railway Finance Corpn. Ltd. (for Konkan Railway Corpn).	Rs. 100.00	9% Tax-free

- In case of Taxable bonds issued after 1.8.91, restrictions on rate of interest were removed and the interest rate was left to be decided between issuing PSU and the participating investment institution.

[English]

**Violation of Companies Act by
Companies in Rajasthan**

2983. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of companies functioning in Rajasthan which come under the purview of the Companies Act, 1956 and are violating the provisions of sections 109, 160, 161, 220 & 621A of the said Act, and

(b) the action being taken by the Government against these companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b). During the period from 1.4.90 to 28.2.92, prosecutions were launched against 161 companies in Rajasthan for contravention of the provisions of section 159 of the Companies Act, 1956 relating to filling of annual returns with the Registrar of Companies by companies having a share capital and of section 220 relating to filing of Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss account. Section 109 is about validity of transfer of share or other interest by legal representative of a deceased member and there can be no question of its violation. Section 160 pertains to filing of annual returns by companies not having a share capital and there were no prosecution cases under that section. Section 161 is about the requirement of signatures of prescribed persons on annual returns; and where the annual returns were not filed, section 161 or its breach would not come into play. Section 621-A is in respect of composition of offences and there were no cases of prosecutions in Rajasthan for violation of orders made under that section.

**Supply of Abridged Report by
Companies to Share Holders**

2984. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some companies which come under the purview of the Companies Act, 1956 are violating the section 220 of the said Act;

(b) if so, whether a number of companies have sent only abridged report (excluding balance sheet) to their share-holders instead of sending complete Balance Sheet and its profit and loss account to clear the financial position of the concerned company's; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure the supply of complete Balance Sheet and its profit and loss account to every share-holders by each company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) Yes, Sir. Section 220 of the Companies Act, 1956 relates to filing of balance sheet, etc. with Registrar of companies. Proceedings, as per law, are taken in case of such violations.

(b) and (c). Section 219 (1) (b) (iv) of the Companies Act, 1956, provides that the balance sheet and profit and loss account need not be sent to every member in the case of a company whose shares are listed on a recognised stock exchange, if the copies of these documents are made available for inspection at its registered office and a statement containing the salient features of such documents in the prescribed form or

copies of these documents, as the company may deem fit, is sent to every member of the company within the prescribed period. However, any shareholder of such a company is entitled on demand to be furnished free of cost, with a copy of the last balance sheet of the company and re-lated documents. The Company Law Board is also empowered to direct, by order, that the copy demanded shall forthwith be furnished to the person concerned. The aforesaid provisions were brought into force from 17th April, 1989 through the Companies (Amendment) Act, 1988. Form No. 23 AB of abridged balance sheet and abridged profit and loss account was also inserted in the Companies (Central Government's) General Rules and Forms, 1956, with effect from 17th April, 1989 by notification. In view of these provisions, there would be no violations if the listed companies send out the documents in the prescribed abridged form.

Uniform Code of Conduct for Stock Exchanges Question

2985. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the executive authorities of various Stock Exchanges have not implemented the various codes of conduct of the exchange, under the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to adopt a uniform code of conduct for all the Stock Exchanges in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) (a) to (c). The Stock Exchange authorities ensure that the Exchanges function in conformity with the provisions of the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956 and the Rules framed there-

under. The Securities and Exchange Board of India Ordinance has been recently promulgated to provide for the establishment of a Board to protect the interests of investors in securities and to promote the development, and to regulate the securities market.

Immunity Schemes for Foreign Exchange Deposits

2986. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to extend schemes to give immunity to foreign exchange deposits which were due to expire on January 31, 1992;

(b) if so, the amount received by the Government from the Non-resident Indians under these two schemes so far, country-wise; and

(c) the number of Non-resident Indians who made deposits under each of these schemes, separately and the State to which they belong?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) (a) No, Sir. The Remittances in Foreign Exchange (Immunities) Scheme, 1991 has already closed on 31.1.1992.

(b) and (c). Such information is not compiled by the Reserve Bank of India, as it is difficult to do so.

[Translation]

Facility to Farmers for Increasing Export of Mangoes and Flowers

2987. SHRI DILEEP BHAI SANGHANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide special facility to the farmers and producers for increasing the export of mangoes and flowers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (b). For improving production and export of mangoes and flowers, Government has various schemes of assistance routed through National Horticulture Board and Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA). The schemes include providing assistance to growers, their organisations and Associations, exporters, entrepreneurs etc.

Financial Assistant by LIC to Gujarat

2988. SHRI DILEEP BHAI SANGHANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of financial assistance provided by Life Insurance Corporation to Gujarat for its various schemes during each of the last two years; and

(b) the details of those schemes for which the Life Insurance Corporation is considering to provide financial assistance during the current financial year and the amount fixed therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) As in the Statement I annexed.

(b) As in the Statement II annexed.

STATEMENT-I

LIC'S Investments in the State of Gujarat

(Rs. in crores)

Sl.No.	Category	Investment during 1989-90	Investment during 1990-91
1	2	3	4
1.	State Government Securities	5.52	4.50
2.	Land Development Bank Debentures	1.75	1.70
3.	State Electricity Board Bonds	3.00	3.00
4.	Municipal & other approved Securities	1.98	1.98
<u>Loans To:-</u>			
5.	State Govt. for Social Housing Scheme	6.81	5.39
6.	Apex Co-operative Housing Finance Society	20.14	20.08
7.	State Government/Municipalities/Zilla Parishads, etc. for water supply schemes	13.33	0.90*
8.	State Electricity Boards	19.24	22.75

(Rs. in crores)

Sl.No.	Category	Investment during 1989-90	Investment during 1990-91
1	2	3	4
9.	State Road Transport Corporation	4.70	5.56
	Total	76.47	65.86

• Loan of Rs. 14.43 crores sanctioned against the allocation of 1990-91 disbursed in 1991-92.

N.B. :This statement does not include investments in the Private Sector (Corporate Sector).

STATEMENT-II

LIC'S Investments in the State of Gujarat during 1991-92

(Rs. in crores)

Sl.No.	Category	Amount allocated by planning Commission/Sanctioned So far etc.	Amount actually invested/ released so far.
1	2	3	4
1.	State Government Securities	—	6.50
2.	Land Development Bank Debentures.	—	2.00
2A.	State Financial Corporation	—	3.00
3.	State Electricity Board Bonds	—	5.00
4.	Municipalities & Other approved Securities	—	—
<u>Loans to:-</u>			
5.	State Government for Social Housing Schemes	7.81	—
6.	Apex Co-operative Housing Finance Society	15.00	20.37*

(Rs. in crores)

Sl.No.	Category	Amount allocated by planning Commission/Sanctioned So far etc.	Amount actually invested/ released so far.
1	2	3	4
7.	State Governments/Municipalities/Zilla Parishads, etc. for water supply schemes	17.48	14.53*
8.	State Electricity Board	25.02	—
9.	State Road Transport Corporations	6.12	—
10.	Gujarat State Police Hsg. Corpn.	5.00	2.50
	Total		53.60

This statement does not include investments in the Private Sector (Corporate Sector)

Includes spill over commitment of previous year (Rs. 14.43 crores for water supply schemes and Rs. 10.07 crores for Apex Co-operative Housing Finance Society).

[English]

Foreign Exchange Earned by Shipping Corporation of India

2989. SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of foreign exchange earned by the Shipping Corporation of India during each of last three years;

(b) the foreign exchange spent by the Shipping Corporation of India during the above period on the repairs and maintenance of its ships; and

(c) the amount of financial assistance given by the Union Government to the corporation during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESH WAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). The amount of foreign exchange earned by Shipping Corporation of India and that spent on repairs and maintenance during the last three years is as under:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>Earned</i>	<i>Spent on repairs & maintenance (Rs. in crores)</i>
1988-89 (9 months)	175	33
1989-90	264	43
1990-91	296	57

(c) The financial assistance by way of loan given by Government to Shipping Cor-

poration of India during the last three years is as under:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>(Rs. in crores)</i>
1988-89	109.40
1989-90	138.41
1990-91	84.29

Trade between India and China

2990. SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK:
SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYA SADUL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether trade between India and China has been declining during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details of Indo-China trade during each of the last three years;

(c) whether the Indo-China Joint Business council at their meeting held in New Delhi recently has drawn up some schemes to boost trade and identified areas for trade between the two countries; and

"(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) India-China bilateral trade during the last three years was as under:

Rs. (crores)

	<i>Export from India</i>	<i>Import from China</i>
1988-90	66.33	141.94
1989-90	39.10	65.84
1990-91	32.55	63.62

Source:

DGC & S

(c) and (d). The India-China Joint Business Council in its meeting held on 17.2. 92 identified the following areas for technology transfer and establishment of joint ventures to increase bilateral trade:

1. Metallurgy
2. Chemicals for agriculture sector
3. Petrochemicals
4. Food processing
5. Sericulture
6. Automobile components
7. Telecommunication equipments and computer software.

Rates of Interest of Loans Advanced to Rubber Planters

2991. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the rates of interest at which the National Bank of Agriculture and Rural Development

advances loans to banks for rubber plantation;

(b) the rates of interest at which the bank advances loans to rubber planters;

(c) whether the Government have received some complaints of charging high rates of interest from the planters by the banks during the last two years;

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

(e) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that in respect of loans for Seasonal Agricultural Operations (SAO), the rate of interest of the refinance is dependent on the percentage of average borrowings from NABARD to the average outstanding against Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) at the Central Cooperative Bank Level during the Year. Thus interest rate on refinance are as follows:

<i>Percentage of average borrowings from NABARD to the average outstandings against PACs at CB level</i>	<i>Rate of interest on refinance percent per annum</i>
--	--

Less than 34	3.00
34 and above but below 37	3.00
37 and above but below 40	3.50
40 and above but below 45	4.00
45 and above but below 50	4.50
50 and above but below 58	5.00
58 and above but below 67	5.50
67 and above but below 80	6.00
80 and above	6.50

Rate of interest charged by NABARD on its refinance to banks for term including Plantation and horticulture loans are as under:-

<i>Size of limit</i>	<i>Rate of interest on refinance</i>
i) Upto Rs. 15,000/-	6.5%
ii) Over Rs. 15,000/- and upto Rs. 50,000/-	7.5%
iii) Over Rs. 50,000/- and upto Rs. 2 lakhs	10.5%
iv) Above Rs. 2 lakhs	0.5% below the rate of interest charged by NABARD

(b) Rate of interest charged by banks to ultimate borrowers on terms loans for plantation/ horticulture:

i) Upto and Inclusive of Rs. 7,500/-	11.5%
ii) Over Rs. 7,500/- and upto Rs. 15,000/-	13.0%
iii) Over Rs. 15,000/- and upto Rs. 25,000/-	13.5%
iv) Over Rs. 25,000/- and upto Rs. 50,000/-	14.0%
v) Over Rs. 50,000/- and upto Rs. 2 lakhs	15.0%
vi) Over Rs. 2 lakhs	15.0% (Minimum)

(c) to (e). NABARD has reported that a representation was received by them in December 1991 urging to reduce the interest on the outstanding term loan provided for rubber plantation by a financing bank. The interest rates charged by financing bank to the ultimate borrower are according to the instructions of RBI issued from time to time. The grant of any concession/compromises over repayments are settled mutually between the financing bank and the borrower.

Import of Newsprint Through S.T.C.

2992. SHRISYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of newsprint imported through the State Trading Corporation during 1989-90 and 1990-91 and proposed to be imported during 1991-92;

(b) the profit or loss made by the State Trading Corporation on account of the import of newsprint during the above years and the estimates for the current year;

(c) whether the Government are aware that reported reduction in the import price has not yet made any impact on the retail market; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The quantity of newsprint imported by STC during the three years is as under:-

<i>Financial Year</i>	<i>Qty. in Mt Quantity</i>
1989-90	224,000
1990-91	226,000
1991-92 (Prov.)	215,000

(b) STC gets only a service charge at the rate of 1% of CIF cost of sales on imported newsprint for recovering overheads.

(c) and (d). STC distributes the imported newsprint at issue price fixed by the Newsprint Price Fixation Advisory Committee headed by the Secretary, Ministry of I&B to the allottees of the Newspaper Industry as decided by Registrar of Newspaper Industries. There is no statutory control over the price of indigenous newsprint.

Opening of Branches of Urban Cooperative Banks

2993. SHRIMATI RITA VERMA:
SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:
SHRIMATI MAHENDRA
KUMARI:
SHRI CHETAN P.S.
CHAUHAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has completed the work relating to scrutinising the proposals for opening of branches submitted by Urban Cooperative Banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of such branches proposed to be opened in each State; and

(c) if not, the time by which the work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). Under the Branch Licensing Programme for Urban Cooperative Banks (1991-94), 651 banks have sent applications for allotment of over 2000 branches in different States. Several applications received by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) were either incomplete or not satisfying the prescribed norms. From the eligible applications 379

branches to 304 banks have been allotted. The issue of licences by RBI to Banks is a continuous exercise and there cannot be any rigid time frame for the same.

Export of Non-Basmati Rice and Mango Pulp

2994. SHRIDATTATRAYABANDARU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the guidelines for export of non-basmati rice and mango pulp;

(b) the quantity of the above items exported during the last three years and the foreign exchange earned therefrom;

(c) the share of southern States in the above exports;

(d) whether the Government propose to allot quotas for non-basmati rice and Mango pulp on the basis of production and quality;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SAL-MAN KHURSHEED): (a) The export of non-basmati rice is allowed under Open General Licence 13, subject to Minimum Export Price of US\$ 231 per MT and the quantitative ceiling placed at the disposal of Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA). The quantitative ceiling is fixed having regard to the surplus available for export. The detailed guidelines are made public in APEDA's Trade Notices issued from time to time. Presently, one of the important guidelines is that in case the quantity applied for by the applicants is more than the export quota available, the allocation is made on the basis of the highest Unit Value realisation. Mango Pulp is freely allowed for export without any restrictions.

(b) The quantity of non-basmati rice and Mango Pulp exported during the last three years and the foreign exchange earned therefrom are as under:-

QTU/ , TM/s/
VALUE: Rs Lakhs.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Non-basmati rice</i>	<i>Mango Pulp</i>
1988-89	Qty. 35753	18992
	Value 2023	2484
1989-90	Qty. 26705	36054
	Value 1636	3425
1990-91	Qty. 313718	15760
	Value 18783	2351

Source: APEDA

(c) Separate region wise data is not maintained.

(d) to (f). Government has allotted a quota of 7 lakh tonnes of Non-basmati rice for export upto 31.3.1992. Government does not allot any quota for export of Mango Pulp.

Interest on Payment of Cash Compensatory Support

2995. DR. V. RAJESHWARAN:
SHRI C. SRINIVASAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the exporters in the country have demanded payment of interest on account of delay in the payment towards Cash Compensatory Support claims; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Scheme of Cash Compensatory Support does not envisage any compensation for late disbursement; hence the question of payment of interest on account of delay in payment towards the Cash Compensatory Support claims does not arise.

[Translation]

Permanent Residences for Army Personnel

2996. SHRIDAU DAYAL JOSHI:
SHRI RAJESH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the military cantonments in the country where permanent and temporary dwelling units are available for the soldiers and

the cantonments where this facility is not available;

(b) whether in some cantonments the accommodation has been taken on rent by the Government;

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

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to change the temporary residences into the permanent residences in these areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) In all the 62 Cantonments, permanent and temporary dwelling units are available for soldiers. There is no Cantonment where such facilities are not available.

(b) There are 37 Cantonments where accommodation has been taken on rent by the Army.

(c) Cantonment-wise details are given in the enclosed statement.

(d) When temporary structures outlive their utility, these are replaced by permanent constructions.

STATEMENT

List of Hired Accommodation

Sl.No.	Station	Officers		JCOs		ORs	
		Married	Single	Married	Single	Married	Single
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Central Command							
1.	Allahabad	13					
2.	Agra	7					
3.	Bareilly	7					
4.	Clament Town	4					
5.	Dehradun	26					
6.	Danapur	37		9		2	
7.	Fategarh	1					
8.	Jabalpur	12					
9.	Jhansi	15					

Sl.No.	Station	Officers		JCOs		ORs	
		Married	Single	Married	Single	Married	Single
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10.	Kanpur	1					
11.	Mhow	12					
12.	Panchmari	1					
13.	Roorkee	3					
14.	Lucknow	22					
15.	Varanasi	4					
<i>Southern Command</i>							
16.	Ahmednagar		16				
17.	Ajmer	17					
18.	Aurangabad	3					
19.	Belgaum	24					

Sl.No.	Station	Officers		JCOs		ORs	
		Married	Single	Married	Single	Married	Single
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
20.	Kamptee	3					
21.	Kirkee	12	1				
22.	Pune	139					
23.	St. Thomas Madras	37					
24.	Secunderabad	154					
25.	Wellington	1					
Eastern Command							
26.	Barrackpore	8					
27.	Shillong	2					
Western Command							
28.	Amritsar	19					

Sl.No.	Station	Officers		JCOs		ORs	
		Married	Single	Married	Single	Married	Single
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
29.	Delhi	438	12	71			
30.	Ferozepur	1					
31.	Jalandhar	17					
32.	Jutogh		9				
33.	Kasauli	4		2			
34.	Dagshahi	2					
35.	Subatu	6					
<i>Northeran Command</i>							
36.	Jammu	54					
37.	Sri Nagar	31					
Total		982	38	82	-	2	-

[English]

Excise Revenue in Andhra Pradesh

2997. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the excise revenue has either remained static or decreased for certain items, during the last three years, in the excise collectorates in Andhra Pradesh;

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

(c) the action proposed to be taken to improve the excise collections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWARTHAKUR): (a) to (c). The Central Excise revenue from the three Collectorates in Andhra Pradesh has shown an increasing trend during the last three years. However, among major commodities, there has been some fall in revenue from petroleum products mainly because of market conditions.

Jute Packaging for Cement

2998. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have issued any guidelines for packaging of a certain percentage of total cement production in jute bags;

(b) Whether any complaints have been received regarding the flouting of such Government directives by the Cement companies all over the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the total cement production in the country that was sold in Jute packaging during the last three years, year-wise;

(e) the companies that erred in compli-

ance with the Government orders/directives/guidelines during the above period; and

(f) the action, the Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (f). The vices of the Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory Use in Packing Co. modities) Act, 1987 has been challenged in the Supreme Court where the matter is subjudice. The Supreme Court has advised the Government not to pass any further order to the detriment of the petitioners till the disposal of the case.

[Translation]

Remittances of foreign exchange

2999. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount received under the various provisions of the Remittances of Foreign Exchange and Investment in foreign Exchange Bonds (Immunities and Exemptions) Act, 1991 till January 31, 1992, separately;

(b) whether the Government have formulated any guidelines for the proper use of this money;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the steps taken by the Government to prevent misuse of the funds received under this Act for illegal activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWARTHAKUR): (a) According to a report dated 5.3.1992, a sum of US\$ 2.46 billion equivalent to about Rs. 6400 crores has

been collected under the two Schemes, namely the Remittances in Foreign Exchange (Immunities) Scheme, 1991 and India Development Bonds Scheme, 1991.

(b) and (c). Funds will be utilised as per the Government policy in this regard.

(d) Necessary safeguards to prevent the misuse of funds have been provided in the Remittances of Foreign Exchange and Investment in Foreign Exchange Bonds (Immunities & Exemptions) Act 1991 itself.

[English]

Financial Assistance to NTC

3000. SHRI S.B. THORAT:
SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN:
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MAN-
DAL:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to provide financial support to National Textile Corporation to meet the working capital requirements of the company;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the financial position of NTC is so bad that there are no funds to pay even the salaries to its employees;

(d) if so, whether any modernisation package for National Textile Corporation has been approved by the Government for the year 1992-93;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Government have approved the proposals to raise funds for modernisation plan by sale of land and machinery; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) For the financial year 1992-93, the Government has proposed a budget provision of Rs. 54.80 crores as loans to National Textile Corporation for meeting its working capital requirements.

(c) Since the budget provision for cash losses reimbursement is lesser than, last year some of the NTC mills may face difficulty in this regard.

(d) and (e). Modernisation of NTC mills is an ongoing process and carried out with the assistance of Financial Institutions. Promoters' contribution in the shape of Margin money is provided by the Government. The budget provision proposed for modernisation for 1992-93 is Rs. 20 crores.

(f) and (g). The National Textile Corporation has been permitted to sell land surplus to its requirements in order to raise resources, subject to certain guidelines and such sale is monitored by a Committee constituted by the Government.

Sale of machinery is subject to laid down procedure and does not require approval of the Ministry of Textiles.

Recommendations of Arun Singh Committee

3001. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision to consider some of the recommendations made by the Arun Singh Committee;

(b) if so, the details of those recommendations; and

(c) the steps taken to implement them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b). Government have taken decisions to implement some of the recommendations relating to economy measures. These involve, inter-alia, reduction of expenditure on manpower, FOL, rationalisation of training programmes etc.

(c) The Armed Forces have initiated measures to implement the decisions to reduce expenditure in certain areas.

Trade Done by Trade Development Authority and Indian Institute of Foreign Trade

3002. SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the value of trade done with the assistance of the Trade Development Authority and Indian Institute of Foreign Trade during the last three years, separately; and

(b) the total amount spent on Trade Development Authority and Indian Institute of Foreign Trade during the above period?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMANKHURSHED): (a) The erstwhile Trade Development Authority (Now ITPO) was set up as an export promotion organisation for

promoting export of selected non-traditional products to specific markets and providing a package of services to exporters mainly in small scale sector. It does not enter the export transactions directly but only assists its members to do so, by playing the role of catalyst. It is thus not possible to quantify the value of trade done with the assistance of Trade Development Authority. However, as a result of its promotional programmes, estimated value of business secured by its members during the last three years i.e. 1988-89 to 1990-91 is given below:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>Business Generated (Rs. in crores)</i>
1988-89	115.68
1989-90	188.48
1990-91	129.21
Total:	433.37

The Indian Institute of Foreign Trade is mainly a Research and Training Institution in the fields of foreign trade, International business and marketing through specialised training programmes. As it is a non-trading organisation, it is not possible to quantify the value of trade done with the assistance of Indian Institute of Foreign Trade.

(b) The total amount spent on the Trade Development Authority and Indian Institute of Foreign Trade during the last three years i.e. from 1988-89 to 1990-91 is given below:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>Trade Development Authority</i>	<i>Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (Rupees in lakhs)</i>
1988-89	443.14	172.37
1989-90	523.61	191.60
1990-91	553.29	204.03

Indo-us Joint Naval Exercise in Indian Ocean

3003. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have since agreed to participate in Joint Naval exercises in the Indian Ocean with the USA; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b). The Indian Navy conducts joint exercises with various foreign Navies of other friendly countries, from time to time. It has been agreed that our Navy may hold similar exercises with the US Navy, in 1992, for establishing procedures for sea-air-rescue, communications-at-sea etc in the Indian Ocean region.

Privatisation of Calcutta Port Trust

3004. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of State of the Ministry of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Calcutta Port Trust recently undertook major exercises to identify the areas of operation that could be left open to the private sector;

(b) if so, whether the Government have since received any specific proposal in this regard from Calcutta Port Trust;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir. Exercises to identify possible areas of privatisation are still continuing.

(b) and (c). The following proposals related to privatisation/usage of dedicated facilities by captive users have been identified by the Port and sent to the Government:

(i) MDU for use of Berth 5 at HDC by SAIL.

(ii) MDU for use of Berth 8 by TISCO at HDC.

(iii) Tendering for leasing out NS dry Dock 1 and 2 at CDS with lay up berth offering 30 years lease.

(d) Government welcomes privatisation in various areas of the port sector. However, each case will be decided on its merits.

Export of Jute Goods

3005. SHRI CHITTA BASU:
KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI SINGH:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the demand for jute goods in international market is on the increase;

(b) if so, the reasons for sharp decline in the export of jute goods during the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to increase the production and export of jute and jute goods?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) According to the data available from Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations, the world imports of jute products have declined from the level of 1048.3 Thousand Metric Tonnes in 1987 to 944.9 Thousand MT in 1988 and further to 922.5 Thousand MT in 1989. However, the world imports during 1990 increased to 966.9 Thousand MT.

(b) During the last three years exports of jute goods from India were as follows:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Qty. ('000 MT)</i>	<i>Value (Rs/crore)</i>
1988-89	223.5	239.07
1989-90	236.7	296.40
1990-91	241.0	298.00

(Provisional)

(c) The following steps have been taken to increase the production and export of jute and jute goods:

- i) Setting up of Special Jute Development Fund.
- ii) Jute Agriculture Development Programme.
- iii) Setting up of Jute Modernisation Fund.
- iv) Flexibility to use all kinds of fibres/yarn for the manufacture of diversified jute products by jute/textile mills.
- v) R&D activities to develop a new range of diversified jute products.
- vi) Linking of DGS&D orders for supply of jute bags with the export obligation to export of jute products to GOA countries.
- vii) External Market Assistance Scheme.
- viii) Loss Sharing Scheme on participation in global tenders.

Recovery of Loans by Banks

3006. SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SUL-

TANPURI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of outstanding loans in nationalised banks during the last six months; and

(b) the steps being taken to realise the outstanding dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) As per data available from Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the total outstanding amount of loans, extended by the twenty nationalised banks, as on March 1991 (latest available) was Rs. 72060 crores, out of which the amount of overdues was Rs. 12184 crores.

(b) Various steps have been taken by RBI to reduce the amount of overdues and also to improve the recovery performance of the commercial banks in respect of their advances to various sectors. Some of the important steps are as follows:

1. Banks have been impressed upon to institute a viable recovery system with a view to help recycling the scarce resources of the banks to the needy and productive sectors of the economy on the one hand, and to improve the profitability and viability of the lending banks, on the other.

2. The Chief Executives of the banks have been advised to pay their personal attention to the monitoring of large advances.
3. Introduction of a comprehensive and uniform grading system to indicate the health of individual advances for the purpose of their effective monitoring and follow up.
4. To keep a watch on the recovery of top sticky accounts at the board level.
5. Taking action against the officials where advances are found to have become sticky due to their negligence, inefficiency etc.

Relaxation in restrictions on Imports

3007. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Reserve Bank of India has further relaxed or propose to relax restrictions on imports with immediate effect;

(b) if so, the relaxations made so far by the Reserve Bank of India during the current year; and

(c) to what extent these relaxations have been helpful to the importers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). In the context of the country's difficult balance of payment position and significantly larger monetised deficit, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had imposed certain restrictions on imports as a short term measure aimed at containing overall demand. However, depending on the foreign exchange reserves position, various relaxations have been made from time to time. Accordingly, the restrictions like prescribed minimum cash margin and interest rate surcharge in import finance have been fully removed. The question of further relaxations, therefore, does not arise. However, the restrictions on inventory norms continue as it will help in curbing inflationary pressure in the economy besides ensuring

better management of inventory by the industry.

(c) While the relaxations indicated above have undeniably assisted importers, its precise extent is difficult to quantify.

Purchase of Arms from U.K.

3008. SHRI MOHAN SINGH:
SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether U.K. has offered to sell defence equipment to India;

(b) whether the Government have accepted the offer; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b). Offers for sale of defence equipment, received from various countries including U.K., are evaluated from the technical and commercial angles and decisions for acquisition are taken on the basis of the merits of each case.

(c) It would not be in the interest of security to disclose specific details of such cases.

[Translation]

Drug Trafficking

3009. SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have directed the State Governments to formulate a proper strategy and appoint nodal officers with appropriate levels of authority to ensure speedy disposal of cases relating to drug trafficking;

(b) if so, the number of such cases pending with the States; and

(c) the effective measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to control the drug trafficking?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). The Central Government have been requesting the State Governments for identifying or establishing nodal agencies for proper coordination with them in drug matters. Speedy disposal of case is a separate issue which is possible only by establishing special courts under the Narcotic Drugs & Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985. The responsibility of setting up of special courts is that of the State Governments.

(c) Various new and stringent legislative measures have been introduced in the recent years which resulted in discouraging drug trafficking in and through India. Some of these measures included rigorous imprisonment from 10 to 30 years, death penalty for repeat offences of some categories and trial of such offences in Special Courts for speedy disposal. Such measures also include hitting directly at the traffickers' financial assets and properties by bringing in provisions in law for freezing and forfeiture of property derived from illicit drug trade. Multi-pronged enforcement drive by various enforcement agencies have also been undertaken. Enforcement agencies concerned keep strict vigil in the matter.

Attempt to cross the line of Actual control in Jammu and Kashmir

3010. **SHRI BARE LAL JATAV:**
SHRI RABI RAY:
SHRI MORESHWAR SAVE:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the activities of Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front and Pakistani Mujahids had given a call to cross the Line of actual control and enter into Jammu and Kashmir in February, 1992;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government to thwart their entry;

(c) whether any such attempt was actually made by those activists;

(d) if so, the number of such activists killed/apprehended in the process: and

(e) the details of measures being taken to nullify such attempts in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) to (e). While Government were fully aware of the call given for crossing the Line of Control on 11 February 1992 and had taken appropriate measures to prevent any violations, no attempt was made to actually cross this Line on that date. Adequate measures exist to ensure the inviolability of the Line of Control and our borders, at all times.
[English]

Aircraft Included in VIP Squadron

3011. **SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN:**
SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) The models and number of aircraft, model-wise included in the VIP squadron;

(b) whether any aircraft presently included in the VIP squadron have completed their working life and need to be replaced;

(c) Whether it is proposed to acquire more aircraft for the VIPs and VVIPs;

(d) whether suitable aircraft have been short-listed for the purpose;

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b). The following IAF aircraft, earmarked for use by the VIPs have sufficient working life:

<i>Model</i>	<i>No. of aircraft</i>
HS - 748	7
B - 737	2
MI - 8	6

(c) No, Sir.

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

12.00 hrs..

**RE. RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE
ATTITUDE OF U.S.A. TOWARDS INDIA**

(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE
(Dumdum): There is nothing else but US
pressure on India. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will call upon Shri
Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee to speak. All others
may take their seats. The first person to
speak is Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee.

(Interruptions)

12.01 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE:
Only three kinds of reports dominate the
newspapers today. One is the Pentagon
report which is referred to in the House by
Shri Saifuddin Choudhury and which is
supported by us. It now gets the support of
President Bush.

There is a second report that on Super,
301, Ms. Carla Hills stated that either com-
promise or face action.

There is a third news that our Foreign
Secretary has taken an about turn in his
discussions with United States regarding
regional nuclear conference.

All these news taken together, notwith-
standing what the Prime Minister said about
nuclear non-proliferation, pose a large threat
to India.

Combined with this, kindly note that we
are going into a joint naval exercise with the
United States.

On the one hand, it has been stated by
the US Political and economic bosses that
either we surrender or benefits will be denied
to us. We are surrendering. We are not able

to say "Damn with the joint naval exercises.
Unless and until you withdraw this threat, we
will not be a party."

Whenever such things appeared in the
news, we demanded that the Government
suo motu should come and issue statement
and clarify the matter whether or not we are
going to surrender and whether or not we are
going to withdraw from the joint naval exer-
cises and in any case how are they respond-
ing.

The Government has not yet learnt a
lesson that unless they take Parliament into
confidence, and unless all sides of the House
Unitedly put up a fight against imperialists,
India will go down the drain.

On this question, I demand that the
Government makes an immediate report or
in the course of the day come out with a
report. (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Everybody
cannot speak on one particular subject.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE:
This is such an important issue that every-
body should participate. All sections of the
House should participate.

SHRI ROOPCHAND PAL (Hooghly):
Not only Ms. Carla Hills, but the drugs and
pharmaceuticals industries of America are
threatening our country and demanding that
the patent laws should be changed. The
sovereignty of our country cannot be threat-
ened. The Government should come out
with a statement.

[Translation]

SHRI RABI RAY (Kendrapada): Mr.
Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have been raising
this issue in this House for the last 7-8 days
and not only it appears daily in newspapers,
the U.S. Government is continuing to pres-
surise the Government of India. Today it has
come clearly before the people and about
the 46-page Pentagon report, which was
published against India, it is being said that
it does not have the support of the U.S.
Government.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it has appeared in newspapers that it is supported by the United States. This is the report of Pentagon. It has been stated in it that the U.S.A. will attack India, Pakistan, Iraq and especially India because we tell the U.S. Government that we will not sign the N.P.T. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Shri Dixit, who is secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs and who is in U.S.A., had a talk with Carla Hills. She has said it clearly that unless India agrees with our administration on Intellectual property rights, the U.S. would retaliate, it is the answer of the U.S. Government in the Senate. A threat of retaliation has been given and senator says,

[English]

Hindustan has committed piracy.

[Translation]

This is being said by the U.S. Government and the senators. the question raised by Shri Nirmal Chatterjee in this regard is very serious. I would like that, leaving aside all the business, there should be a discussion in the House on it. I submit that in the context of ongoing developments I have no doubt in my mind that the Government will sign the Dunkel report, though it has agreed for a discussion on it. Therefore, the Government succumbs to pressure being exerted by Carla Hills. Today I am saying so and you will admit it. We demand a discussion on it in the House.

[English]

SHRI MAJORANJAN BHAKTA (Andaman & Nicobar Islands): Please look at this side also. This side also should be given a chance.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I was just watching. Nobody has raised his hand.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): This is not a routine matter. We must express our views in this regard.

[Translation]

PROF. PREMDHUMAL (Hamirpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the House has already expressed its deep concern over this issue and the reply given by the Government every time that there will be a discussion on it in the House, proves to be a white lie in newspapers the next day. Now it is clear from the newspaper reports that Pentagon papers were having the support of the U.S. President. Carla Hills is dictating terms to them and it appears that they have lost self-respect absolutely. They are surrendering in every field. Therefore, I support the demand that there should be a full discussion on it in the House and the Government should take the House into confidence before doing anything there. (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I want to give an opportunity to all the parties. Let us know the views of the Parties one by one.

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): Sir, it has been rightly pointed out today that there are very important developments in the attitude of the United States of America towards our country.

Firstly, President Bush has accepted the very basis of the Pentagon report which was earlier denied even by our Foreign Secretary.

Secondly, there has been an open threat today by Mrs. Carla Hills that action under Special 301 will be taken against India if the Government of India does not compromise its position particularly in relation to the Intellectual Property Rights.

Thirdly, it has been announced today categorically that within a month or so, there will be Joint Naval Exercises between the Indian Navy and the U.S. Navy in the Indian Ocean. This is a blatant interference in the internal affairs of our country. Not only that. It has jeopardised our defence strategy also. We have been demanding all the time that the Indian Ocean should be made a Zone of

Peace. In contravention to that basic principle of India, joint naval exercises are going to be held with the United States of America's Navy.

Lastly, there has been a complete reversal of the Government of India's policy with regard to signing of NPT. Our Foreign Secretary says that within two weeks, our Government may examine the bilateral talks with the United States of America. Therefore, on all these four issues, our Government should give explanation to this House. I want you to advise the Government to make a statement covering all these points. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, for the last few days, number of reports are being published in the newspapers saying that the United States of America is pressurising the Government of India in various ways. And, number of times, the opposition Members have also raised this issue. The other day, I also raised this issue regarding what Mr. Bush is doing. And if the Pentagon report which has been accepted by the President Bush, as reported in the newspapers, is correct, then the matter is a serious one. We do not know how far these reports are correct or not correct. So, the Government of India, the Minister of External Affairs should come out with a statement to clear the position as to what is the actual position so that everything can be cleared and there is no confusion. That is why, I request the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs, who is here, to assure us that the country is informed about what has happened and what is the fact. There may be some misleading report in all these newspaper reports which gives the handle to the opposition friends to accuse the Government. That is why, I request the Minister to kindly consider this and come out with a statement to clear the position. *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI PIUS TIRKEY (Alipurduars): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think that due to

tilting of balance of power, as Russia has disintegrated into small republics, the U.S.A. is imposing its policies unilaterally on the whole world. There is no doubt that whatever it wants, the developing countries will follow it. All this has been said so many times. Ours is a weak Government, a bankrupt Government in every field, even in the matters of defence, it is talking to them and consulting them. I demands, through you, on behalf of my party R.S.P. that the Government should clarify its position on this important issue and there should be a detailed discussion on it in the House.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now Shri Lewis to speak.

(Interruptions)

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum): We on this side of the House...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I beg your excuse. Kindly bear with me.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, he delivers under-arm bowling. He is an under-arm bowler. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI A. CHARLES: We on this side of the House are equally concerned about the press reports and what is now going on in the media. If my memory is correct, I will just remind them one important factor. When the National Front Government was in power, there was an attempt made by the United States to impose Super 301. And then it was Shri Rajiv Gandhi who vehemently reacted to that and said that we would not in any way surrender our economic right or any right to any nation. But unfortunately, an attempt is being now made to give a wrong message that this Government is trying to surrender the economic sovereignty of this country. Sir, our Prime Minister has categorically

stated that under no circumstances, the Government will in any way surrender either the economic rights or any interests of this country. That is on record. (*Interruptions*) There is one more thing. Our country is a founder Member of the IMF, the World Bank and the GATT. We have every right to represent ourselves in all these forums and this Government is capable of doing that.

I request that a statement may be made by the hon. the Prime Minister clarifying the whole position. And we, on this side, categorically say that we will not yield to any pressure from any quarter of the world, whether it is the U.S.A. or Mr. Bush or any other big brother. We will certainly identify ourselves with all the Members of the House. Let us not divide the House. Let us be one, to face the great crisis that our nation is now facing.

We have to give a united message to the whole nation that we are one. But the attempt of the Opposition will only divide the House and will give a wrong message to the nation (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani): Sir, if you exclude me, I have no grudge. But how can you exclude the CPI party?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am calling one by one. Each political party should have their say. Even the ruling party also should be given a chance to have its say. According to the strength, two people from the ruling side have spoken and one each from Marxists, Indian Communists, B.J.P., and an independent Member also was given a chance and he has spoken.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: But you have excluded the CPI party.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Bhogendra Jha, your allegation carries no weight. I am calling the names of every political party member. It is not that as if I am ignoring anybody here.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Except CPI. You are following a correct principle.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am sorry. Kindly excuse me. If CPI member is not called, I will call now. Now, Shri Bhogendra Jha:

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If there are any important aspects, you should tell it to the House but you cannot take the entire House. Your subjects are also important. You should bring it to the notice of the House. One subject cannot take the entire time of the House and also the time of the other Members. So, it is all in the hands of the hon. Members. Now, Shri Bhogendra Jha:

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is a matter of exceptional gravity and importance. Now, new colonial offensive against India in a full pressure form is taking place; not on this issue or that issue. The Dunkel's proposals, they are being implemented bit by bit, without accepting it. The Foreign Secretary has said in the U.S.A. that to the extent possible, they are implementing it. This is a violation of the assurance given in this House by the Minister that first it will be discussed in the House and then only the Government will take a stand. But the Foreign Secretary, Shri Dixit, in the U.S.A., had openly violated the assurance given in this House. And this is a matter of privilege against the Foreign Secretary and let the Government clarify this.

The second thing is that India was in the vanguard of the movement for declaring the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace. The United Nations adopted a Resolution for keeping Indian Ocean as a zone of peace. We were the leader of that movement, we are the voters of that Resolution in the UN and today under US pressure we are violating that commitment of ours. We are violating the commitment of this House, of this country and the Resolution of the UN, through joint Naval exercises with the US in the Indian Ocean.

This is not just a formal matter, though formally also we have no right to violate the UN Resolution. We are never in favour of the American stand. We have no right to violate the unanimously agreed position of this country that Indian Ocean must be a zone of peace and then carry out Naval exercises at our door. We are a party to violating our own commitment and going against the interests of our own country.

Besides that the secret Pentagon report mentions about the alleged hegemonic ambitions of India in South Asia. Now President Bush has almost corroborated it. This is an attempt to rouse, to provoke, to incite our fraternal and friendly neighbours against this country.

In such a situation our Finance Minister argues on the basis of finance. He was arguing that foreign banks are better. I think tomorrow he may come up with a proposal to do away with all our nationalised banks and he can come with all the foreign banks. *(Interruptions)*

Because this Government cannot manage our economy well, because this Government has mismanaged the economy, bit by bit we are surrendering. Particularly I would like to say this because our Finance Minister and many others may not understand that those of us who have fought for our freedom, we cherish it, we value it and when this is in danger through full-fledged neo colonial offensive, this cannot be tolerated.

This must be made a special agenda in this House and get it fully discussed. Before that the Government must not take a single step against our national interests in accordance with the commands of the US Government either on industry or on economic policy or conduct joint Naval exercises. On all these issues, I would like to submit and request my friends on that side also to realise the importance and stand together.

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri): I share the views given expression to by the other lead-

ers of various parties. This is not a matter affecting one section of the people of the country. This is affecting the entire nation, this is affecting the self respect of this nation. This is high time for the Government to come out with a statement expressing the position of India to stand up with America. We cannot just live in this world under the wings of America or any other nation. We have our own policy, our own perspective with regard to the Indian Ocean Zone. We are committed to keeping it as a zone of peace. Any power in this world who will come and interfere in these affairs will have to be told in plain language.

My hon. friends Bhogendra Jhaji has been mixing this matter with that of the structural changes made in our financial policy. It is quite irrelevant. The financial policy is to tide over a difficult situation. But this is to be viewed politically. We have a policy being pursued right from the time of Jawaharlal Nehru and that shall not be surrendered before any power in the world, let it be America or any other power.

I request the hon. Minister on behalf of my party to come out with a statement denouncing the Pentagon papers which has assumed a very great importance after President Bush has given approval to it.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa): There are many others who would like to speak on this.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Yes, it is too serious. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: There are many other points.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIGHULAM NABIAZAD): You do not want an answer?

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: You pleased sit down for some time. You give an answer after all of us finish speaking on the Subject.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR (Mangalore): Sir, we have heard enough about the threat being posed to the sovereignty, unit and integrity of our country from outside. I am drawing the attention of this House to such a threat being posed from within the country also. Recently, in Hubli, some prominent citizens, including a large number of people, hoisted the national flag in the Municipal Corporation Maidan situated in front of Kittur Rani Chennamma Circle. Within Minutes, some police officials showing total disrespect to the national flag and in utter disregard to the national ethos removed the national flag and they just threw it away.

This is a very serious matter. From within the country also, a very strong threat is being posed to the unity and integrity of the country. I would like the Government to immediately take steps to see that such erring officials are kept under suspension and an inquiry is instituted by the CBI. The Government should come up with a statement.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, today hon. Shri Rabi Ray has raised an issue that President George Bush had supported the Pentagon proposal in connection with taking action against India if it does not sign the N.P.T. Our Prime Minister has said in Mauritius that he would not sign the N.P.T. A special situation has arisen out of it. America is trying to threaten us. I would like to appeal to the Minister of External Affairs of Government of India that the U.S. Ambassador should be summoned in the Ministry to External Affairs and told that India will not yield to the U.S. attitude at any cost otherwise it will be taken that the Prime Minister says somethings and does some things other behind the curtain which might tantamount to connivance. Bhogendra Jhaji has rightly said. Manmohan Singhji is doing something or the other in the economic field and now it seems that he has surrendered before America in diplo-

matic and political spheres. If not, if he has the slightest regard for the freedom and sovereignty of India, then the U.S. Ambassador should be called in the Ministry of External Affairs and told clearly about our policies that we are not going to bow down before them at anytime and in any situation.

[*English*]

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA (Jadavpur): Sir, we have been saying for a long time that Carla and Dunkel are just two faces of the same coin. The recent meeting between our Foreign Secretary and the US Trade Representative has made this very clear because we see in Dunkel draft one of the most controversial issues is the issue of intellectual property rights. And it is precisely on this issue that the US Trade Representative has been trying to pressurise our Foreign Secretary. Unfortunately newspaper reports, show that the response of our Foreign Secretary - representative of our Government - has been an extremely weak-kneed approach.

I would demand from the Government a statement clarifying: (a) whether Ms. Carla Hills has sought that investigation under Special 301 will be revived unless India quickly comes to a compromise on matters related to trade, intellectual property rights, etc. Secondly, we would like to know whether or not our Foreign Secretary has said that the Indian delegation in Geneva will work with the US delegation to narrow the differences on certain issues and reach compromises wherever it is possible. What is this narrowing of differences we would like to know? I would also like to know whether it has been said by the Foreign Secretary that they are working with the US delegation to come to an agreement within the framework of the Dunkel draft and that to reach any compromise outside the Dunkel recommendations would be difficult. Sir, this would be in direct contravention to what has been promised to us on the Floor of the House by the Commerce Minister himself. This is a very serious matter and so, we want a statement from the Government on these specific questions.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam): Sir, this is a matter of great concern. It is reported in the Press today that Mrs. Carla Hills has threatened India and also our Foreign Secretary, as per newspaper reports, was expressing his helplessness. Mrs. Carla Hills has mentioned about Super 301. Indian Ocean will be a zone of peace which is our commitment and we cannot compromise on that. Our honorable Prime Minister has very well explained our position on the floor of the House. For the last three to four days, Members of the Opposition have been expressing their concern regarding Pentagon report and other things. I request the Government to come forward to clear this suspicion so that the picture becomes clear. It is because one newspaper is reporting entirely different from another newspaper. So, I request the Government and the External Affairs Minister to come forward with a statement so that the reality of the facts can be placed before the House and the Nation should know about that (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU (Secunderabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Ganesh festival in Hyderabad city of Andhra Pradesh... (*Interruptions*).

[*English*]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: We shall certainly hear hon. friends who have got other important issues also to raise. But if it comes in between, Sir, then the whole discussion will derail.

(*Interruption*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Somnathji, he does not expect any reply from the Government. He just wants to bring the matter to the notice of the Government.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: But afterwards. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI E. AHAMED: Sir, we would like to hear from the Government first. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MANORAJAN BHAKTA: Sir, the Minister wants to respond. Let him respond. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is true that this is really a very important subject and many Members want to participate in this debate and want to contribute their views. but, at the same time, it will take them probably. When the Minister has replied, one or two Members may also like to ask questions. So, can we come to a conclusion?

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI E. AHAMED: Sir, let the hon. Minister make a statement and then, the subject will be over. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Fernandes, Mr. Somnath Chatterjee, Mr. Saifuddin Chowdhury and Prof. Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee want to make their contributions. What I wish to say is that there are some other important matters from other Members' point of view, who have come to the office before 10 O' Clock and given notice. Their notices are also listed here.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: They can mention those points after the discussion on this topic is over. .

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: How can you come to such a conclusion? You have already spoken on this and others also want to speak....

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: We have already expressed our concern. This matter is agitating us to such an extent that many others also wish to express their concern. Then, we want to the Minister to make a statement.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I agree with you one hundred per cent. Can we come to this understanding that when the Minister answers, whether you are satisfied or not, you should not make any further submissions?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, we request you to allow those Members who wish to express their concern over the US interference. When that subject is over, let other hon. Members raise their issues. I hope the Hon. Foreign Minister has been permitted to make a statement by Carla Hills. This is a very serious matter. First allow those who wish to speak on this issue. The others may be allowed later and we assured our attentive presence. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Your physical presence is very much here and there is no doubt about it. But the question is whether they could get time to speak.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): There should be a statement from the Government's side. How many more people want to speak? We all expressed our concern about it. Please see that the matter stands at rest.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Panigrahi, many people from your side also have spoken. They want to speak. Please sit down. I have called Mr. George Fernandes.

[*Translation*]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzaffarpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, I would like to submit two points regarding the matter which is being discussed in the House just now. Firstly, we don't know whether there is a clear cut foreign policy and defence policy in the country. During the last few days, we have found two types of reaction of Government on this issue. On the one hand, Government is silent over the provocative news items that are being published in newspapers regarding statements of Ms. Carla Hills and the Pentagon Schemes for this country. On the other hand, Government has issued a statement that joint naval exercises of Indian Navy and the American forces would be organised in the Indian Ocean. See how the Government is playing a dual role. On the one hand plans are being made to destroy the fabric of this country and the whole House is agitated over it and on the other

hand, Government says that it would take the House into confidence in all matters. This means they would continue with their own plans. The plans of joint exercises with their forces still stand. A few days back the top brass of Indian forces paid a visit to America and today an announcement has been made that the Defence Minister would pay a visit to the country in the first week of next month. We are at a loss to understand whether this country is becoming a colony. Our Prime Minister is enraged when such questions are raised but we would like to enquire whether everything else has been settle and only an announcement has to be made to this effect. What is the dignity of the House if we cannot seek information regarding the policies of the country. Where should we discuss such issues of national importance as the defence and foreign policy of the country?

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we wanted to raise this issue on Monday and I had given a notice for it today. But I could not help myself because yesterday a newspaper carried an interview and news report with photographs of General Rodrigues on three pages. The newspaper had announced that the second part of General Rodrigue's interview would be to published today. We want to know from the hon. President since he is supposed to be the chief of the Indian troops of the defence services as to how the Chief of the Army staff, General Rodrigues has given an interview of about two hour duration to a newspaper 'The Pioneer'. In that publication the Chief of Army staff says "Good governance is our business as well". In the two hour interview he has not said whether he is speaking on behalf of the Government. He has no right to make statement in public. Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru had dismissed General Thimayya for a passing a cursory remark. Today General Rodrigues is challenging the Government and the neighbours. Irrespective of the relations we have with Russia, China, and America he has called them bandicoots.

[*English*]

Yes, he has called these three countries

as bandicoots. Commenting on the move to rope the three major power, USA, China and Russia, into a regional non-proliferation agreement, General Rodrigues wondered about the role of these three bandicoots. "You have two protagonists and three Supervisors. Are they supervisors or are they part of this whole arrangement?"

[Translation]

Now China has become a bandicoot, Russia has become a bandicoot. Hon. Foreign Minister is making untiring efforts to improve country's relations with these countries and these countries are being labelled as bandicoots by the Chief of the Army Staff. (Interruptions)

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARANJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to know whether the hon. Member has authenticated that interview from the newspaper.

SHRIGEORGE FERNANDES: Yes, Sir, I authenticate it.

SHRI RAM KAPSE (Thane): Sir, the interview appeared yesterday in the Pioneer. Today, there is no contradiction neither from the Government nor from the General himself. So, all these technicalities will not help.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Let us not worry about it. I am prepared to authenticate it. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would request my friend Shri Rangarajan to take a serious view of this issue. If this is not taken seriously I challenge the language used by the General (Interruptions) The second

part of the interview was to be published today.

[English]

It has been mentioned:

"The excerpts from two hour interview granted by the Chief of Army staff General S. Rodrigues to Ramindar Singh, the second half will be published tomorrow".

[Translation]

It had to be published today, but it has not been done. This means that the Ministry of Defence has taken some action in this regard. I am glad that the Supreme Commander of Armed Forces i.e. the hon. President has taken a serious note of it. We are happy that Government has banned the publication of the second part of the interview. But at the same time, we wanted to know the whole view, the General had in his mind while giving the interview.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would submit that we are not frightened. We have fought dictatorship. But we are apprehensive about the further of this country because for the first time the General who is Chief of Army staff has challenged the political decisions. He says what else could he have done in this regard. In reply to the previous question he has said:

[English]

Pakistan is a minor irritant.

It is a half page interview.

"Question: How serious a threat does Pakistan appear to be today, after the events of the February 11 march?

Answer: As a professional I would say peripheral.

Question: Pakistan is peripheral to our security concerns?

Answer: Yes, It is an irritant, but the point is it is an irritant I could do without.

Question: Isn't that a little bit of over confidence?

Answer: No its a professional analysis."

"I am not overwhelmingly bothered about whatever he tries to do. He meaning 'Pakistan'. His problem very simply is that he sees me as being central to his security concerns. And as far as I am concerned I don't see him as central to mine." (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Don't read it.

SHRI E. AHAMAD: It is important. It has to be quoted.

[*Translation*]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, how will the House know about it. This news item was published in the newspapers yesterday. I had talked to my friends in the House and we had decided not to raise this issue today because we wanted to go through the entire interview - the latter half of which was to be published today but that was not published today and I think it was done at somebody's instance. That is why the need to raise it arose today. When he was asked whether JKLF's entry into Kashmir was a very serious matter, the General replied that the matter was not serious by any means and that he had not deployed even a single jawan. When the journalist asked him:

[*English*]

"Question: When the Foreign Secretary calls in all the editors and tells them Paki-

stan would try to start civil strife in Kashmir.....

Answer: From our point of view, it is a very basic question"

Question: How do you say the tension was created by the media?

Answer: Because you made such a song and dance about what was going on. If it had blown up I would have had to be in battle locations. I wasn't deployed."

[*Translation*]

This contains the mysterious information given by C.I.A. to the Indian Government. It also contains extracts from the intelligence report furnished by America to the Indian Government. It is the responsibility to the Government to make public the information furnished by America and the General cannot do it. The General did not have the right to publicise the intelligence reports regarding Pakistan and other neighbouring countries.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are worried, the way in which this discussion is proceeding. On the one hand, naval exercises are underway with America and on the other hand the General is saying that America is running this country. I am not saying this but these are his words.

His opinion about the Pakistan leaders is worth hearing but I will not quote it here. However, what he thinks about his own country is that(*Interruptions*).....

Headline is different. I would like to tell you what he said in that interview....(*Interruptions*)..... Please listen to my concluding sentence. I am concluding. He said he would repeat what he says to his forces deployed in Assam, Kashmir and Punjab that(*Interruptions*).....

[English]

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Sir, he is going in for a full discussion. This is not a discussion. An important issue raised by some other Members is diverted by him. He should give notice for this.... (*Interruptions*).....

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: It reads as follows:

"If Pakistan was not the country's central security concern then what was ?

This is the reply:

"Just as national security had become everybody's concern, so also 'good governance is our business as well.'"

[Translation]

The Army and the General is taking responsibility of governance of the country. Therefore, we urge that the General should immediately be relieved of his duties. We want to make this demand in this House. It should be unanimously agreed in the House.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deograh): He cannot do like this.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: He should give a proper notice. What is this? He is making an election speech. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM KAPSE: The Defence Minister should come to the House and make a statement about this interview. The interview is horrible. We want that the Defence Minister should come to the House and make a statement what the Defence Ministry has done about this interview, if necessary?

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA (Balasore): The news which he is reading is not authenticated.

SHRI RAM KAPSE: Yesterday it appeared; and it was authenticated by Mr.

George Fernandes. He has a right to speak on that.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): I think, Mr. George Fernandes has already said that he had already authenticated it.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I am sure, all sides of the House agree that this is a very serious matter; just cannot be ignored or wished away. I take it that the hon. Foreign Minister has been pleased to come here in view of the discussion that is going on in the House. I am sure, he is also feeling very disturbed as to the activities of the Foreign Secretary that are going on. What is the truth? I hope you have been informed through the USA Agency as to what is the truth. Therefore, I would expect that this should not be treated as a partisan matter when the country's sovereignty is involved. And I am sure, like our young friend Mr. Ramesh Chennithala, there is a section of this House, I hope so, a section in the Treasury Benches, who was feeling disturbed about it.

I had raised during my speech on the President's Address, a question on joint exercises, military exercises, naval exercises. The hon. Prime Minister in his euphoria about the possible outcome of the result of the voting, ignored all these points in his reply, because he was keen to prove that economic sovereignty, according to his perception, was there. But, today, in spite of the clear assurances given by the Commerce Minister that no decision will be taken on the Dunkel's proposal without a prior discussion in the House, the Foreign Secretary goes there and makes commitment.

So far as Super 301 is concerned, we are openly threatened that we must compromise on what terms, on our terms, but on their terms. The naval exercises are jointly going on.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Not going on as per newspaper report.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Mr. Manoranjan Bhakta has become desh bhakta

at last. Therefore, he is saying he is correcting me rightly I hope so unless it is going on. This is a matter, we feel that this House, which is a supreme body in this country, should be taken into confidence at the first instance.

When a news like that comes out in the National Press, I feel it is amazing that the Government does not respond on its own. They could have been here at 11 A.M., latest 12 P.M. to make a statement that such a news is coming out; this is the true position. This is the true position. We are an independent country. I hope you still recognise that it is an independent country. What is happening with regard to economic sovereignty and political sovereignty, our Defence secrets, joint exercises, pressurisation by Carla Hills, and this surrender on Dunkel proposals, A General is behaving as if he is the Government of India! What is happening in this country? This is not a routine matter. As I said earlier, do not treat this as a routine matter, not to be dealt with casually. therefore, I would hope and expect that the Foreign Minister will make a statement today immediately and the Defence Minister should also come to dispel the doubts in the minds of the hon. Members here. This is a matter which we cannot allow to be ignored or just passed away, or wished away. We cannot allow this. We must have a satisfactory reply before — you will appreciate — any other business can be taken up. The Railways have gone. It is all derailed. Let us have this first

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa): Apart from all that has been said in regard to the U.S. interference, another point that has come to our notice today is the surveillance of Indian Coast by the U.S. war planes. That has been admitted by their Marine Commander that they were surveilling the ship that was carrying, according to their report, nuclear missiles to Iran from North Korea. Everybody knows that. But the point is that we are not supporting some country giving nuclear missiles to Iran. The point is that what power the U.S.A. has got to put up surveillance on our Indian Coast?

****Expunged as ordered by the Chair.**

With whose permission has that been done?

Another very important point is, I demand that we cancel this Naval exercises. Now the Foreign Secretary has said that, "Where it will be held we do not know; whether it will be in the middle of the Indian Ocean". It should be Indian coast.

Now, our Prime Minister is in Mauritius. What is the sentiment of the Mauritius Government in regard to throwing out the U.S.A. from Diego Garcia? Now he is there and the news item is coming that we are going to have joint exercises. I demand that this must be cancelled forthwith.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj): I will take half a minute only. As Shri George Fernandes was speaking my mind went back to the days when Ayub Khan acquired power and finally Martial Law was imposed in Pakistan.

He talks in terms of this most obnoxious pronoun, "I,I,I",

"I know what is good for the country. I shall do what is good for the country." I think that this demand has got great merit and I would suggest to the Government to consider with almost seriousness and gravity that such a man should not be in a position of power. Such a man must be dismissed today, if the country is to be safe. This is what I want to say and therefore I would say that the Government must take notice. Here is something surprising. He has said all this after his visit to the Pentagon. Therefore, I see a connection. Here is an American plan to penetrate India's defence, to impose hegemony over the area, and here is a man who is prepared to take up a role. This man if he acts, and when he acts will not be acting on his own but as a**

****This is why he must go.**

SHRI SUDARSHAN RAYCHOUDHURI (Serampore): what is disturbing is the role of the Foreign Secretary to go beyond the professed parameter of the Government of

India's foreign policy. His *volte-facc* on the question of the Five Nation Conference on South Asia's Nuclear Weapon Free Zone. He is telling that the Conference will not be held now but the possibility of holding such a conference is not totally rejected outright.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, the hon. Minister.

SHRI SUDARSHAN RAYCH-
OUDHURI: The Foreign Secretary has told that the entire concept of the Indian Ocean being a zone of peace is a nebulous concept. Will the Government of India reconsider their earlier stand? This is my question.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATU-
RAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S.
KRISHNA KUMAR): I just want to place on
record my opinion that it is very unfortunate
that such comments are made against In-
dia's Chief of Staff who is not here to defend
himself. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Roseria):
The Government is here.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINIS-
TRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY
AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARANJAN
KUMARAMANGALAM): He said "It is ter-
minology. They may refer to the Press state-
ment which has been authenticated by Shri
George Fernandes.

13.00 hrs.

But they cannot call a man**. You can-
not call a man names. I am sorry, Sir. There
is a parliamentary procedure; there is a par-
liamentary etiquette. If you want to refer to
his statement, you can do it after authenticat-
ing it like what Mr. George Fernandes has
done. But, to say that he is a**

case and other such comments against
an individual of this type is not correct. And
that, I think, should be removed..... (*Interrup-
tions*)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: He is
not an individual; he is incharge of the Indian
Army today(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

He gets his salary from the consolidated
Fund of India and this house approves it.

[*English*]

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMAN-
GALAM: You do not call him a **Do you have
a medical evidence to that effect?..... (*Inter-
rptions*)

SHRI ANNA JOSHI (Pune): You are
worried about one gentleman and not both-
ered about others.....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM KAPSE (Thane): We wanted
your reaction on whatever he spoke here.
The Defence Minister owes an explanation
to the House. We demand a statement on
this ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV
(Azamgarh): Sir, I am on a point of order.
Two very important points have been raised.
Though both are separate, they concern the
sovereignty and security of our country. One
point which we were raising earlier is about
the U.S. pressure. The Foreign Minister is
here. He can make a statement or say
whatever he wants to say. But, Mr. George
Fernandes has raised another important
point. The State Minister for Defence cannot
just wish this away by saying this much that
because the Chief of Army Staff is not pres-
ent in the House the Members cannot raise
this issue here.....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMAN-
GALAM: That was not what we said. Mr.
Deputy Speaker, Sir, if you kindly allow for a

**Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

minute I will clarify....(Interruptions)

(Interruptions)

SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR: the insinuations and observations made against the Chief of Army Staff are unfortunate..... (Interruptions)

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: A very basis issue has been raised by Mr. George Fernandes pointing out the attention of this House towards a statement, towards an interview of the Chief of Army Staff, which is unprecedented in free India. On basic issues, he makes observations, which not only concerns our security but it concerns our relations with other countries also. It is a very serious issue, which has been raised there. Now the Minister cannot just wise away this issue by saying that it is very unfortunate that that person is not present here and therefore we cannot raise this issue here. Let the Minister bring to the House the full interview. Let him make a statement. We will not make any statement against the Chief of Army Staff. Let him come before this House with a full interview, which has been given by the chief of Army Staff, which concerns with our major policies of our country. And no Chief of Army Staff - I am not naming a person - has a right in this country to express his opinion on the issue which concerns our sovereignty and also the relations with other countries.... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is already one O' Clock. Kindly hear me. The understanding was that - as Shri Somnathji has said - one or two persons would participate in this debate and express their opinion and afterwards the Minister will say whatever he wants to say. Everybody has expressed their feelings and annoyance over it. There are other Members who have given their subjects for raising them. probably some of the Members may not have heard what is going on in the Lobby. Some of the Members are feeling that injustice is done too them and are annoyed because their subjects have not come up for discussion; and everytime their subjects have been postponed. Probably you must have heard how some of our hon. Members are talking....

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA(Cuttack): Sir, all sections of this House are interested in this subject. This is not a question of any particular Member not being able to make his submission.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: This is a very important issue, Sir. Those who want to speak on this, please allow them.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is an important subject. It is a matter concerning the entire nation. But if everybody wants to participate in it., where is the time at our disposal?

SHRI E. AHAMED: Let us hear the views of the Government, Sir.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): The Minister wants to say something. Why don't you listen to him?

SHRI RABI RAY(Kendrapada): I am on a point of order, Sir....(Interruptions).

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Rabi Ray Ji, during Zero Hour, where is the question of point of order?

[Translation]

SHRI RABI RAY: My Point of order is that it is a very serious issue.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The cooperation from the hon. Member is absolutely essential. Otherwise we cannot carry on the House.

[Translation]

SHRI RABI RAY: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, perhaps I would not have stood once again if Shri S. Krishna Kumar would not have stood upto speak. I would like to point out that the matter raised by Shri George

Fernandes is not a thing to rejoice. In fact when we are concerned about something we are apprehensive about the future of the country, worried about the violation of Constitutional provisions, and such utterances by persons holding high offices is not an ordinary matter. Shri P.R. Kumaramangalam wanted to object but I am not quoting anybody. I agree with Shri George Fernandes who has raised this matter and would like to add that in our constitutional structure it is the civil authorities and not the military authorities who take political decisions. This is the characteristic of our Constitution. I am really anxious about the matter and would like Shri Krishna Kumar and their Cabinet Ministers to take it seriously. Perhaps, for the first time the Commander-in-Chief of the country has made such an alarming statement. If he had not spoken I would not have mentioned it. I would only say that Shri Krishna Kumar should not make a statement and leave the technical point to be explained by Shri Kumaramangalam as the person concerned is not present in the House. I agree that his name should not be mentioned...

[English]

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM: Sir, let me clarify. what I objected to was not the the raising of the issue, what I specifically objected to was calling a persons a "That is all. That I think should not go on record. You cannot make a comment like that about any individual which cannot even be replied to.

[Translation]

SHRI RABI RAY: I agree that his name should not be mentioned.

[English]

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Sir, I demand that these words should be expunged from the proceedings.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If any parliamentary words are used, they will be examined and they will be expunged.

[Translation]

SHRI RABI RAY: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is a very serious issue. Let us not embroil ourselves into a controversy and ask Shri Krishna Kumar to make a statement after due deliberations so that we are convinced and satisfied.

PROF. PREM DHUMAL: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, a very important matter has been raised in the House and I agree that the name of a person who is not present to defend himself should not go in the proceedings. However, if we do not uphold the supremacy of the House within the framework of rules what will the further generation say? The Chief of Army is making a political statement and it has been published in yesterday's newspaper. It is a very important matter but not clarification has come from the Government side and the Government has not taken this matter as seriously as it should have. The Government did not say even a single word on it until a hue and cry was made in this House. I would also like to point out that this same gentleman whom I would not like to name, had visited Punjab on an earlier occasion and had given a political statement. If Government allows such things to happen again and again the same warning will come from army as is given by army officers in other countries. It is a question of governance of the country. He said that

[English]

Good governance is our concern.

[Translation]

One more warning has come from him stating that a particular official should be removed. Now the Government should give a clear statement about it? Why is it silent?
(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, first of all I would like to say that we have great faith in our army and no Member of Parliament of any side have any doubt over the patriotic zeal and bravery of our army. All of us have different fields, of work, and we should all do our duty. The judiciary does its duty, the army and the administration perform their duties and if there is any interference, then it is natural that the parliament and its members may feel annoyed. This matter relates to an interview. This parliament is sovereign and if the parliament is sovereign, then it is the responsibility of the Chair to safeguard its sovereignty. I would like to say that if the Government had been even a little conscious of its responsibilities, as it was published in yesterday's newspaper, either the Government would have contradicted it or the Government could have refuted the report published in the newspaper. But from the interview which has been published, it appears that the Government is very much concerned about it. Even if the Government has taken some action in this regard, we would like to know as to what action the Government has taken and if this interview is correct, if this interview has been given by the Chief of Army Staff, then I feel that.....**..... and it is the responsibility of the Government to clarify it.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Sir, kindly ask whether anybody from the Opposition has been left over, so that they could be given time! Injustice has been done to this side. We protest. (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will obey your order Panigrahi.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): It is not only they who are concerned with it. There are many members on this side(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I do not like to dissatisfy Shri Sriballav Panigrahi. If you want to speak for two minutes, I will give you time.

SHRI RAM KAPSE (Thane): He does not want to speak. He wants to comment on your behaviour.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): He will give a lecture.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is the job of the Chair to swallow pills. The Chair shall have to swallow all these pills.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): Sir, neither my colleague Shri Kumaramangalam nor I have denied the right of the Members to raise this issue as such. But, I regret that certain observations were made against our Chief of Army Staff who is very patriotic officer. Especially they mentioned that he is a ** (Interruptions) and that he has been set up by Pentagon. I request that the Deputy Speaker may kindly scrutinise the records and the words may be expunged. That is my request.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The parliamentary words used are already expunged.

(Interruptions)

SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR: Shri George Fernandes has raised certain issue quoting from a newspaper. There is no technical objection as such, there is no bar on the Chiefs of any of the of the Forces or Generals from speaking to the press, there have been cases in the past. So, we will verify, in view of the importance attached by the Members, in view of the points raised here, the authenticity of the report, we will have to look into the contents and if any response is

necessary on the part of the Government, it will be done at the appropriate time by my senior colleague.

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMADHAVSINH SOLANKI): Sir, the sovereignty, integrity and security of our country is uppermost with us just as the Members as well as Government, and we cannot allow and we would not allow in any manner the compromising on this aspect. Sir, I have heard with great attention the views expressed and the concerns expressed by hon. members with regard to the security of our country, particularly about the newspaper reports concerning pentagon. I have only to say at this moment that our Foreign Secretary, who is in America has had detailed discussions with the various authorities of the United States in this respect, he is due to return today or tomorrow, and on Monday we will make a statement in this regard in this honourable House.

As regards the issued raised by honourable Shri George Fernandes, I understand that the Defence Minister would be in a position to make a statement again on Monday or the next day. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, Papers to be laid on the Table.

(Interruptions)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Sir, I have given notice of a motion of privilege.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: What about the Commerce Minister, Sir? We have raised a point on Dunkel proposals. (Interruptions).

I am on a point of order, I am on a point of propriety. (Interruptions). Sir, he has given as assurance that Dunkel proposal will be discussed on the floor of the House, Sir, why does he not speak? (Interruptions).

13.16 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Notifications under Army Act, 1950 and Coast Guard Act, 1978

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy of the Notification No. S.R.O. 11 (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1992 regarding induction of women in selected branches/cadres of the Indian Army issued under section 12 of the Army Act, 1950.
- (2) A copy of the Coast Guard (General) Amendment Rules, 1991 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.R.O. 4-E Gazette of India dated the 13th February, 1992 under sub-section (3) of section 123 of the Coast Guard Act, 1978. [Placed in Library. See No. LT - 1539/92]

Explanatory Statement giving Reasons for Immediately Legislation by the Representation of the People (Amendment) Ordinance 1992

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): Sir, on behalf of Shri Vijaya Bhaskara Reddy, I beg to lay on Table an explanatory statement (Hindi and English version) giving reasons for immediate legislation by the representation of the People (Amendment) Ordinance, 1992. [Placed in Library. See No. LT - 1540/92]

Annual Report and Review on the working of Sports Goods Export Promotion Council, New Delhi for 1990-91 etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Sports Goods Export Promotion Council, New Delhi, for the year 1990-91 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Sports Goods Export Promotion Council, New Delhi, for the year 1990-91.
- (2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT - 1541/92]
- (3) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding for the year 1991-92 between the State Trading Corporation of India Limited and the Ministry of Commerce (Hindi and English versions). [Placed in Library. See No. LT - 1542/92]

Notification under Dock workers (Regulation of Employment) Act, 1948 and Annual Report and Review on the working of Cochin Port Trust, Cochin for 1990-91 etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy of the Madras Unregistered Dock Workers (Regulation of

Employment) Amendment Scheme, 1992 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 13 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 9th January, 1992 under section 8A of the Dock Workers. (Regulation of Employment) Act 1948. [Placed in Library. See No. LT - 1543/92]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Cochin Port Trust, Cochin, for the year 1990-91 together with Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Annual Administration Report of the Cochin Port Trust, Cochin, for the year 1990-91
- (3) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT - 1544/92]
- (4) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 103 of the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963:-
 - (i) Annual Accounts of the New Mangalore Port Trust for the year 1990-91 together with Audit Report thereon.
 - (ii) Review by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the New Mangalore Port Trust for the year 1990-91.
- (4) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT - 1545/92]

**Notifications under Customs Act, 1962
Central Excise and Salt Tax Act, 1944
etc.**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR
SINGH):** Sir, on behalf of Shri Rameshwar
Thakur, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy each of Notifications from No. G.S.R. 19(E) to G.S.R. 25 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd January, 1992 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to spares and consumables of office equipments when imported into India for use by the Units in the Export Processing Zones, at SEEPZ, Cochin, Nodia, Falta, Madras, Special Gold Jewellery Complex, New Delhi and Jewellery Units under 100 per cent EOU Scheme from the whole of the duty of customs leviable thereon under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962. [Placed in Library. See No. LT - 1546/92].
- (2) A copy of the Notification No. G.S.R. 734 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th December, 1991 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to provide that in accordance with the general practice that was prevalent at the relevant time, the duty of excise and the special duty of excise which was not being levied on 'rawfeed' or 'slurry' and used captively in the manufacture of cement clinker, shall not be required to be paid during the period from the 20th March, 1990 to the 17th May, 1990, under sub-section (2) of section 38 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944. [Placed in Library. See No. LT - 1547/92]
- (3) A copy of the Delhi Sales Tax (Second Amendment) Rules, 1991

(Hindi and English versions) published in Notification NO. F. 4 (22)/89-Fin (G) in Gazette of India dated the 19th November, 1991 under section 72 of the Delhi Sales Tax Act, 1975. [Placed in Library. See No. LT - 1548/92]

**Notifications under Companies Act,
1956**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINIS-
TRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY
AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN
KUMARAMANGALAM):** Sir, I beg to lay on
the Table:-

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 642 of section 642 of the Companies Act, 1956:-
 - (i) The Companies (Central government's) General Rules and Forms (Second Amendment) 1991 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 614(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd October, 1991.
 - (ii) The Companies (Acceptance of Deposits) Amendment Rules, 1992 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 39 (E) in Gazette of India dated in 10th January, 1992.
- (2) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 666(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd October, 1991 making certain amendments in the Schedule II of the Companies Act, 1956 with effect from the 1st November, 1991 under sub-section (3) of section 641 of the Companies Act 1956. [Placed in Library. See No. LT - 1549/92]

Notifications under Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of undertaking Act, 1970)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970:-
 - (i) The Allahabad Bank (Officers') Service (Amendment) Regulations, 1990 published in Notification No. Legal/3/90 in Gazette of India dated the 21st July, 1990.
 - (ii) The Syndicate Bank Officer Employees' (Discipline and Appeal) (Amendment) Regulations, 1991 published in Notification No. 319/S/0090/PD:IRD(O) in Gazette of India dated the 25th May, 1991.
 - (iii) The Central Bank of India (Officers') Service (Amendments) Regulations, 1990 published in Notification No. CO/PRS/IRP/91-92-270 in Gazette of India dated the 6th May, 1991.
 - (iv) Notification No. WIE/IMISE/91 published in Gazette of India dated the 25th May, 1991 containing amendments to the Punjab National Bank (Officers') Service Regulations, 1979. [Placed in Library. See No. LT - 1550/92]
- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development

for the year 1990-91 along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Note (Hindi and English versions) reviewing the working of the National Bank for Agriculture and rural Development for the year 1990-91.

- (3) A statement (Hindi and English Versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT - 1551/92]

Notification Under Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Act, 1963

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHIR SALMAN KHURSHEED): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Export (Quality Control and Inspection) (Amendment) Rules, 1991 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.Q. 2560 in Gazette of India dated the 12th October, 1991 under sub-section (3) of section 17 of the Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Act, 1963. [Placed in Library. See No. LT - 1552/92]

13.17 hrs.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report to message received from the Secretary - General of Rajya Sabha:-

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha. I am directed to enclose a copy of the Representation of the people (Amendment) Bill, 1992, which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 11th March, 1992."

13.17 1/4 hrs.

**REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 1992**

As Passed by Rajya Sabha

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I lay on the Table the Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill, 1992, as passed by Rajya Sabha.

13.17 1/2 hrs.

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

Ninth Report and Minutes

[English]

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA (Andaman & Nicobar Islands): Sir, I beg to present the Ninth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Estimates Committee on the Ministry of Defence - - Defence Lands and Land Use Policy and Minutes of the sittings of the Committee relating thereto.

13.18 hrs.

**COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF
SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES**

(Action taken Statement)

[English]

SHRI K. PRADHANI (Nowrangpur): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in Chapters I, II and III and final replies in respect of Chapter V of Fifth Report (Ninth Lok Sabha) on Reservations for and employment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Dena Bank and credit

facilities provided by the Bank to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NAVI AZAD): With your permission, Sir, I rise to announce that Government Business during the week commencing 16th March, 1992, will consist of:-

1. Consideration any item of Government Business carried over from today's Order-Paper.
2. Discussion on the Resolution seeking disapproval of the Copyright (Amendment) Ordinance, 1991. and consideration and passing of the Copyright (Amendment) Bill, 1992.
3. Discussion on the Resolution seeking disapproval of the Representation of the People (Amendment) and passing of the Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill, 1992. as passed by Rajya Sabha.
4. Discussion on the Resolution seeking disapproval of the Indian Red Cross Society (Amendment) Ordinance, 1992. and consideration and passing of the Indian Red Cross Society (Amendment) Bill, 1992.
5. Discussion on the Resolution seeking disapproval of the Securities and Exchange Board of India Ordinance, 1992. Ordinance, 1992 and consideration and passing of the Securities and Exchange Board of India Bill, 1992.
6. Discussion on the Resolution seeking disapproval of the Cess and Other Taxes on Minerals (Validation) Ordinance, 1992. Ordinance, 1991 and consideration and

passing of the Cess and Other Taxes on minerals (Validation) Bill, 1992.

7. General discussion on the Jammu & Kashmir Budget for 1992-93.
8. Discussion and Voting on Demands for Grants (Jammu and Kashmir) for 1992-93.
9. Discussion and Voting on the Supplementary Demands for Grants (Jammu & Kashmir) for 1991-92.
10. General discussion on the Manipur Budget for 1992-93.
11. Discussion and Voting on the Demands for Grants (Manipur) for 1992-93.
12. Discussion and Voting on the Supplementary Demands for Grants (Manipur) for 1991-92.

[Translation]

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT (Agra): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the following items may kindly be included in the next week's agenda:

1. Discussion on the problem of unemployment faced by the workers in shoe industry due to the sharp fall in export during the current year to the countries which are having rupee trade.
2. Discussion on the need to develop nuclear capability by India to strengthen the security of the country in view of the Pakistan going nuclear and adopting offensive attitude towards India.

SHRI SATYANARAYAN JATIYA (Ujjain): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I request that the following may be included in the next week's agenda:-

1. Discussion on the need to clear Power Projects of Madhya Pradesh pending with Central Government to meet the shortage of power in the State.
2. Discussion on the need to clear the proposal regarding setting up of petroleum refinery in Madhya Pradesh and discussion on the need to issue necessary instructions for setting up of petroleum product depot in Ujjain to ensure supply of petroleum products in Madhya Pradesh.

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I request that the following may be included in the next week's agenda:-

1. Discussion on the declaring Kota as class 'B' city.
2. Discussion in regard to the discontent prevailing in Rajasthan due to inadequate allocation for Medium Irrigation Scheme of the State.

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR (Khar-gone): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I request that following item be included in the next week's agenda:

1. Discussion on the need to resume procurement of cotton by Corporation of India, which was earlier suspended by it all of a sudden, in the Agriculture Produce Markets of Madhya Pradesh.
2. Discussion on the question of providing financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 220 crores sought by Madhya Pradesh Government to deal with the drinking water problem faced by most of the districts and tehsils of the State because of scant rain fall and drought conditions prevailing there.

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): Sir, I request that the following may be included in the next week's agenda:-

1) Taking over of the ancient leaning Shiv temple at Huma in district of Sambalpur and the Astha Shambhu temple at Kualu in the district of Dhenkanal in Orissa, by the Archaeological Survey of India for maintenance so as to preserve their uniqueness.

2) Construction of a sub-way (underground) in New Delhi connecting the Parliament House with the Parliament House Annexe.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj): Sir, the following items may kindly be included in the next week's agenda:-

1) Discussion on the manner of implementation of the three language formula by various educational authorities.

2) Discussion on the restoration of the Minority Character of the Aligarh Muslim University and the Jamia Millia Islamia and the Guidelines for the recognition of Educational Institutions established by religious and Linguistic Minorities as Minority Institution under Article 30 (1) of the Constitution.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I request that the following may be included in the next week's in the next week's agenda:-

1. The Central Road Fund was formed on the basis of the levy imposed on diesel and petrol by the Ministry of Surface Transport, under which Rajasthan was to get about Rs. 14 crores, but only one crore of the total amount been provided to it so far. The remaining amount should be paid to the state Government immediately.

2. The water supply and sewage projects involving Rs. 406.40 crores for the three main cities of Rajasthan - namely Jaipur, Udaipur and Bikaner should be forwarded by Urban Development Ministry to the department of Economic Affairs under the finance Ministry so that they may be included in the projects to be financed by the World Bank.

I hope that the hon. Minister will pay attention to what I have submitted.

[English]

SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL (Jabalpur): I request that the following item may be included in the next week's in the next week's agenda:-

A study team including a Central Minister may be sent to Jabalpur district in Madhya Pradesh to study the drought situation and to open relief works there.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI (Pune): I request that the following may be included in the next week's in the next week's agenda:-

1. Problems of New co-operative sugar factory to be set up in Maharashtra State.

2. Grant of long-term loans to Co-operative Spinning mills.

[Translation]

SHRIMATISAROJ DUBEY (Allahabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I request that the following may be included in the next week's agenda:-

1. Allahabad University be granted the status of Central University.

2. Air service between Delhi and Allahabad should be reserved on regular basis

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch
at thirty-six minutes past Fourteen of the
Clock.*

[SHRIMATI MALINI BHATACHARAYA in
the Chair]

RAILWAY-BUDGET 1992-93 GENERAL
DISCUSSION- *CONTD.*

RESOLUTION RE-RECOMMENDATION
OF THE RAILWAY CONVENTION
COMMITTEE - *CONTD.*

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (RAILWAYS) -
CONTD.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR
GRANTS- (RAILWAYS)- 1991-92-
CONTD.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Before we take up
item Nos. 15 to 18 in today's order paper, I
have to inform the House that a list indicating
the serial Nos. of Cut Motions moved by hon.
Members yesterday, has been put up on the
Notice Board.

Hon. Members who are present in the
House, and who could not move their Cut
Motions yesterday, may move their Cut
Motions by sanding slips at the Table within
15 minutes indicating the serial Nos. of Cut
Motions, they would like to move. Those Cut
Motions only will be treated as moved. A
second list showing the Serial Nos. of Cut
Motions moved today will be put up on the
Notice Board shortly.

In case any Member finds any discrep-
ancy in the lists, he may kindly bring it to the
notice of the Officer at the Table immedi-
ately.

Now Dr. Laxminaryan Pandeya to speak.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK
GEHLOT): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to
move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend
the Jute Manufactures Development Coun-
cil Act, 1983.

13.25 hrs.

JUTE MANUFACTURES DEVELOP-
MENT COUNCIL (AMENDMENT) BILL*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Bill to be
introduced. Shri Ashok Gehlot.

[Translation]

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The
question is:

"That leave be granted to intro-
duce a Bill to amend the Jute
manufacturers Development
Council act, 1993."

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT: Sir, I intro-
duce the Bill.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House
stands adjourned to meet again at 2.30.
p.m.

13.27 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch
till thirty minutes past Fourteen of the
Clock*

DR. LAXMINARYAN PANDEYA
(Mandsaur): Mr. Chairman, I would like to express my views on the cut Motions given notice of by me on the Railway Budget.

Before I discuss those issues, in detail, I would like to relate two incidents to the hon. Minister of Railways. About two months ago, I was travelling from Jagdalpur in Madhya Pradesh to Daltanganj Via Ramanujganj. From Daltanganj, I had to go to Dehari on Sonbe for which I had already got my seat reserved. When I sat in the compartment, I noticed that the cushion cover was not there. I thought that I would spread my bedsheet and sleep. I wanted to bolt the door from inside but I found that even the door did not have bolt, this is the condition of first class compartment when I referred the matter to the station master at the next station, he straight away replied to me that I should not stretch the matter too far rather I should let others sit if at all they enter the coach otherwise I will be in trouble. I am confused in what we have a safe journey.

I related the incident which happened with me. It is true that Indian Railways are at number two in the world and number one in Asia, we have set a record. We have been operating trains at metre gauge, broad gauge and narrow gauge. All these lines have their own capacities. Metre gauge is as much required as broad gauge. Because, if the metre gauge is removed totally or converted into broad gauge it may prove beneficial from commercial or economic point of view but, it would be a difficult task to convert such a long distance into broad gauge because of the lack of resources. Therefore, at least for sometime we will have to serve the purpose through the same resources.

62.211 kilometer long railway line is not an Ordinary railway network. Almost 8-9 lakh engines are in use which include steam engines diesel engines and electrical engines. All these three types of engines are there. Now gradually steam engines are being replaced by diesel and electrical engines because electricity is less expensive. If we switch over to electrical engines from

diesel engines, we will have to take recourse to import of electrical engines because these engines are not manufactured here. It is very expensive. It is also a difficulty for us, because of which we cannot entirely depend on electrical engines. Electrification cannot be done very quickly because it involves huge expenditure including foreign exchange. Though electrification is a costly affair, yet it is advantageous. Electrification, wherever it has taken place has reduced the time of journey from one place to other and the places have also undergone phenomenal changes. The speed of the trains has also increased. Engine is not the only contributory factor for increasing speed. It is all the more necessary that rail tracks and signal system should also be good. All these inputs should be of good quality.

This fact is known to the hon. Minister and the hon. Members that our broad-gauge is unique in the world. There is no broad gauge wider than our broad gauge. The rest are very small. India has got its own distinction in broad gauge. It has increased our capacity. So, far as the question of capacity utilization is concerned, it is not being done fully. We want to introduce more and more trains every day. But we do not make full utilisation of their capacities. Trains are held up in terminating stations for 10-12 hours. There are places which lack in double terminal facility. Even if terminal facility exists, there is no proper arrangement how to extend the services of a train further. It is all right that the Government has given thought to providing terminal facility at Bombay, but that is not enough. It should think about providing terminal facilities at other places also. If the trains which are held up for 10-12 hours at one place can be extended further, their capacity can be increased. In fact, it should be increased.

The hon'ble Minister of Railways has also talked about introduction of new trains. I have got with me a Time Table of Indian railway. It gives an account of the number of trains running in the country. I would like to tell him that in 1990-91 there were 2,661 trains and in 1989-90 also the number of

[Dr. Laxminarayan Pandeya]

trains was 2,661. In 1990-91 the number of suburban trains stood at 3,245 while in 1989-90 it was 3,247. Similarly, the number of Mail-Express and goods trains was 1059 and 6,174 respectively. What I mean to say is that there has not been much improvement in the number of trains in 1990-91 than what it was in 1989-90. Will the hon. Minister please tell us as to how he has increased the number of trains. The rail at a glance published by the Ministry does not reveal that the number has increased. about 13-14000 trains are run every day. In spite of that the passenger movement capacity is not increasing. There is also no let up in the rush of passengers. Merely saying that the railways is a commercial organisation would not suffice. It has a social responsibility and it is the social responsibility of the Government not to view it from a commercial angle alone. Today railways are very important from the development point of view.

That is why it is very necessary to lay railway lines in the areas where there are railway lines. In the recent part, I made a reference to availability of railway facilities in Madhya Pradesh, in the House. I also discussed about Rajhara-Jagdalpur railway line. It is very backward area. If new railway lines are laid in the State, it would definitely help ensure regional development and development of tribal areas. I was very distressed to learn that no steps have been taken in this regard. I was also distressed because a Resolution to this effect was unanimously passed by the Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly which included Members from Congress Party and other parties also that if a railway line is needed anywhere in Madhya Pradesh, it is first required for this area.

I would like to make a second request in respect of Madhya Pradesh. The funds provided by the Government for Indore - Dahanu railway line, is very meagre. I do not know how much time would it take to complete. It is also a backward area which starting from tribal areas of Jabua and Dhar, stretches up to tribal areas of Gujarat. If this

rail line is commissioned, it would definitely ensure fulfilled development of the area. The tribals of the area leave their places in search of a living due to its industrial and economic backwardness. If the railway line is commissioned, they would no longer require to flee their native places. They will get more facilities for setting up industries, because wherever such railway lines exist, industries have definitely developed there.

Road communication could not be so efficient from the view point of today's needs. That is why the railways has got its own importance. I would like to request him that it is very necessary to spread railways network in this region from economic progress view point. The areas which are backward, tribal and devoid of progress should be provided this facility.

It is necessary to remove regional imbalances. At places, there has been excessive development of railways with large number of trains and at places there are very few. As such from the point of view of removing regional imbalances, it should be done. I would like to draw the attention of the hon'ble Minister to the hike he has made in the freight charges and passenger fares. He says that the increase in the freight charges is minor. But I fail to understand as to how it is minor. There has been a hike of 7 1/2 in freight charges and the passenger fare has gone up not by 10 to 15 per cent but by 25%. By and large the hike will affect the prices in the market, because the coal freight has also been increased by 4%. This will lead to inflation and the Government will not be able to check the prices. The Hon. Finance Minister is also present here. Even if he says that he is trying to curb inflation in practice he is increasing inflation. The hon. Minister of Railway should help him. Because the budget proposals will lead to an increase in inflation and rise in market prices. A heavy burden has been put on the poor and the downtrodden. A distance of 10 kilometres has been exempted from fare hike. Today, nobody undertakes 10 kilometres journey. Normally, people undertake journeys from 50-100 K.M. at the minimum. If he makes a calculation he

will come to know that maximum railway revenue comes from passenger fares and that too from second class travelling. But the Government wants to take more from the middle class travelling by second classes and extend extra benefits to upper class passengers. As an eyewitness the Government may claim that it has increased the upper class fares 15 to 25%, but in spite of that the revenue earnings from upper classes will be less than the earnings from second class passengers.

I would, therefore, like to request the hon. Minister to completely withdraw the hike he has proposed in passenger fares and freight charges. Along with a hike in passenger fares and freight charges, the Government has also increased the cost of season tickets. People availing season ticket facilities are spread all over the country. It is a big problem in suburban Bombay. Just now my hon. friend was talking about the hardship of season ticket holders in Jhansi in Uttar Pradesh. In my area also people avail of this facility daily. By increasing the cost of season tickets the Government did a great injustice to lakhs of such passengers. In these hard days of rising prices, the Government has created one more problem for them.

I would like to request the hon. Minister to admit the Cut Motion given by me and withdraw the fare hike, because this hike will put people in greater hardship. Now I would like to make a submission on a different subject, a discussion on which was being held yesterday. It is about catering service in the railway. We have experimented both the systems. Now the Government has privatised the catering service. But it has not proved useful. When the private contractors come to know that we are the Members of Parliament, they try to serve fresh food articles to us. In case they do not recognise us, they serve food whatever is available. I am of the view that the departmental service was not bad. There was no problem in it. Only it required some improvement.

In this connection I would like to say that there is a place called Shyamgarh under Western Railways in my constituency. A base kitchen has been installed there. Equipments worth lakhs of rupees were imported and were installed there for making essential arrangements for the Superfast trains, and Frontier mails etc. All has been done with a view to ensure supply of food material. But all the arrangements were handed over to the contractors and in this way lakhs of rupees have been wasted. I am at a loss to understand as to why lakhs of rupees have been wasted on the import of such equipments, when the pains were of different turn. I am unable to understand as to why you are changing the plans again and again.

I would like to draw your attention towards some very special things. First thing relates to the quality. This is correct that the Government has started many new trains, but with the increase in utility and demand for Railways, the quality of services offered is deteriorating. You should pay attention to the problem. Government is continuously ignoring the passengers amenities. Leave the big stations like Bombay and Calcutta where scarcity of drinking water can arise, there is no proper arrangements for drinking water even at the stations like Ratlam, Indore, Ajmer and Jaipur. There is good arrangements for water at big stations, but there are no such arrangements on small stations. Though water huts have been provided yet there is no waterman. This is the situation at Mandasaur station in western Railways. If the matter is raised with the station - master he replies that watermen have been removed and the water is supplied by Municipality and it is available only when it is supplied by the Municipality. When it is not supplied water is not available, at the station and he is helpless in this matter. This is their answer to the problem. I would like to submit that Government should make arrangements for the appointment of watermen at the stations where there are water huts and the number of travellers is also very large.

[Dr. Laxminarayan Pandeya]

I would like to submit one more thing. A new goods train has been introduced from Kota to Neemuch and now a passengers train is also introduced. I have given a cut motion in this regard. I have submitted that line should be extended up to Ratlam on broad gauge. I have requested to the honorable Minister in this regard and I think he would definitely agree with me. Neemuch is the Headquarters of CRPF. There is a big cement factory. Near Neemuch in Khod. There is another large cement factory, an Alkaline factory and there are two cement factories in Chittor. A lot of loading unloading work is being done there. Factory owners have told that they used to load their goods through metre gauge and the loading work we, used to be done at Ratlam. But now they are directed to send their goods through broad gauge. Now the loading is done at Ratlam but at firstly it goes to Kota then it goes to Bombay via Ratlam and this way the distance is increased and it creates unnecessary burden on the factory owners. So it would be better if that line is extended up to Ratlam. In this regard, the survey has already been conducted. I would like to request you to initiate further action in this regard.

I would like to make one more submission in regard to some other rail lines also. There is a train being run on meter gauge from Kachegnda to Jaipur. In view of the heavy demand, this train should be extended upto Delhi so that the people may be able to get direct train upto Delhi and they need not change the trains at Jaipur. Similarly, some trains start from Ajmer and stationed at Chittor and some trains start from Chittor and stationed at Neemuch. I would request you to extend these trains upto Ratlam. This would also serve the purpose of shuttling. The passengers would also have some convenience and the commercial sector and other people will also be benefited. In view these circumstances, there is a need to extend these trains. I hope you should pay a serious attention to this problem. The train 111 and 112 on Ratlam-Bhopal Central sections should also be restored.

I would also like to draw the attention of the Government regarding thefts and other crimes in trains. These should not be taken in an easy way. It causes serious trouble by way of loss of railway property. Theft of coal in Railways is very common phenomena causing heavy loss to the railway property. The Government should make proper security arrangements so that this foul trend is checked. The interests of railway employees and labourers should be safeguarded.

There is only one train between Khandwa and Ajmer which had been started before independence. I would demand that a new fast train should also be introduced. Again the passengers amenities have not been imported in proportion to the increase in rates of passenger fares. I would request the hon. Minister that he would definitely take action on the points raised by me. It is necessary to construct an overbridge near the Mandsaur and Neemuch stations.

In the end, I would conclude by submitting something regarding my own constituency. I have requested the hon. Minister many a time that a halt should be provided at Shyamgarh for the superfast train running between Jammu-Tawi- and Bombay Jammu tawi-Hapa and Jammu Tawi- Ahmedabad, since it is a central point, centre of business activity and a tourists spot like Gandhi nagar which is near to it. Being a tourists centre as well as a central point, a number of passengers visit these places. Therefore, it is necessary to provide a halt there, for the trains. In the end, I would not like to repeat the proposals. I hope you would accept them. I thank Madam Chairperson and conclude.

SHRI PURNA CHANDRA MALIK: I beg to move:-

"That the demand under the Head Miscellaneous Expenditure be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to provided stoppage of
Kalka Mail, A.C. Express and
Chambal Express at Raniganj/
(33)

line between Bumpur and Asansol Station./ (460)

"That the demand under the Head Miscellaneous Expenditure be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to provide stoppage of Darjelling Mail at Khara and Gushkaria stations./ (34)

"That the demand under the Head Miscellaneous Expenditure be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to replace that dilapidated coaches in passenger trains running between Burdwan and Asansol./ (36)

"That the demand under the Head Miscellaneous Expenditure be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to provide a halt station at Kondaipur between Paraj and Mankar stations in the Asansol Division./ (37)

"That the demand under the Head Assets Acquisition, Construction and Replacement."

/Need for electrification of the Bondal-Katwa line./ (39)

"That the demand under the Head Assets Acquisition, Construction and Replacement."

/Need to construct a flyover between Burdwan and Barkai Railway line./ (40)

That the demand under the Head Assets Acquisition, Construction and Replacement."

/Need to construct an additional

"That the demand under the Head Assets Acquisition and Construction and replacement be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need for electrification of Adra-Midnapore section of South Eastern Railway./ (461)

"That the demand under the Head Assets Acquisition and Construction and replacement be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to increase the number the number of Coaches in all the trains to avoid overcrowding in 2nd class (3 tier)./ (462)

"That the demand under the Head Assets Acquisition and Construction and replacement be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need for modernisation of Bankura-Damodar Railway lines, South Eastern Railway./ (463)

"That the demand under the Head Assets Acquisition and Construction and replacement be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need for introducing more trains on Budwan-Katwa lines./ (464)

"That the demand under the Head Assets Acquisition and Construction and replacement be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to provide an over-bridge over the Kalnagate Burdwan town./ (465)

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani): I bet to move:-

Jai Nagar to Allahabad and Guwahati./ (102)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to convert Samastipur-Darbhanga Metre-gauge line into broad-gauge line./ (97)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to retain the railway workshop at Samastipur./ (98)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to link the Sakri-Hasanpur by a new railway line./ (99)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to re-start the trains between Darbhanga-Raxaul, Darbhanga-Lohata Bazar, Darbhanga-Jai Nagar and Darbhanga- Nirmali./ (100)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to construct an over-bridge near the gumti in the north of Darbhanga junction./ (101)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to introduce new trains from

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to connect Divisional Headquarters of Hazaribagh and Dumka at Bihar with railway lines./ (1253)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to connect Nirmal and Tharmitha stations of Samastipur Division in North eastern Railway by bridge./ (1254)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to restore the trains running till 1989-90 from Samastipur and Darbhanga to Jainagar, Raxol, Laukaha Bazar and Nirmali./ (1255)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to modernise and raise the level of Khazoli Railway Station of Samastipur Division./ (1256)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to lay a railway line upto godown of Food Corporation of India in Samastipur Division./ (1257)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to convert Samastipur-Darbhanga, Jainagar metre gauge rail line into broad gauge line./ (1258)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to acquire the railway line from Bheemnagar to Chatra from the Government of Bihar./ (1259)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to inter-connect Sitamarhi-Jainagar-Lauka Bazar by Railway lines./ (1260)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to construct a bridge over Gonti, north east of Sakri junction in Samastipur Division./ (1261)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to convert Korahia, Muraitha and Tekar Railway Station into a full fledged stations in Samastipur Division./ (1262)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to modernise the station of Madhubani District Headquarter of Samastipur Division./ (1263)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to attach a direct bogie for Allahabad an gudwahti from Jainagar Station of Samastipur Division./

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to introduce a direct train or at least a bogie from Samastipur to Patna./ (1265)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to convert Muzaffarpur-Darbhanga Metre Gauge line into a broad gauge line./ (1266)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need for early completion of Bagha-Chhitauni Railway bridge./ (1267)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to convert Jainagar-Janakpur-Nepal metre gauge line into broad gauge line./ (1268)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to abolish Railway Board./ (1269)

SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL
(Manghyr): I beg to move:-

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to construct an over-bridge at level crossing of Purab Sarai railway station./ (133)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to raise the level of Western platform of Purab Sarai Railway station./ (134)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to construct two new platforms at Jamalpur railway station./ (135)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to provide computerised computerised reservation facilities at Jamalpur railway station immediately./ (136)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to provide drinking water facilities round the clack at Purab Sarai railway station./ (137)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to construct more waiting halls for second class passengers at Jamalpur railway station./ (138)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to raise the level of platform No.1 of Kiul railway station./ (139)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to provide railway booking facilities at Jamalpur railway station for Patna in Tinsukhia Mail./ (140)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to attach at least one coach in Danapur-Howrah fast passenger train for second class passengers./ (141)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to take concrete steps to ensure punctuality of trains./ (142)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to provide a new express/mail train from Jamalpur to Bhagalpur for Patna./ (143)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to attach a coach in Vikram-shila Express from Jamalpur for the benefit of passengers./ (144)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to extend Sealdah-Mugalsara express train upto Delhi./ (145)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to re-introduce the cancelled morning trains under Munger-Jamalpur section./ (146)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to provide a stoppage of Howrah-Amritsar Express train at Bathipur railway station on Eastern Railway./ (147)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to convert Bhalui Halt Station into full-fledged station at the earliest./ (148)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to extend Asansol-Simultalla passenger train upto Mokama./ (149)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to provide drinking water in Rampur railway colony of Jamalpur immediately./ (150)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to provide halt of 8183 Up and 8184 Dn. Tata-Patna express train at Kiul railway station./ (151)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to restore the reservation facilities in Tisukia Mail train from Sillighri to Bhagalpur and from Jamalpur railway station ./ (152)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to provide halt of express trains at Mananpur railway station./ (153)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to provide a new halt between Kajra and Mananpur railway station on Kiul, Sahebganj loop rail section./ (154)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to double the six sm. rail track between Jamalpur and Ratanpur./ (155)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to double the 6 km. rail track between Kiul and Kajra immediately./ (156)

"That the demand under the Head Operating Expenses-Rolling Stock and Equipment be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to stop recurring expenditure on steam engines particularly when reuse of these engines in Indian Railway is being stopped./ (881)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to provide more funds modernisation of Jamalpur rail factory./ (1109)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to provide more funds for expansion of Jamalpur Locoshed./ (1110)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to provide more funds for laying the double railway line between Kiel-Jamalpur in Bhagalpur section and completing the double railway line work between Kiel-Kazra without further delay./ (1111)

SHRI SHYAM LAL KAMAL (Basti): I beg to move:-

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to have a cut in the hospitality and entertainment expenses./ (230)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to increase productivity linked bonus./ (231)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to fulfil scheduled Castes/ Scheduled tribes quota in Group A.B.C. posts in the Railways./ (232)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to set up a staff training college for A and B category staff of Indian Railways in Northern India Particularly in V.P./ (233)

SHRI AJAY MUKHOPADHYAY (Krishnagar): I beg to move:-

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to provide necessary amenities to the genuine passengers./ (475)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to keep railway coaches and lavatories clean./ (476)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to maintain punctuality and safety of railway service./ (477)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to improve the standard of catering service./ (478)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to complete the ongoing railway projects immediately./ (479)

"That the demand under the Head General Superintendence and Services on Railways be reduced to Re. 1."

/Failure to withdraw the increase in railway fares for the second class passengers./ (505)

"That the demand under the Head General Superintendence and Services on Railways be reduced to Re.1."

/Failure to withdraw the hike in fares of seasonal tickets./ (506)

"That the demand under the Head General Superintendence and Services on Railways be reduced to Re.1."

/Failure to withdraw the hike in railway freight charges./ (507)

"That the demand under the Head General Superintendence and Services on Railways be reduced to Re.1."

/Failure to avoid reduction of work force in Railway./ (508)

"That the demand under the Head General Superintendence and Services on Railways be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to improve amenities for the second class passengers./ (555)

"That the demand under the Head General Superintendence and Services on Railways be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to ensure punctuality and safety in railway service./ (556)

"That the demand under the Head General Superintendence and Services on Railways be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to increase the speed of the long distance trains./ (557)

"That the demand under the Head General Superintendence and Services on Railways be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to keep the railway stations

including waiting rooms and toilets rooms and toilets clean./ (558)

"That the demand under the Head General Superintendence and Services on Railways be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to reinstate the railway employees whose services were terminated without any inquiry./ (559)

"That the demand under the Head General Superintendence and Services on Railways be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to fill up the large number of vacancies in different categories in railway./ (560)

"That the demand under the Head General Superintendence and Services on Railways be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to prevent unauthorise passengers in reserved campaments./ (561)

"That the demand under the Head General Superintendence and Services on Railways be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to keep railway coaches and lavatories clean./ (562)

"That the demand under the Head General Superintendence and Services on Railways be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to check malpractices in railway booking offices./ (563)

"That the demand under the Head General Superintendence and Services on Railways be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Sh. Shyam Lal Kamal]

/Need to reinstate the dismissed railway employees immediately./ (1283)

"That the demand under the Head General Superintendent and Services on Railways be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to ensure punctuality in train services./ (1284)

"That the demand under the Head General Superintendent and Services on Railways be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to stop malpractices in railway booking offices./ (1285)

"That the demand under the Head General Superintendence and Services on Railways be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to ensure punctuality of Darjeelity mail./ (1286)

"That the demand under the Head General Superintendence and Services on Railways be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to provide stoppage of N.E. Express at Dalkhola and Alubari Road./ (1287)

"That the demand under the Head General Superintendence and Services on Railways be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to provide stoppage of Awadh Assam Express at Dalkhola and Alubari Road./ (1288)

"That the demand under the Head General Superintendence and Services on Railways be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to provide stoppage of the proposed Haldibari-Sealdah tri-weekly Express at Dalkhola, Alubari Road, Harishchandrapur, and Sansi railway stations and make it daily instead of tri-weekly./ (1289)

"That the demand under the Head Assets Acquisition Construction and Replacement be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to construct fly-over at Dalkhola and Kishangang over the railway tracks./ (1290)

"That the demand under the Head Assets Acquisition Construction and Replacement be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to convert MG railway line into BG from Barsoi to Radhikapur./ (1291)

"That the demand under the Head Assets Acquisition Construction and Replacement be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to extend Metro railway from Tollygunj to Garia./ (1292)

"That the demand under the Head Assets Acquisition Construction and Replacement be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to connect West Dinajpur District with other parts of the State of West Bengal by rail./ (1293)

"That the demand under the Head Assets Acquisition Construction and Replacement be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to construct Balurghat-Eklakshi railway line immediately./ (1294)

SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN
 (Chirayinkil): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced to Re.1."

/Privatisation of catering department by throwing out thousand of workers from their jobs and making the journey of passengers difficult./ (894)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced to Re.1."

/Reduction of workers by 40% which will curtail further job opportunities for youth and throwing our workers from their employment./ (895)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced to Re.1."

/Failure to regularise the services of casual and temporary workers for years./ (896)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced to Re.1."

/Failure to construct new railway lines in the backward areas of India./ (897)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced to Re.1."

/Negligence of a State like Tripura which has no rail link from Agarthala to other parts of the country./ (898)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced to Re.1."

/Failure to provide a Railway Coach Factory of atleast big railway workshops for Kerala / (899)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced to Re.1."

/Failure to provide adequate facilities like waiting rooms, roofing in railway platforms and new buildings at the Railway Stations in Kerala./ (900)

"That the demand under the Head

Dem. for grants (Rlys.), 1992-93 and Supply. Dem. for grants (Rly.), 1991-92
 Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to improve the conditions of railway wagons and bogies sent to the South especially Kerala./ (901)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to supply torch light instead of the kerosene lamp to the workers who are checking the railway lines and bogies to avoid accidents./ (902)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to construct the railway line from Nilamber to Feroke in Kerala./ (903)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to construed Railway over bridge at Chirayinkil (Sharkara) in Quilon, Trivendrum broad gauge line./ (904)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to provide better facilities for passenger from Bombay to Cochin in Jayanthi Janta and to prevent over crowding in the reserved compartments./ (905)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to prevent the attack of hooligans in the Jayanthi Janta from Bombay to Cochin and save the passengers from attack and losses of their belongings./ (906)

[Shrimati Suseela Gopalan]

"That the demand under the Head Miscellaneous working Expenses be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to provide better facilities at Kadaktavur railway station as demanded by the passengers association./(907)

"That the demand under the Head Miscellaneous working Expenses be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to provide a stop of Executive Executive Express at Varkala which is a tourist centre./(908)

"That the demand under the Head Miscellaneous working Expenses be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to provide a new train from Delhi to Trivandrum./(909)

"That the demand under the Head Miscellaneous working Expenses be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to expedite the renovation work at Ernakulam junction./(910)

"That the demand under the Head Miscellaneous working Expenses be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to reconstruct the railway stations in Northern Kerala./(911)

"That the demand under the Head Miscellaneous working Expenses be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to provide better facilities including roofing for railway platform at Neeleswaram in the Calcut-Mangalore broadgauge line/(912)

"That the demand under the Head Assets Acquisition, Construction and

/Need to construct the railway bridge in Kayankulam Alleppey railway line at Ambapuram./(913)

"That the demand under the Head Assets Acquisition, Construction and Replacement be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to provide more funds for Konkan railway for its speedy construction./(914)

"That the demand under the Head Assets Acquisition, Construction and Replacement be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to provide better facilities for the way side inspectors in the railway line./(915)

"That the demand under the Head Assets Acquisition, Construction and Replacement be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to construct metre-gauge line from Quilon to Madurai./(916)

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU (Secunderabad): I beg to move:-

"That the demand under the head general superintendence and services on railways be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to stop collection of bed-roll charges for two nights when the same bedroll is used by the passenger of the second night without a change of bed roll./ (1149)

"That the demand under the head general superintendence and services on railways be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to ensure punctuality in train services particularly of A.P. Express and Dakshin Express./(1150)

"That the demand under the head general superintendence and services on railways be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to stop malpractices in railway booking offices./ (1151)

"That the demand under the head general superintendence and services on railways be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to provide stoppage of Tamilnadu and Kerala Express at Khammam railway station./ (1152)

"That the demand under the head general superintendence and services on railways be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to increase the production of railway coaches./ (1153)

"That the demand under the head general superintendence and services on railways be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to replace the old engines, old coaches, old wagons./ (1154)

"That the demand under the head general superintendence and services on railways be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to create new ways for mobilisation of additional resources in the Railways./ (1155)

"That the demand under the head operating expenses traffic be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to computerise reservation facility at Khammam railway station./ (1156)

"That the demand under the head operating expenses traffic be reduced by Rs. 100."

Dem. for grants (Rlys.), 1992-93
and Supply. Dem. for
grants (Rly.), 1991-92

/Need to withdraw disproportionate unbearable and illogical hike in the fares of season tickets./ (1157)

"That the demand under the head operating expenses traffic be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to construct an overbridge at Fatehnagar level crossing road in Hyderabad./ (1158)

"That the demand under the head operating expenses traffic be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to complete the railway electrification works throughout the country particularly in Andhra Pradesh./ (1159)

"That the demand under the head operating expenses traffic be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need for conversion of meter gauge into broad gauge on Kachin-guda, Manmad Line./ (1160)

"That the demand under the head operating expenses traffic be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need for laying of new railway line between Ramagundam and Latur./ (1161)

"That the demand under the head operating expenses traffic be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to complete the Railway electrification work from Hyderabad to Kazipet./ (1162)

"That the demand under the head operating expenses traffic be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to lay new tracks in South Central Railway Zone./ (1163)

[Sh. Dattatraya Bandaru]

"That the demand under the head operating expenses traffic be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to construct the foot bridge at Kodur railway station./ (1164)

"That the demand under the head operating expenses traffic be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to complete the Circular Rail System in Hyderabad and Secunderabad twin cities./ (1165)

"That the demand under the head operating expenses traffic be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to withdraw the proposal privatisation of own your coach system./ (1166)

"That the demand under the head operating expenses traffic be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to replace the 2,500 running steam engines./ (1167)

"That the demand under the head operating expenses traffic be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need for conversion of meter gauge into broad gauge on Tirupati Katipadu Line./ (1168)

"That the demand under the head operating expenses traffic be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to retain the name of Pandurampur station instead of the proposed Bhadrachalam Road station./ (1169)

"That the demand under the head operating expenses traffic be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to provide emergency light at stations./ (1170)

"That the demand under the head operating expenses traffic be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to provide dormitory accommodation for passengers at Khammam railway station./ (1171)

"That the demand under the head operating expenses traffic be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to construct rest house for porters at Khammam railway station./ (1172)

"That the demand under the head assets acquisition construction and replacement be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to provide sufficient funds for the development of the Khammam railway station./ (1173)

"That the demand under the head assets acquisition construction and replacement be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to provide sufficient funds for the development of the Secunderabad railway station./ (1174)

SHRMATI GIRIJA DEVI (Maharaj Ganj): I beg to move:-

"That the demand under the head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to provide broad-gauge line between Hajipur-Samastipur-Darbhanga route./ (1270)

"That the demand under the head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to construct a new rail line on Hasanpur and Sakri (N.Rly.)/(1271)

"That the demand under the head
 Railway Board be reduced by Rs.
 100."

/Need to develop the railway work-
 shop Samastipur./ (1272)

"That the demand under the head
 Railway Board be reduced by Rs.
 100."

/Need to construct overbridge on
 river Ganga between Patna Hajipur/
 . (1273)

"That the demand under the head
 Railway Board be reduced by Rs.
 100."

/Need to construct bridge over river
 Ganga near Bhagalpur and Sul-
 tanpur./ (1274)

"That the demand under the head
 Railway Board be reduced by Rs.
 100."

/Need to convert MC line into BG
 on Banaras-Chhapra-Sonepur-
 Hajipur-Muzaffarpur route./ (1275)

"That the demand under the head
 Railway Board be reduced by Rs.
 100."

/Need to restore the MG line be-
 tween Daraunda and Maharajgan/
 . (1276).

"That the demand under the head
 Railway Board be reduced by Rs.
 100."

/Need to reinstate the dismissed
 railway employees./ (1277)

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR
 (Manglore): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head
 Railway Board be reduced by Rs.
 100."

/Need to constitute South Wester.1
 Railway Zone with Bangalore as its
 headquarters./ (1279)

"That the demand under the head
 Railway Board be reduced by Rs.
 100."

/Need to convert all the mete gauge,
 lines into broad guage lines./ (1280)

"That the demand under the head
 Railway Board be reduced by Rs.
 100."

/Need to operate a train during day
 between Mangalore and Banga-
 lore./ (1281)

"That the demand under the head
 Railway Board be reduced by Rs.
 100."

/Need to constitute a separate rail-
 way division with Mangalore as its
 headquarters./ (1282)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES
 (Muzajjarpur): I beg to move:-

"That the demand under the head
 Railway Board be reduced by Rs.
 100."

/Need to complete the work on
 Chittauni-Bagah railcum-road
 bridge and the railway track as
 scheduled within three years./
 (1299)

"That the demand under the head
 Railway Board be reduced by Rs.
 100."

/Need to complete work on the
 Konkau Railway on schedule by
 October, 1982./ (1300)

[Sh. George Fernandes]

"That the demand under the head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to reinstate railwaymen whose services were terminated under Rule 14 (ii)/ (1301)

"That the demand under the head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to implement the new rules for recognition trade unions./ (1302)

"That the demand under the head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to chalk out a programme to lay 1000 kms of new railway track every year./ (1303)

"That the demand under the head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to pursue policies that do not lead to unemployment among railwaymen./ (1304)

"That the demand under the head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to introduce "Kullars" in all railway catering service including station platform tea stalls and restaurants run by contractors in order to create or protect the jobs for potters./ (1305)

"That the demand under the head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to introduce handloom cloth uniforms for railway employees and

for the use of handlooms in guest houses, trains etc. to create or protect the jobs of handloom weavers./ (1306)

"That the demand under the head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to take effective steps to check malpractices in railways./ (1307)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE
(Bolpur): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to re-introduce 404 UP from Bardhaman in Sahabganj loop section of Eastern Railway./ (1308)

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA
(Jaipur): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head Railway Boards be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to consider the suggestions of the consumers while fixing the rates of eatables served through railway catering service./ (1309)

"That the demand under the head Railway Boards be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to check the incidents of theft in trains./ (1310)

"That the demand under the head Railway Boards be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to withdraw the increase in second class fares./ (1311)

"That the demand under the head Railway Boards be reduced by Rs. 100."

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grants (Rly.), 1991-92
Need to attach more bogies in
Minashi Express leaving from
Jaipur./ (1312)

Need to reduce the hike in monthly
and quarterly season tickets./
(1319)

"That the demand under the head
Railway Boards be reduced by Rs.
100."

"That the demand under the head
Railway Boards be reduced by Rs.
100."

/Need to improve the catering serv-
ices in the railway./ (1313)

/Need to treat T.T.E. staff of rail-
ways as running staff./ (1320)

"That the demand under the head
Railway Boards be reduced by Rs.
100."

DR. GUNAWANT RAMBHAU
 SARODE (Jalgaon): I beg to move:

/Need to provide better facilities to
the passengers of second class./
(1314)

"That the demand under the head
General Superintendence and serv-
ices on Railways be reduced by Rs.
100."

"That the demand under the head
Railway Boards be reduced by Rs.
100."

/Need to introduce a new superfast
train between Bhusawal and Bom-
bay./ (1321)

/Need to lay new railway lines in the
backward area of Rajasthan./
(1315)

"That the demand under the head
General Superintendence and serv-
ices on Railways be reduced by Rs.
100."

"That the demand under the head
Railway Boards be reduced by Rs.
100."

/Need to provide halt of Mahanagari
Express, Bombay- Lucknow Ex-
press, Guwahati superfast Express,
Gitanjali Express and Karnataka
Express at Jalgaon station./ (1322)

/Need to provide better facilities of
drinking water at the small railway
stations./ (1316)

"That the demand under the head
General Superintendence and serv-
ices on Railways be reduced by Rs.
100."

"That the demand under the head
Railway Boards be reduced by Rs.
100."

/Need to provide adequate ameni-
ties to passengers in all the com-
partments of the train./ (1317)

/Need to reintroduce the suspended
1352 UP Bhusawal- Bombay pas-
senger train./ (1323)

"That the demand under the head
Railway Boards be reduced by Rs.
100."

"That the demand under the head
General Superintendence and serv-
ices on Railways be reduced by Rs.
100."

/Need for economy in establish-
ment expenditure./ (1318)

"That the demand under the head
Railway Boards be reduced by Rs.
100."

/Need to introduce a new Holiday
Express from Bhuswal to Bombay
via Khandesh./ (1324)

[Dr. Gunawant Ramehau Sarode]

"That the demand under the head Operating expenses traffic be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to provide computerised reservation facility at Bhusawal Junction./ (1328)

"That the demand under the head Assets-Acquisition Construction and Replacement be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to construct a railway crossing railway bridge at Bhandula and Fekri gates crossings./ (1335)

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM (Inner Manipur): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to employ local people at the railway station at Dimapur./ (1370)

"That the demand under the head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to have reservation quota for Manipuris on pilgrimage from Dimapur railway station./ (1371)

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Bombay - South Central): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to increase the strength of Railway Protection Force to ensure safe rail journey./ (1377)

"That the demand under the head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to withdraw hike in monthly season tickets./ (1378)

"That the demand under the head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to withdraw hike in fares of Second Class rail journey./ (1379)

"That the demand under the head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to provide more facilities to make rail journey comfortable./ (1380)

"That the demand under the head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to effect utmost economy in wasteful expenditure and reducing the strength of Railway Board./ (1381)

SHRI GANGA RAM KOHLI (Bayana): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to stop the Delhi - Bombay super fast trains at Bayana railway station at least for 2 minutes. (1413)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to develop the Bayana develop the Bayana railway station. (1414)

"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to provide a loco shed at the Bayana railway station. (1415)

SHRIRAM SINGH KASHWAN (Churu):
 I beg to move:-

"That the demand under the Head General Superintendence and Services on Railways be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to introduce a super fast Express train daily between Delhi and Jodhpur via Ratangarh-Sadulpur. (1416)

"That the demand under the Head General Superintendence and Services on Railways be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to introduce a super fast Express train between Ganganagar and Jaipur. (1417)

"That the demand under the Head General Superintendence and Services on Railways be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to provide reservation facility in 2nd class in Bikaner Mail and Jodhpur Mail for Bombay. (1418)

"That the demand under the Head General Superintendence and Services on Railways be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to provide a two minute halt of Jodhpur Mail at Padihar station. (1419)

"That the demand under the Head General Superintendence and Services on Railways be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to increase reservation quota at Ladnun Sujangarh, Ratangarh, Churu, Sadulpur and Dungargarh stations in Jodhpur Mail, Bikaner Mail and Link Express. (1420)

"That the demand under the Head

/Need to extend Sikar-Churu passenger train upto Sadulpur (1421).

"That the demand under the Head General Superintendence and Services on Railways be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to provide stoppage of Link Express at Rampura railway station. (1422)

"That the demand under the Head Repairs and Maintenance of Motive Power be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to provide diesel engine in Ganga Nagar Express. (1423)

"That the demand under the Head Operating Expenses Traffic be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to increase the speed of Ganga Nagar Express running between Ganga Nagar and Jaipur. (1424)

"That the demand under the Head Operating Expenses Traffic be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to constrict high level platforms at Chhapar railway station between Ratangarh and Medta Road. (1425).

"That the demand under the Head Assets Acquisition, Construction and Replacement be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to provide manned 'C' class railway crossings between Ratangarh-Ladnun. (1428)

"That the demand under the Head Assets Acquisition, Construction and Replacement be reduced by Rs. 100."

SHRI ASTGHIYA PRASAD SHUKLA
(Khalilabad): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the Head General Superintendence and Services on Railways be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to change the name of Mughalsarai Railway station to Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay Station (1430)

"That the demand under the Head General Superintendence and Services on Railways be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to provide work to the re-trenched workers by abolishing contact system in Railway at Gorakhpur. (1431)

"That the demand under the Head General Superintendence and Services on Railways be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to allot cultivable land adjoining railway line to the landless farmers. (1432)

"That the demand under the Head General Superintendence and Services on Railways be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to reduce increase in the fares of all express trains. (1433)

"That the demand under the Head Operating Expenses Traffic be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to start a super fast train between Gorakhpur and Allahabad. (1434)

"That the demand under the Head

/Need to provide a stop for 5265/5206 at Tinich railway station. (1435)

"That the demand under the Head Operating Expenses Traffic be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to provide adequate rail wagons and rakes for transportation of coal to power houses, brick kilns and levy sugar in Uttar Pradesh. (1436)

"That the demand under the Head Operating Expenses Traffic be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to run a super fast train from Gorakhpur to Lucknow (1437)

"That the demand under the Head Operating Expenses Traffic be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to provide one three tier and two general bogies in 507 Up and 508 Dn from Gorakhpur and Lucknow. (1438)

"That the demand under the Head Operating Expenses Traffic be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to connect a A/C Chair Car in Vaishali Express running between Gorakhpur and New Delhi. (1439)

"That the demand under the Head Operating Expenses Traffic be reduced by Rs. 100."

/Need to increase reservation quota in all trains at Basti Station and to provide computerised reservation facilities there. (1440)

"That the demand under the Head Operating Expenses Traffic be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to introduce super fast trains of general bogies from all metropolitan cities to the Railway headquarters. (1441)

"That the demand under the Head Operating Expenses Traffic be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to introduce a train from Gorakhpur to Rattam. (1442)

"That the demand under the Head Assets Acquisition, Construction and Replacement be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to construct a new broad gauge line from Khallabad to Balrampur via Doharight, Bangsaur, Khajani and Tameshwar Nath. (1451)

"That the demand under the Head Assets Acquisition, Construction and Replacement be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to electrify the broad gauge line from Kanpur to Barauni. (1452).

[*Translation*]

SHRI KAMLA MISHRA MADHUKAR (Motihari): Madam Chairman, I would like to thank you for giving me time. The hon. Minister is an old friend of mine. I presume that whenever I was elected to the Parliament, he was also there and whenever I lost the elections, he also lost. I have repeatedly said this thing and I am going to say the same thing again.

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): I have not been defeated. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI KAMLA MISHRA MADHUKAR: I would like to submit that this Railway Budget is very dangerous for the middle class Government employees and the working class. You have increased the fare of second class. Have you ever thought that distance between two stations is not less than 10 kilometers? you have said that you are not going to increase the fare upto a distance of 10 kilometers, but would increase the fare for longer distances. The fare has been increased by Rs. 25. It will adversely affect the middle class people who are Government employees. I do not oppose the increase in the fare of higher classes, but would like to request that the increase in second class fare should be withdrawn. It has burdened the middle class. The freight charges have already been increased by 71/2 per cent. You say that you will check the price-rise. Shri Manmohan Singh is also sitting here. He also says that the price-rise would be checked. Will these increases not affect price-rise? Will it not increase the process further? I am of the view that there will be increase in price-rise and therefore, I oppose this Budget.

15.00 hrs.

Secondly, the sleeper charges of second class, mostly used by the middle class have also been raised by Rs. 5. This will cause a lot of difficulty to the common man. I oppose this. The increase in the sleeper charges should be withdrawn. This Budget is anti-labourer. A lot of debate has already taken place in the Parliament. A lot of discussion has already taken place regarding the reinstatement of workers against whom a tough stand had been taken during the 1980 strike. But you have paid no attention to it. For the last few years, casual labourers are working in the railway workshop at Samastipur under the N. E. Railway. Now, these casual labourers have been removed and contractors have been hired for the work. You should pay attention towards this. The Supreme Court has given a directive that the casual labourers who had continuously worked for 360 days, should be given exten-

[Sh. Kamal Mishra Madhukar]

sion. It seems the hon. Minister has forgotten the directive of the Supreme court. 90 workers are working in Barauni for the last 10 years. But in spite of the directive given by the Court, those workers were retrenched. Some hon. Members drew the attention of the Government towards it and a memorandum was also submitted by the workers. But there is no proposal to reinstate those workers. Similarly, 3500 workers were working in the Samastipur Locomotive Workshop since 1981. Their number has gradually been reduced to 800 by retrenchment. They were being asked to work at Vijaynagar also. Besides this, the surplus work used to be done at Gorakhpur has been stopped because engine repairing, manufacture of passenger coaches, foundry, copper welding and moulding etc. were being done at Samastipur. All these works were removed from there and shifted to Vijaynagar and Gorakhpur. The labourers were shifted to other places from the only workshop in North Bihar. As such, they had to face lots of difficulties. You have never paid attention toward the upgradation of the Samastipur Locoshed. Thousands of workers used to work in this workshop which is located in North Bihar. But, as some of its units have been shifted. It has caused a lot of difficulty to people. A large number of workers have been retrenched. In Bihar, there is a workshop in Jamalpur. Wagons were being manufactured and engines repaired in this workshop. You said that modernization will be done. But no attention was paid to it. You have curtailed the work which was being done there. A number of workers have also been retrenched in the Jamalpur workshop and by this you have increased their difficulties. As a result there of, worker agitations have been going on in North Bihar, particularly in Jamalpur area and they have given memoranda also. But no attention was paid on them. This budget provides for increasing the number of high officials only. It has been done at the cost of class IV employees of the Railways who have been retrenched. There is no proposal of cutting down the expensed on high officials. You have never thought

about reviewing the rampant corruption prevalent in them. Instead you have closed your eyes from that direction. According to the policy of the Government, one lakh railway workers are going to be retrenched by the year end 2000. What steps the Government is going to take in this regard? The Government is formulating its policies at the instance of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, a mention of which has been made by your Finance Minister. You are going to privatise the railways. One of our hon. Members said that the catering service in railways is also going to be privatised. This privatisation will only give way to looting by the contractors and there will be no improvement. Therefore, I oppose this privatisation move.

Railway is the only department in our country, where maximum number of workers work. The railway board has issued a new order that all the recruitment boards should curtail recruitments. Due to this order, 25000 poor and educated youth would not get jobs. Usually 50,000 workers were being recruited. Now half of them will not get jobs. The possibility of recruitment of half their number has also been ruled out. Therefore, your policy is only going to increase unemployment in railways. I oppose this railway budget which increases unemployment.

The increase in the fare of monthly tickets will adversely affects the daily commuters in cities like Bombay and Calcutta. It will affect the Government employees also. Those who have a fixed income will be adversely affected by this increase and they will face difficulties. You should pay attention towards it.

Madam Chairman, this Budget is anti-Bihar. While preparing the Rail Budget, they have neglected Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. After Uttar Pradesh, Bihar has the largest population of 8 crores. They have thought nothing about Bihar. As a result, the entire population of Bihar belonging to different classes, different communities and different section, is opposing this rail budget. Be-

cause Bihar is not going to get any benefit from it. In terms of area also, it is a large State. Therefore, the Government should consider to increase the railway facilities by laying new lines, expanding the broad gauge lines and starting more superfast trains from there. But no attention has been paid to it. That is why, I say that this rail budget is anti-Bihar. It appears as if Rail Budget has been prepared in this manner because there is a coalition Government of the Janata Dal and Left parties in the State. It has neglected all those State, where some other party is in power. It has been considerate to all those States in which the Congress party is in power. But the non-Congress State have been neglected. No railway work is being undertaken in our State.

Patna is the capital of Bihar. But it has no direct rail link with Bangalore, Bhubaneswar, Ahmedabad, and Hyderabad. An historical city like Patna has been overlooked. It is a fact that it is an historical city. No one harm to its interests.

[Translation]

But the capital of Bihar has not been linked with other State capitals. In this regard, I would suggest that the bi-weekly Sabarmati Express which runs between Ahmedabad and Varanasi should be extended to Patna or and another bogie to the train that runs between Delhi and Amritsar. Please take a note of this, as you will have to reply to it. It would not make much of a difference.

SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF: Some people from U. P. had come to meet me in the morning and requested me not to send trains via Bihar, as most of the compartments are badly damaged when the train returns from there...

SHRI KAMILA MISHRA MADHUKAR: You won't succeed in creating a conflict between U. P. and Bihar, by making such statements. Similar arrangements should be made to link Hyderabad, Bangalore and Bhubaneswar with Patna. Muzaffarpur is a

very important commercial centre and the Vaishali Express caters to the needs of the passengers, but there is such a heavy rush in that train and even the camera of Commerce has sent a memorandum requesting the Railways to introduce a superfast train between Delhi and Barauni Via Vaishali. This is a very important. The Government should pay attention towards this matter or else this heavy rush will continue forever.

I would also like to know whether any written orders have been given to T. T. Es, asking them to collect fines upto Rs. 5,000 per month and that their promotions would be stalled and pay withheld, if they fail to do so. Now, thousands of labourers from Bihar go to work in Punjab. They are being looted. This is a grave matter. I feel that if the Government doesn't take any action in this regard it would tantamount to gross neglect of the people of Bihar, especially the migrant workers. Therefore, the Government is requested to take necessary action. Has the Government issued any orders asking T. T. Es to collect fines to the tune of Rs. 5000/-?

Madam Chairperson, as such, there is no train between Muzaffarpur and Bhagalpur. People of the area have been demanding the introduction of trains for a long time. Railway station across the country are being computerized. Why doesn't the Government link Muzaffarpur with the computer network? What is the difficulty? Please do consider whether it is feasible or not?

The hon. Minister of Finance is present in the House. He might be aware that there is a place in Bihar known as Champaran from where Mahatma Gandhi launched a nation wide movement. Those in power chant his name from dawn to dusk but there is no train by his name for the place. Similarly, I have been writing letters and exerting pressure to convert the Muzaffarpur-Narkatiyagan line into broad-gauge and even now, I urge the Government to make allocation in this Budget for the introduction of a train in this region named after Gandhiji. At least this would ensure that people remember his name. I, therefore, request the Government to pay attention in this regard.

[Sh. Kamal Mishra Madhukar]

Similarly, there is need to expedite construction of a bridge over River Gandak at Chhitauni to link U. P. with Bihar. In response to my letter to the Government in this regard I was told that Bihar and U. P. are not giving their share and hence the Union Government is not in a position to build the bridge. The reply that Bihar and U. P. are not co-operating cannot be an excuse. The construction of a bridge at Chhitauni is very essential to link U. P. and Bihar and also from the point of view of commercial and industrial development. I would like to know the time by which it would be completed? If the Government has no such proposal, then let it come out with an explanation. There is a saying in Bhojpuri:— "*Data se som bhala, Pardin deve jawab.*"

SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF: For your kind information, I would like to say that it would be impossible for the Union Government to take any action unless the U. P. and Bihar Government pay their share.

SHRI KAMLA MISHRA MADHUKAR: You mean to say that Bihar should suffer, just because different parties are in power in Bihar and U. P. Certainly, the bridge would be built once the Congress gains power in both the State. Isn't it? But I think that this dream won't materialize.

SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF: There is nothing like that. Let me make it clear. It is everyone's responsibility and everyone will work together in this regard I would like to know from those Government, as to why they are not paying their share?

SHRI KAMLA MISHRA MADHUKAR: Why don't you write letters to these State Government? Vaishali is fast becoming a popular tourist spot. It has a glorious past including that of being the first republic. You write to the U. P. Government that it is the long standing demand of the people that a railway line be laid between Hajipur and Bethiah via Vaishali, Sahebganj, Arraj and Paharpur. The M. P. from that area, Shri Shiva Sharan Sinha had raised this matter at

the meeting of the Consultative Committee attached to the Ministry of Railway. I too have been raising this demand for the past many years. In your reply, it has been stated that the Railways do not have adequate funds for this project, but the railway network is being expanded. Does the Railways have any welfare objective or is it motivated by purely commercial objectives? If it has no welfare objective, let me tell you that is commercially viable and you can go agreed with it. I am glad that both the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Railways are present in the House. Therefore, what I mean to say is that..... I will take only two more minutes.

Darbhanga, Samastipur, Raxaul, Nirmoli, Jhanjharpur etc. in northern Bihar are border areas. It is very important to expand the railways network in this area. Not only this there is need to speedily implement the decision to lay broad-gauge lines in the area to ensure the fast expansion of railways. Please give an assurance to the effect that this project would be sanctioned. I would also like to add here that the railway policy of the Government is in consonance with the policies formulated by the World Bank and the I.M. F. and those policies are making their debut with the Railways. Shri Manmohan Singh is laughing: you have the right to speak, so do we. However, these policies are anti-workers. A striking example in this regard is the fact that instead of regularising the services of the casual workers, the Railways have chosen to select more workers for their expansion programme. This has happened in Barauni and in Samastipur. Please rectify these policies and strengthen the existing railway services, for they are the lifeline of the country. We oppose these policies and lastly, I would like to say that the Government should withdraw the hike in second-class railway fares. Please make an amendment in this Budget. We are confident that you will do it. You wanted the MPs to express their opinion and we did so. We are confident that you will accept this suggestion, as you understand the pulse of people and are in a position to provide solutions to their problems. Therefore, you should with-

draw the increase made in the II class fare. The increase in cost of monthly season tickets should also be withdrawn. The increase in the cost of suburban railway journeys should also be withdrawn. You should drop this anti-labour and anti-Bihar policy. More expansion of railways would be done in Bihar, so that the people of the state could feel that our Railway Minister Shri Jaffer Sharief is actually a gentleman and according to his name, he has given a good rail budget for Bihar. How can we call him a gentleman if he neglects Bihar. Although, I accept that he is a gentleman, but it is all the more necessary that he should act like one. Nothing can be gained by just talking.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE

(Bombay-South Central): Mr. Chairman, Sir, today, near about one crore people of our country travel by trains. Out of them, 60 per cent people travel by suburban trains. 11 lakh people in Calcutta, 41/2 lakh in Madras and 45 lakh in Bombay travel by suburban trains. In the year 1951 the population of Bombay was 30 lakh and 8 lakh people used to travel by suburban trains. Everyday, near about 300 families reach Bombay from other places to earn their livelihood. Today, the population of Bombay has crossed one crore limit. As compared to 1951 figures the number of people using the suburban trains in Bombay today is six times more. These people travel from V.T. and Churchgate to Kalyan and Virar. In this way, the Bombay city is giving maximum income to the railways. But, by increasing the cost of monthly season tickets, the Railway has shown a step-motherly treatment with the Bombaites. There has been a 17 per cent increase in the fare between Bombay and Delhi whereas the increase in ticket fare in Bombay is 50 per cent. The cost of monthly season ticket between Churchgate and Bihar (a distance of 50 kilometers) in 1968 was Rs. 14.55, which was increased to Rs. 60 in 1988, Rs. 83 in 1991 and now the Railway Minister has increased it to Rs. 116. The fare upto Borivali a distance of 30 kilometers was Rs. 10.60 in 1968, which was increased to Rs. 47 in 1988, Rs. 64 in 1991 and now Rs. 97 in 1992. Similarly, the fare from Boribunder to Thane

a distance of 30 kilometers, was Rs. 10.35 in 1968, which was increased to Rs. 47 in 1988, Rs. 64 in 1991 and now it has been increased to Rs. 97. This is a very surprising increase. The cost of monthly season tickets has been increased, but no attention has been paid towards passenger amenities. Even though, 45 lakh people in Bombay travel by suburban trains, the number of trains has not been increased for them. Nice bogies are attached to a train and they have a capacity of carrying 1730 passengers, but near about 4000 passengers travel in them. This gives more income to the railways. Whenever a demand is made to increase the number of trains, God knows from where the Government collects figures and says that suburban trains are not entreprising. Today, these suburban trains have become so crowded that the people are forced to hang on door steps and sit on the roofs of the trains. This results in a number of accidents and many lives are lost. This rail budget is going to cause more hardship for the weaker sections of the society, which is already hard up due to price-rise. The Suburban trains give profit to the Government. In foreign countries, the Governments provide subsidy to them accepting it as their social duty and attention is paid towards passenger amenities.

Madam Chairman, it is very necessary to run the trains on time and to increase their speed. Often, the trains slow down at railway crossings and the time is wasted. Overbridges should be constructed at the railway crossings, so that the trains can run at full speed and save time. A number of accidents also take place at railway crossings. Mobile ambulances should be provided within every 5 kilometres. Relatives of the injured should be informed immediately. The number of ladies coupe in 1st and 11nd class should be increased. Women constables of R. P. F. should be deployed at each ladies' coupe so that incidents of goondaism, eve-teasing and pick-pocketing can be checked, often the fans in railway compartment are out of order. So they should be repaired. Due attention should be paid towards the cleaning of stations. Beggars should be removed

[Sh. Mohan Rawale]

from there. Attention should be paid towards the cleaning of toilets at stations also. Super-fast and mail trains be continuously run from Borivalli at every 3 minutes on different tracks. In 1975, there was a scheme for construction of metro railway in Bombay. But God know what happened to it. If the metro railway is constructed, it will reduce the crowd of passengers. Now parallel western and central railway train tracks should be started.

Petrol worth Rs. 60 crore was stolen from the rail wagons in Igatpuri. The Indian Oil Corporation has made a claim on the railway in this regard. What is the value of that claim and how it has been paid? Whether any investigation was made in this regard and what was its outcome? What action was taken against those railway employees who were found guilty of this theft?

Goondalism and pick-pocketing in suburban trains take place under police protection. The police and the goondas, the pick-pockets are hand in glove and save each other's interests.

According to the Minister of Railways, the vacant land of railway will be used for commercial purposes and this scheme will start from Bombay. Since when this scheme is going to be started. The money earned from this scheme should be spent on the development of Maharashtra and Bombay.

Earlier, the people used to express concern over the increasing railway fares, but the excessive increase this time has angered the people and rail-ricko agitations have started. Several rail bogies were burnt. Trains were cancelled for several days and people had to face a lot of difficulty.

The Government is not paying any attention towards the reaction which took place in the entire country after presentation of this railway budget.

Goods trains move on a slow speed. Their speed must be increased. It is cheaper to transport goods by trains than by trucks

and it gives more income to the railway also. If the speed of goods trains could be increased to the extent that one day could be saved after every 10 days, the railway could get an extra income of Rs. 500 crore every year.

The place having railway facility has developed fast in the world. The Konkan railway, which will pass through four States, will provide benefit upto Kanyakumari. The mineral wealth of Konkan can also be transported from one state to another State. This will help in development of tourism also. The Konkan area is known as second California and we can earn a lot by developing tourism there. Immediate attention should be paid towards the development and expansion of Konkan railway. The rate of interest on Konkan railway bonds is 9 per cent and the Commission is 15 per cent. In fact, the rate of interest should have been more and the commission less. The Government of Goa has sanctioned the Konkan railway project, but it was uncalled for on the part of the transporters to oppose. Without coming under any pressure, action should be taken in this regard. If the work is stopped now, its cost will escalate in future. I would like to request that maximum funds should be provided for the Konkan Railway Project. This amount can be recovered from the Konkan railway later. If the rate of interest on Konkan railway bonds is increased, we can mobilise more funds.

The quality of our railway bogies would be brought at par with the international standard. This will give rise to production and we can earn foreign exchange also. We have got an invitation to improve the railway system in Africa and we should accept it.

400 kilo calory tonnes of energy per kilometre is used in transporting goods by trucks, whereas 26 kilo calory tonnes of energy per kilometre is used in transporting goods by trains. 50 per cent of the goods are transported through trucks and tempos there days.

If coal, pig iron, cement, petroleum products and other chief industrial goods are

transported by railways, it will give more profit to the railways and it will prove convenient for the transporters also. The expenditure on transporting goods through railway is less. The speed of goods trains can be increased by constructing stronger bridges and strengthening the rail tracks by laying concrete sleepers and if we can shorten the time of travel even by one day from 10 days, it will give an additional income of Rs. 500 crore every year.

Accidents take place frequently on the bridge on a Apines road in my area because the bridge is very narrow. Several persons have died including the some rail passengers in the accidents on that bridge.

Bombay Municipal Corporation does not have sufficient money to widen it and it may also take ten to twenty years to remove the nearby buildings. So it is necessary to construct on the both side of the bridge for pedestrians as it has been constructed on Churney Road Station. How many Meharstrians are there in Konkan Railway Corporation on the post of assistant engineers and junior engineers? Is new recruitment is uade according to railway board narms or not? How many officers and employees have been apointed in Konkan Railway Corporation?

Thanks for giving me time.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now Private Members' Business.

Shri Syam Bihari Misra.

15.31 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Fifth Report

[Translation]

SHRI SYAM BIHARI MISRA (Bilhaur): I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Fifth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bill and Resolutions presented to the House on the 11th March, 1992."

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Fifth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bill and Resolutions presented to the House on the 11th March, 1992."

The motion was adopted.

15.32 hrs.

INDIAN SUCCESSION (AMENDMENT) BILL

(Amendment of Section 213)

[English]

PROF. K. V. THOMAS (Ernakulam): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Succession Act, 1925.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Succession Act. 1925."

The motion was adopted.

PROF. K. V. THOMAS: I introduce the Bill.

15.32-1/2 hrs.

PREVENTION OF INSULTS TO NATIONAL HONOUR (AMENDMENT) BILL***(Substitution of New Section for Section 3)***[English]*

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR (Khar-gone): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to amend the Prevention of Insult to National Honour Act, 1971."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR: I introduce the Bill.

15.33 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL***(Insertion of New Article 31)***[English]*

SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY (Warangal): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: I introduce the Bill.

15.33-1/2 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL***(Amendment of Articles 84 and 173)***[English]*

SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY (Warangal): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: I introduce the Bill.

15.34 hrs.

EMPLOYMENT OF TEACHERS BILL**[Translation]*

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Ferozpur): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the setting up of a Board in every State for appointment of and determining conditions of service of teachers in Universities and Colleges.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the setting up of a Board in every State for appointment of and determining conditions of service of, teachers in Universities and Colleges."

The motion was adopted.

[English]

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH: I introduce the Bill

15.35 hrs.

REPRESENTATION OF PEOPLE
(AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Amendment of Section 77, etc.)

[English]

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1951.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1951."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: I introduce the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Bandari Dattatraya – Absent.

15.36 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL—
CONTD.

(Amendment of Article 356)

By Shri Sudhir Giri

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now we shall take up further consideration of the following motion moved by Shri Sudhir Giri on the 20th December, 1991, namely:—

"That the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India, be taken into consideration."

SHRI P. C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha): Madam Chairman, I was speaking on this Bill and I was trying to say that article 356, though it is very necessary, is an article which is being openly attacked by almost all since it has been used at various points of time against various States. In 1977, we saw that the Government which came to power after alleging that the previous governments were using article 356 indiscriminately, had actually used this as a weapon to scuttle so many State Governments without any other reason than for a statement that the majority was thinking otherwise. There was absolutely no cause for that but that was done in 1977, just after the Government came in power in 1977.

In a similar way, we all speak about Sarkaria Commission's Report. We have several times stated that it is a report which should be given effect to. But we have seen that the very essence of the Report was flouted by the Government which came to power two years back in 1989, in the case of Kashmir, when a Governor was appointed in a manner which was not befitting at all and which was against all the spirit of the Sarkaria Commission's Report which said that in the case of appointment of Governors, the State Government or the Chief Ministers may be consulted.

15.36 hrs.

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE in the Chair]

But not only the Chief Ministers weren't consulted but the Governors were thrust upon against the will of that government and further that government had to go just be-

cause of this appointment. The Government resigned and immediately after that, the Central Government dismissed even the Assembly. So, we have so many examples where article 356 has been found to be of use but on many occasions it had been used in a manner which was not so befitting.

But this is not an article which should be scrapped and I do not think that even the mover of the Bill has stated that this article should go. But the amendment which has been given is only to the effect that this should not give general power to the Central Government when the State Government is not in a position to act in accordance with the Constitution or when the constitutional machinery has failed. The amendment is to effect that it should be on the basis of counting of heads in the Council of Ministers to know as to whether the Council of Ministers has lost the majority or not. Secondly, it is also said that if the State Government acts in such a way as to put the country's sovereignty at stake, action will be taken. These are all things which can be interpreted in so many manners. I would say that even if this amendment has to come, even then the purported or apprehended dangers cannot be taken off because this can be interpreted in other ways and the Government will have full powers to dismiss a Government in the State on these lines.

I do not think that even by an amendment of this nature, there can be any kind of boundaries put to Article 356. I would suggest that there is absolutely no need to bring an amendment of this nature. But this is an aspect where the politicians as well as the persons in power have to think and have to be provoked for this Bill as well as the objects that are behind this Bill. It is a time for taking a firm decision that Article 356 will not be used indiscriminately and will be used with much care and caution for which provision has already been made in the Constitution.

In conclusion I want to add one more point. Many hon. Members, in the course of

this discussion, stated about the dismissal of the Government of Kerala in 1957. In 1957 Communist Government came to power. It is true that the Government was dismissed in 1959. But it is also true that within the short span of about 18 months or about two years of rule, the State was in such a condition that the law and order machinery had completely failed and there were instances of the Government causing so many deaths. There was a point of time where the people of Kerala would not have allowed the Government to function as such. That was the condition. And the Government also felt that it was not easy to function in a constitutional manner and, therefore, the Government had to take so many measures which were absolutely to the complete dislike of the people of Kerala. There were instances where pregnant women were indiscriminately killed in the firing by the police. There was so much of firing that took place during that time that it is difficult to describe. That was not thought of at all in Kerala which State, even now — years after that — continues to be a very peaceful State and where the law and order situation is maintained in a very proper fashion.

When the conditions went to that extent, there was absolute necessity for the Centre to intervene and it was only Article 356 which came to the rescue. I would think that Article 356 had actually been used in the best manner at that time when the Government of Kerala was dismissed by using this power under Article 356.

I appreciate and I am happy that the hon. Member has moved this amendment Bill to bring out the immoral way in which, sometimes, this Article is being used or may be used. It has also been abused. He has moved this amendment to give proper thoughts to all concerned as to whether this Article should be used in an indiscriminate manner or whether it should be used in a very proper manner where such caution is much necessary. I would congratulate the hon. Member and at the same time, I would request him to withdraw the Bill because the amendment sought will not be in tune with the spirit which is expected out of the Bill.

PROF. K. V. THOMAS (Ernakulam): Mr. Chairman, Sir, at the outset I congratulate my hon. colleague Shri Sudhir Giri for having brought this amendment Bill which gives a chance to this House to have a deliberation on Article 356 of the Constitution of India.

Sir, India became a Republic in 1950 and we have passed 42 years since then. Ours is a federal structure, a strong Centre and a prosperous State. But after 42 years, when we discuss Article 356, I feel that a lot of light should be thrown on this Article. Sir, the first time when this Article was put into action was the dissolution of the Communist Government in Kerala in 1959. We know the background of the decision that was taken by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. There was a people's movement against the then Communist Government and that too was the first Government in India which came to power through the ballot paper. After 42 years when we analyse the decision taken by Panditji, there may be a difference of opinion on whether that decision was correct or not. There are still certain pertinent points which we have to bring out.

Sir, at the present juncture when we are discussing this Bill, look at the world scenario. The Soviet Union which was a Republic, which was one of the world forces balancing the political forces in the globe, is being slowly disintegration. Some of my friends say that Communism is becoming irrelevant. Some of my friends say that the rule of the Communist Party in Soviet Russia was not up to the expectations of the people of U.S.S.R. but I am very sorry that the Soviet Union has disintegrated because that was the only force which was a match against American imperialism. Now, America has become a global policeman. U.S.A. is against the development of all the developing nation. We had a powerful Soviet Union which was always checkmating the imperialistic movement of the American Government. You know that America has its own vested interests. It never want any other country to develop. It always wants to function as a world policeman. So, the disintegration of

the Soviet Union, the disintegration of Yugoslavia, is a new stroke or the democratic forces on the strong. I still feel that the Soviet Union should have been strengthened and the Soviet Union should not have been disintegrated. But you know, all the liberal movements, the Perestroika and Glasnost, initiated by Gorbachev have been in good direction with all broad mindedness. But where has Russia landed now? So, we are unhappy. I still feel that the Socialist and Communist movements in the world have got a role to play, because we do not want the Communist movement to perish and we do not want the Socialist movement to perish. They have to grow, but they have to understand the changes that are taking place in the global scenario. The globe is shrinking because of the widespread and rapid communication changes. Anything happening in Moscow can be seen in India through the small screens. So, when the world is shrinking to such a small size, the Communist movement also should have understood what is happening around. Unfortunately, the Communist leadership could not understand the changes that are taking place around the world and as a result, now we find that the Soviet Union is disintegrating and many of the Socialist countries are also disintegrating. These particular developments which are taking place around India are also something on which we have to ponder about.

We should have a strong Centre, a Centre which should be able to see that India is united. Now, we see the divisive and secessionist forces working in our country. We have got problems in Punjab; we have got problems in Kashmir, we have got problems in Assam, we have got Naxalite problems in Andhra Pradesh and we have got the LTTE activities in Tamil Nadu. Within our country, there are a large number of disintegrating forces and above all that some communalist forces are also there. Then, there is the linguistic problem. Even today morning, in the Question Hour, unfortunately some of our friends wanted to impose certain things. None of us are against Hindi, but we want that all the Indian languages should be equally respected. So, there are so many

[Prof. K.V. Thomas]

disintegrating forces which are working in this country. This is a vast country in which 83 millions of people are living, talking different languages, possessing different cultures and different food habits. So, if this country is to be united, one major factor is that there should be a strong Centre. What that Centre should be? Should it be like an India family where the husband and wife function together and the husband has got a little more prominence?

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA (Jadavpur) We want husband-wife relationship in the Centre-State relations also.

PROF. K. V. THOMAS: I agree with that (*Interruptions*) So, some kind of a relationship where the Central Government accepts the functioning of a State Government should be there. The State Government should have independence in their own functioning.

Sir, one of the decisions taken by the V. P. Singh Government was the decision on Kashmir and we know what had happened later. In 1989, atleast we could go to Srinagar. I have gone there in 1988 and 1989. At that time, there was no problem which we are seeing now. One political decision which was taken had dethroned a popular Government and now we are in a very bad situation. So, what I suggest is that, the Central Government, when they take a decision on the basis of Article 356 on State Governments, there should be considerations above political considerations. It should be not be merely political but there should be a discussion with the major parties. The Government at the Central may belong to one party and at the States, it may be different. In this country, there are number of states which are ruled by other Parties. In the Centre itself, there is a Government which lacks majority by a few Members. And this Government, as the hon. Prime Minister has said, wants to function on consensus and he wants to run this Government on consensus. All major issue should be tackled not on the strange in the House but on consensus. We have seen how the consensus worked. When the Tenth Lok Sabha

started we had the Mandal Commission problem and other problem. At least, now there is some kind of peaceful atmosphere. Similarly, about Ramjanambhoomi-Babri Mashid issue, discussion is going on and there is somewhat peaceful atmosphere. These are achieved through a number of debates and discussions. All major political parties ought to be taken into confidence.

One of my request is, when any decision is to be taken by the Central Government under article 356, there should be a discussion by the Central Government with all the recognised political parties. Some structure should be there. In that structure, there should be a debate. Supposing tomorrow early morning, I wake up and find that my State Government is not there and the Assembly is dissolved it is painful to me. So, there should be a debate. At the same time, I do not completely agree that there should be a clause which says that the majority test of the Council of Ministers shall be proved on the floor of the Legislative Assembly only. By and large, I agree with it. But it cannot be the only criterion because we see, what happens in many of the States. There is widespread horse-trading. We cannot allow the horse trading, whether it is done by that Party. In the political system, we cannot agree for a horse trading. Therefore I cannot completely agree with such clause. Of course, as far as possible, it is always best to put the majority test on the floor of the House and the strength on the floor should be taken into account. At the same time, there should not be horse trading.

There are some disputes. For example, there is Cauvery water dispute which is quite unfortunate. Water is not the property of any State. It belongs to the entire nation. In many of the water disputes, each State has its own point which may be valid but can it be taken to an extent where the State have to fight against each other, to the extent of moving from away the federal structure. We should think of it. Water resource should not be the property of any one State and that too under the present geographical situation where the original of the river may be from on State and

It is flowing through different States. With this geographical situation, I feel water resource should not be vested in any particular State. My point is, water resource should be the resource of the nation so that if there is a dispute, the Government of India could decide about it.

16.00 hrs.

(Interruptions). These are the disputes which come in between. These are the problems which have crept into the national political structure.

My request to the august House is that we should have a wide thinking on how this Article 356 should have a wide thinking on how this Article 356 should be used and when it is used, the message should go to the people of this country that it is not a political vendetta and that it has been done with all good intentions.

This Bill which my hon. friend moved in the House has started a debate within the House. It may trigger off debate outside and we will get back some message which will try to improved the political system of the country.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARAYA (Jadavpur): Sir, I want to make a few points while supporting the resolution of the hon. Member Shri Sudhir Giri.

Article 356 come under Part XVIII of our Constitution. It is one of the emergency provisions.

We have been talking for a long time about deleting this Article from the Constitution. This has proceeded from the way in which the bogey of emergency has been raised at different stages in the history of different State. This bogies has been raised at the beck and call of the ruling party at the Centre.

Beginning from the dismissal of the E. M. S. Namboodiripal Government in 1959 right down to the dismissal of the Tamil Nadu

Government last year, there has not been a single instance in our constitutional history where Article 356 has not been abused.

Even if we admit that the makers of our Constitution had a good intention when they included this Article in the Constitution, we cannot think to a single instance where it has been used with justice. (Interruptions)

SHRI M. R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN (Tirunelveli): It is the wish of the people to pull down the Government and it has been justified by Shri Karunanidhi's total defeat.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARAYA: Please allow me to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please do not disturb. Don't interrupt.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARAYA: The previous speaker had been talking about the dismissal of the E. M. S. Namboodiripad Government in 1959 which he said came as a result of a people's movement.

Now even if I admit for a moment that there was a people's movement in Kerala against the Namboodiripad Government then, I am sure my friends would agree that people's movement would have been sufficient to topple the Government.

Why did the Centre has to intervene and bring down the Government ? There would be no reason why Article 356 had to be applied to Kerala when E. M. S. Namboodiripad was the Chief Minister there, if there was a people's movement to bring down the Government.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): : If you yield for a moment. It was specifically on the request of the Governor there that there was a total break-down of the administrative machinery. That was the basis on which that decision was taken by the Government of India at that time.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARAYA: Yes, I know that there is a provision in Article 356 that for dismissal of State Government there has to be a report from the Governor or otherwise. I am coming to this point about the way in which either with report from the Governor or without reports from the Governor, the Governments were brought down. In the case of Tamil Nadu, last years, I wonder whether there was any report from the Governor. It is very dubious whether the Governor signed that report and in spite of that the Tamil Nadu Government was brought down. There was no report.

SHRI M. R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN : I admit there was no report. But historically it has been proved. The LTTE movement has been proved by the people of this country. It has been proved to the world. That Government was pulled down because of the support given to the LTTE. It was proved to this country as well as the world.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no discussion like this.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARAYA: So, I would like to say that by the term "Governor's report" or when there is no Governor's report, by the term "Otherwise", Governments are brought down. They are brought down, we find, at times when these Governments turn out to be inconvenient for the ruling party at the Centre. It is precisely because of this liability to be abused that we want the Article to be abrogated.

Now I come to the question of law and order. When a Government is about to be dismissed, there has to be a report from the Governor saying that there is a law and order problem in the State which the State cannot tackle and therefore the President should take over. But in very many cases we find that encouragement to these fissiparous forces is given by certain interested political parties. What happened in Punjab when the Government of the Akali Dal was there? Who encouraged the separatist, who raised Bhindranwale to prominence? In West Bengal also we have suffered from this. A few

years back we found suddenly a spurt of movement in the Hills of west Bengal, a separatist movement. Some people were initially demanding that they wanted to go out of India, they wanted to form a separate Gorkhaland.

Mr. Chairman: Just one minute. The time allotted to this Bill is over. Shall we extend it? How much time should we extend?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: We should extend the time.

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri): This is a very important matter. We should extend the time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. Shall we extend it by one hour?... We extend the time by one hour. You can finish it before that. There is no compulsion that you must carry it on for one hour. One-hour's time is extended. Madam, please proceed.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARAYA: So, in West Bengal, a few years back, we found a sudden spurt of these fissiparous forces. The Central Government was taking a very ambiguous attitude towards it was not coming down with any strong approach against this kind of a separatist slogan, this kind of a separatist movement deliberately fomented by a few people. Then, we found during the elections a kind of open understanding between this party which had raised a separatist demand and the ruling party at the Centre. So, time and again we found that fissiparous forces are encouraged. So it becomes a political matter. If the spirit of this Article 356 is that law and order should be maintained in different State, then, that spirit is violated by the political fact that we find so often, the political phenomenon that we find so often of certain interested forces fomenting law and order problems in the State and then using that as an excuse for dislodging a popularly elected Government.

My previous speaker has also spoken about the Soviet Russia and disintegration

of Soviet Russia. I do think that we should take a lesson from the tragic disintegration. But what is that? I am not sure and I could not understand what the hon. Member was trying to say. At one point, it seemed to me that he was trying to say that the Soviet Russia disintegrated because it did not have sufficiently strong centre. Now I would be asking you to look back in the pages of history. The different republics which chose to remain within the Union of Soviet Socialist Republic were the backward areas, backward States. And after the Russian Revolution, there was an astonishing development of these different regions, different language and different culture. It was an astonishing development and no one can deny that. It was because of this decentralisation of power, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics had that guts, had that courage to allow the devolution of power to the different republics and to see that people in backward areas got the most of the fruits of development. This is why, through the attack of Nazism under which the whole of Europe reeled, the Soviet Russia however, remained united. None of the republic yielded to nazy terror. And that was because this decentralisation had been there because sufficient attention had been paid to the development of the backward State. If at a later phase of history, we find an opposite thing happening, if we find the U. S. S. R. disintegrating — I do not know, maybe the time has not yet come to analyse it — we can certainly make a conjecture that somewhere this process of decentralisation, this process of devolution of power to the States, to the different regions, to people belonging to different cultural, linguistic groups, must have been stalled at some point or the other. This is the mistake, possibly — I do not know. It is too complex a phenomenon for us to come to a definite analysis as yet. But this could be one problem with the USSR which might have been a factor in the disintegration. There might have been a certain hegemony grow of one republic over another which had come about at one particular phase of history. I do not know. It could be. But certainly, it was not decentralisation that led to the disintegration of the Russian Republic. And I think, that this is the lesson that our Gov-

ernment, that our political parties, that our States should learn from the tragic disintegration of U. S. S. R. Here, I would like to say that when the Sarkaria Commission produced its report, we had hoped that in its recommendations, it would agree with our point of view regarding the deletion of Article 356. However, we do not find this in the Sarkaria Commission Report. And as such, we cannot accept this part of its recommendations. Nonetheless, it had also been suggested by us that even if Article 356 was not deleted at the moment, let the Inter-States Council be activated and if Article 356 has to be used, let it be done only through the sanction of the Inter States Council.

The Inter-State Council was activated; that was during the brief period of National Front Government. It was activated; there were some meetings of the Inter-State Council. However, on the question of the Inter-State Council having a role to play, having a say in the matter of application of the Article 356, there has been no further discussion on that and the present Government also is completely silent on this issue.

It has been said that the Governor has to give certain reports. In Tripura, we heard a year before last that there had been a report from the Government dealing with the law and order situation in Tripura. What happened to that? Is it always that the Governor's Report is paid heed to by the Central Government, not always but only when it suits the Central Government that it pays heed to the reports to the Governor? And I think that certainly the role of Governors has to be one, like the role of the Chair. The person who is sitting in the Chair, may belong to one or other political party, may have political affiliations, but when he or she sits in the Chair, there must be absolute political neutrality. And that is how the Governor is expected to behave. That is the high standard that a Governor has to maintain. I am afraid that with a kind of party politics vitiating different aspects of our civic life, with the narrowing down of politics, narrowed to petty party interests, the role of Governors also is not always above question.

[Shrimati Malini Bhattacharaya]

I have raised the matter of Tripura. But in the case of Tripura, even if there is an incriminating report from the Governor, we of ourselves, would not ask for the application of Article 356 neither in the case of Tripura nor in the case of any other to be one particular hon. Minister or another, they tell us "look, this is a State matter and we cannot do anything about this." State matter is something sacrosanct.

So, when a couple of years back, in Ujan Madam in Tripura, a number of tribal women-poor tribal woman-were raped by some members of the Assam Rifles, that incident was sought to be suppressed by the Tripura Government. A commission was set up by the Supreme Court and the report of the Commission has come out. Now we know that these accusations and allegations of rape were based on hard fact. We also know that although two-three years elapsed after that, even now the guilty have been brought to book. Why? Because it is a State subject and because the Centre cannot intervene into the sacrosanct character of the State Governments:

So we find that this sanctity of the State Government can be interpreted in many different ways at different times. That is why at the very outset of my speech I have said that article 356 is known more in its abode than in its proper use. In fact, I have said that we cannot find a single case where it has been used properly.

Where the President Rule has been imposed in a State we find that there is a special situation. There are certain rights of individuals, certain rights of citizens which are curtailed to a certain degree. It is said that only under a very special situation the President's rule is imposed in a State. And because it is a very special situation every citizen must be prepared under the special situation to forego some of his or her basic rights of citizenship, basic human rights.

Today we find that a certain very powerful international forces wants to intervene

into the matters of our country, into the politics of our country and the economics of our country. We find such forces are raising the question of human rights with reference to Punjab and Kashmir. We are very sure that these parties are interested parties. Why? Because these spokesmen for human rights only speak of police repression; but they do not speak to the repression that is enacted by the terrorists, which is enforced by the terrorists upon the citizens of a particular State. That is why we are convinced that these foreign forces which say that we are not observing human rights in Kashmir and Punjab are interested parties and we are not convinced by what they say.

At the same time is it not true that the question of human rights, the question of civil rights is one which becomes all the more important when a State is under the President's rule? Think of Punjab, think of Kashmir. If the role of the police and the army in Punjab or in Kashmir is identified with the role of oppressor, if it is seen by the people as a repressive role, as a monstrous role, if the police and the army are regarded with terror and with disgust, then the very purpose of President's Rule is defeated because instead of improving the law and order situation, it has the opposite effect of throwing the people over to the side of the terrorists, to the side of the separatist forces.

Therefore, I think that during President's rule in a State, it is very difficult to prevent this situation when army and the police become objects of terror and hatred for the people. This is another reason why Article 356 should not be used. In Punjab, the Akali Government was dislodged. Did that lead to a reduction in terrorism or it cause an increase in terrorism? I am sure it caused an increase in terrorism. So, while imposing President's rule, you are not solving a law and order problem even if it is there. You are increasing the terror and indirectly you are encouraging the terrorists. That is why I think that this particular Article has no place in our Constitution and it should be repealed. With these few words, I conclude thanking you for having allowed me so much time

SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI (Bamhampur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, indeed the Bill to amend Article 356 of the Constitution moved by Shri Sudhir Giri on 20th December 1991, deals with a very sensitive issue. Considering the vastness and composite nature of our country, the founding-fathers of our Constitution have rightly chosen a federal structure with the balance of power tilted in favour of the Centre. In a country like ours, the Centre must have some extra power to deal with unforeseen situations. Even the Sarkaria Commission corroborates to this view. But to prevent misuse of this power, Constitution-makers have in their infinite wisdom provided certain safeguards also. For example, any proclamation issued under Article 356 must be placed before both House of Parliament and shall cease to operate at the expiration of two months, unless it is approved by both the Houses of Parliament before expiry of this period.

Ours being a federal structure, different political parties rule the State and the Centre. When a Presidential proclamation under Article 356 is issued in respect of a State ruled by a party other than the ruling party in the Centre, the action of the Centre is quite often viewed with political colour. But such proclamations are issued normally on the recommendations of the Governor of the concerned State. If the President is to act only when the Council of Ministers of a State loses majority on the floor of the Assembly, it will trigger defections leading to avoidable political uncertainty in the State. Here it will not be out of context to recall the action of the Janata Party Government in 1977, when elected Governments of quite a few States were dismissed just because they were Congress Governments. Again in 1989, when the National Front Government came to power, at the Centre, it changed the Government of some States because these Governors were appointed by the previous Congress Government. Therefore, I would request the preachers of constitutional propriety sitting on the other side, to look into the actions of these Governments of which they were either partners or supporters.

In some cases, the central intervention would be inevitable. Also, in some other cases, the Central cannot go on waiting for the issue being decided on the floor of the State Assembly because in most cases, the Chief Minister would try to win the support of the majority of the MLAs before recommending an Assembly session. This situation will unnecessarily lead to political instability in the State. Therefore, in my view, the problem will not be solved by amending this Articles, as suggested by my learned colleague, Shri Sudhir Giri. After all, these are the people who are the ultimate deciders in our country. They can judge the action of the Centre and exercise their mandate suitably when elections are conducted for the State Assembly. Hence, I am of the firm opinion that there is no reanneed for a change in Article 356 of the Constitution in the interest of the national unity.

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri): Mr. Chairman Sir, the Bill moved by my learned friend, Shri Sudhir Giri comes as food for thought to the parliamentarians, administrators also the people in general. The question before us is whether it is necessary to retain or delete or amend suitably Article 356 of the Constitution. Sir, I am of the view that talking into account the invocation of Article 356, right from 1959, in the matter of Shri E.M.S. Namboodiripad Government up today, there is no necessity as such to amend, as in view of the fact that there is nothing wrong with the provisions or the contents of the Article. It is the trouble with those who used it or misused it. As Shrimati Malini Bhattacharya said they misused it but every time when we discuss Article 356, we are being guided by political motivations than the reality of the situation. For example, in 1977, when the then Prime Minister, Shri Morarji Desai dismissed a set of State Governments ruled by the Congress, it was as though those State Governments do not represent the will of the people as reflected in the 1977 elections. But, when the same Article 356 was invoked by Shrimati Indira Gandhi after her election in 1980, she was accused of sabotaging the Constitution. A similar view was expressed with regard to Kerala's incident too. Shrimati

[Sh. E. Ahamed]

Malini Bhattacharya, in a passing reference, made some observations with regard to what happened in Kerala in 1959. To make the record straight, I must say that due to the mass upsurge against the State Government, the then Central Government, headed by no less a person than Jawaharlal Nehru, was constrained to take the decision to invoke Article 356. Article 356 is very specific with respect to the failure of the constitutional machinery. Therefore, when there is a real failure of the constitutional machinery, as provided under Article 356, the Government of India has no other alternative than to invoke Article 356. I may inform here that this action was justified by the results of the elections which followed after the dismissal of Government headed by Shri E.M.S. Nambodripad in 1959. That was the bone of contention in the election - 1960. The opposition parties under the leadership of Nambodripad put the matter before the public and enlightened and the literate people of Kerala about the issues involved. The people of Kerala had come out with the verdict that the decision taken by the Central Government was correct.

When the Communist Parties were alleging at that time that democracy was threatened by the Government of India, I am reminded of what Jawaharlal Nehru described their stand with a very interesting analogy in the floor of this August House. He acquaint house said that it was like a man murdering his father and mother and then appearing before the court pleading for mercy as he become an orphan! That was the situation prevailing in Kerala at that time. Those people who molested democracy were alleging that democracy was threatened. I should say so because they had not only abused their constitutional power, but they made aggression on the very letter and spirit of democracy. I was a student at that time and I was observing what actually happened in those days.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHARY
(Katva): Did you take part in the agitation?

SHRI E. AHAMED: Who will not? Anybody who has a sense of democracy and feeling for the rights of the people will be up against a government which does not respect the people.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHARY: I am referring to the upsurge against the dismissal of the Government.

SHRI E. AHAMED: That decision was taken respecting the sentiments of the people at large.

AN. HON. MEMBER: So, you rejoiced at that decision.

SHRI E. AHAMED: Sir, no Government can close its eyes to the popular feeling. As far as Kerala was concerned at that time. That was the situation forced by Government of Jawaharlal Nehru. The Centre-State relationship is the most important thing. The relation between the Centre and the State should be of a conciliatory nature and not of confrontation. Whenever the Central Government wishes to invoke article 356, they must think twice about the outcome of such invocation of Article 356. Sir, I will be very happy if my learned friend Shrimati Malini Bhattacharya and Members of her party admit that when their party was having friendly partnership with the Janata Dal Government, the latter invoked Article 356 in Jammu and Kashmir. Against Farooq Abdullah, Shri Jagmohan not only used Article 356 but took much more excessive action than referred to in Article 356. Unfortunately, my friend, Shrimati Malini's party had to support the action taken by the then Janata Dal Government. Without their support the Government would not have continued. I now come to the point. I was not a Member of this House at that time.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: If we wanted that we would have long ago asked it for Tripura.

SHRI E. AHAMED: I would like to ask only one question, were you not a party to support the V.P. Singh Government when it invoked Article 356?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please address to the Chair. This is not question-answer session.

SHRI E. AHAMED: Sir, but for the support of the Communist Party of India and CPM the Janata Dal Government would not have remained in the power. That is why I say that political motivation is the most important consideration before a political party than the actual situation.

The Sarkaria Commission has made certain observations about Article 356. The Sarkaria Commission has also mentioned in its report about the role of the Governors. I should say that some times the Governors act in a very ridiculous way. Some of the report of the Governors given to me a distant impression as if they are puppets in the hands of Centre. They do not even apply their mind to the real problem. That is what, as pointed out by Shri Gajpathi also, the Janata Dal Government did. It put its own Governor because of the political reason. Therefore, I would say that all of them are the partners in the game. We cannot blame one party or the other party. Whenever such a question comes before us, we should view it not on political consideration but on constitutional consideration and for the prosperity of the country. Unfortunately no such stand was taken by a political party in this country. When we discuss a matter we say something and when come to the power we do something else. I would request the House to consider the points or suggestions made by the Sarkaria Commission about the role of the Governors. The Report says:

"The Governor should not risk determining the issue of majority support on its own outside Assembly. The prudent course for him would be to cause the rival claims to be tested on the floor of the House or if during the period when the Assembly remains prorogued the Governor receives reliable evidence that the Council of Ministers has lost majority, it should not as a matter of Constitutional propriety dismiss the Council unless the

Assembly has expressed on the floor of the House its want of confidence in it...."

"..... Generally, it will be reasonable to allow the Chief Minister a period of thirty days for surviving of the Assembly unless there is a very urgent business to be transacted such as the passing of the Budget in which case a shorter period may be allowed in special circumstances the period may be up to sixty days".

If he is able to give certain guidelines to the Governor how to invoke Article 356 in a given situation, I think we will be able to wriggle out of the present political situation and controversies with regard to the invoking of Article 356. Sarkaria Commission is also equally specific on the Article 356 of the Constitution dealing with the President's rule.

"It should be used very sparingly in extreme cases as a matter of last resort when all available alternatives failed to prevent or rectify a break down of the Constitutional machinery in the State or a warning should be issued to errant State in specific terms that it is not carrying on the Government of the State in accordance with the Constitution. Before taking action under Article 356 any explanation received from the State should be taken into consideration".

Therefore, instead of asking for amending the Article 356 which is specific on failure of the Constitutional machinery, we have to evolve a policy where some guidelines are to be prepared; lay it on the floor of the House and discuss the matter.

In this respect, I wish that the implementation of the recommendation of the Sarkaria Commission will largely help to avoid such controversies on the abuse of Article 356. With these few words, I oppose the Bill and ask my friend to withdraw it.

SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES (Udupi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I do not want to speak at length but I would like to make one or two points.

First of all, I would like to congratulate Mr. Giri for having brought this Bill. It is because this is a subject which is being discussed throughout the country. This is not a subject matter where a particular political party takes up a particular line. This concerns the country. Keeping the country in view and in the present day context, how we have to run the country and in this, Article 356 has a very important part to play.

More than a written Constitution, it is the spirit of the Constitution that we have to take into consideration.

In Britain, there is no written Constitution at all and ultimately, it is the spirit of the Constitution that is carrying the whole nation through. It is not merely a matter of Centre and States relationship either.

Respected Shrimati Malini has made certain points regarding the Governor's role. But, there, there is a relationship between the State Governments and the Municipalities also. At times, Municipalities are also dismissed by the State Governments which is similar to Governor using his power. So, let us not confine this to that particular political aspect. Even, take the example of the matters to be decided on the floor of the House. In today's context, there is a problem. At least, in four States, the matters could not have been decided on the floor of the House because of the Anti-Defection Law where another authority comes into play and that is the Presiding Officer of the House - the Speaker.

The role of the Governor also comes into play. But my feeling is that let there be a debate on this particular subject. We need not scrap Article 356, but the provisions, the spirit of Article 356 should be properly used and implemented.

[Translation]

SHRI PIUS TIRKEY (Alipurduars): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support the Bill, introduced by hon. Member Shri Sudhir Giri in the House for amending the article 356, I would like to say something in this regard.

It has been said in the Objects and Reasons" of the Bill that:

[English]

"The founding fathers of our Constitution conceived of the Indian Policy as a federation to successfully maintain the healthy relationship between the Centre and the States on the basis of the principles of democracy and equality".

[Translation]

I mean to say that there is no equality but there should be good relations between centre and states. All are of this view. Much has been said about the misuse of article 356. The Home Minister is present in the House, I would like to ask him what will be the fate of those who are launching agitations though they have not been granted statehood. I would like to know the difficulty in creating small states. When Haryana, Punjab and Kerala can be created on the basis of language why can't the other small States be created. First you created States on the basis of languages and not on geographical basis and that is the main reason of so many disputes now-a-days. There are so many languages in our country. The languages, which are not developed, want to get equal status and make progress. There were 620 princely States which were called Native States at the time of British rule. There was no corruption at that time. All was well. It is said that we have democracy but I ask where is this democracy.

[English]

They were ruled by the English people; and now they are ruled by the other people.

[Translation]

We have no right. There is seven percent reservation for Schedule Castes and Schedule Tribes in tribal areas. Rest of the 93 percent posts are filled up by the outsiders. All the posts from top to watchman are filled up by the persons from outside. There is survival of the fittest. Then, who will care for the poor? What for do the Central and State Governments are there? There is corruption in many states. The people are starving in a tribal district in Orissa but the State Government is paying no heed. Centre is unconcerned of all these things. None of the Government think about their plight. They have been left on the mercy of their own fate. There is nothing for them. It is not democracy. In democracy people have equal rights. We wish that even the district should be autonomous. So that a man can make progress. The State should be small so that people may have cordial relation with each other. Various castes and community's may live with love and peace. If you want to promote love and harmony among them, then you should ponder over all these things. According to article 356 the Governor is only an agent of Central Government in the State. He functions as an agent even if there is an opposition Government in the State. They work according to a set politics. I would like to submit that the State Assembly should elect the Governor in the same way as the President is elected in the Centre. It can be possible when there is no manipulation and he may not be merely an agent of the Centre.

[English]

The Governor is appointed at the pleasure of the President.

[Translation]

When he is appointed by the President, it is very clear that he will follow the instructions of the President; his post is very crucial. Therefore this amendment must be introduced so that the Governor may be elected by the State Assembly, in the same way as the President is elected.

Secondly, there has been a long-standing demand for making small States. The issues of Bodo land, Jharkhand State and Uttara Khand State are going on. These issues are going on because the Adivasi people live there.

The Government does not pay any attention to it. The Adivasi people will never be given their right to rule, they will not be given vital posts anywhere. How long the Government will continue commit such an injustice on Adivasis? I do not know what language does the Government understand. The Government listens only the language of violence and then only it is compelled to think over the issues. The similar was the case of the Gorkhaland. Gorkhaland is the creation of heavy fighting, killings of many children and blood-shed. The creation of Gorkhaland was not desirable at all. We desire for peace among different communities. Now caste-war is going on everywhere. States have already been created on the basis of languages. Does the Government intend to create new States on the basis of caste now? There is still time to correct the mistakes committed by us. In a Democracy the power should be vested in the people.

The manner of polling in Punjab is obvious. Today, money and muscle power are the prerequisite conditions for getting votes. Horse-Trading is very common among the Members of Parliament. What is the reasons behind it? Why our representatives are indulged in such odd things? As far as I think there is no control of the people on the representatives of the public. They have gone out of the people's control. There is no real democracy in India and in the name of democracy the people of the ruling party are enjoying like any thing and are playing with the people of India. Thus, the common people are neglected and they are subjected to oppression. Today, people are starving they do not have education and drinking water. We live in bigger States. So their problems are not heard. Therefore I would like to state that everybody should be given equal rights, and everybody should have a house to live in.

[Sh. Pius Tirkey]

The people living in slum areas in Delhi do not get drinking water. They are living like animals. This is the fate of those who are living in the Delhi slum areas. One may visit those places and look their conditions. The Government should make every arrangement for them so that they may lead their lives smoothly. Do they not want equal rights in India. Should not they enjoy equal rights?

[English]

Equality to State-relationship? What is the relationship when there is no real community to community or man to man relationship?

[Translation]

Therefore the Government will have to bring about certain changes. Hence our utmost effort should be to create smaller States so that every citizen may be able to have a chance for his progress. Government will have to take into account the problems of all persons, then alone this country can progress. The Government will have to understand the problems of the rural people also and it will have to remove those problems with the advice of the people of the villages. This democracy cannot last long with the power of police only. Today, a Minister has been provided with a number of body-guards. Can he be able to serve the people if such a large number of police personnel accompany him. In Democracy Centre-State relations are required to be regarded, but today there is tight-security arrangements around a Minister who claims himself to be a representative of the people. It is beyond my mind as to what will be the fate of this country in such a poor democracy. But now there is much awakening in the people. They have started knowing as to what they actually need. The Government cannot rule by force in such a manner. Therefore, it should pay its attention towards the problems of the people. I, therefore, propose that every Governor should be

elected by the respective State Assemblies.

SHRI SHYAM BIHARI MISRA (Bilhaur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, in the light of the present political atmosphere of the country, the Amendment to the Article 356, moved by Shri Sudhir Giri is worth praising and I support it.

The main purpose of the framers of the Constitution was to establish cordial relations between the Centre and the States so that both the Central and State Governments may run smoothly, in a democratic way. The imposition of emergency in 1975-76 had caused great upheaval in the national political atmosphere and sea-change was witnessed in the outlook of all the political parties. The Centre-State relations should be cordial. But today, the motto of maintaining the unity and integrity of the country and rendering services to all the citizens of the nation has gone astray in one way or the other. The situation has gone from bad to worse and has deteriorated to such an extent as by the ruling political party in the centre has started misusing of this Article 356. Now the situation has reached to such a point where a change in this Article has become a necessity. Therefore, the amendment introduced by Shri Giri has its utility in the present time. We can realize the actions taken by the Central Government in Mizoram and Tamilnadu and draw a conclusion from them. I do not want to prolong the discussion but I can only suggest that in order to keep the Centre-States relation cordial, it is very essential to incorporate this amendment in the said Article. As my colleague has stated that the opinion of the State Legislative Assembly should also be taken while appointing a Governor in the concerned State and in case, the dismissal of a State Government becomes inevitable, the State Government should be given sufficient time for this. Unless a State Government falls in minority in the Legislative Assembly on any motion, it should not be dismissed. For this purpose, if the Article 356 needs to be amended it must be amended because discriminatory treatment is being meted out by the Centre against some of the State Governments.

These days the Congress is in power in the Centre, while the opposition parties are ruling in several States. In this way the Central Government adopts a discriminatory attitude against such States and misuses the Article 356 in its favour.

I would like to give one more suggestion. If a Governor proposes to dismiss a State Government, the proposal should have sufficient reasons for doing so. It should also be looked into whether the Government enjoys its majority in the Assembly or not. The real situation should also be examined before taking such a decision. In view of the support given by the people to different political parties in different States, it has become inevitable to bring a change in Article 356. The situation can be improved only after introducing this amendment. This amendment should be made to ensure the smooth running of the Central and the State Government in a democratic manner.

The misuse of this Article has also caused deterioration in our political character.

We should also ensure that the feeling of our political nationalism should not be hurt in any way. We should set up an ideal before the world so that we can present a true picture of democracy. For this, it is necessary to amend the Article 356. This is the only request of mine.

[English]

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam): Sir, at the outset, I congratulate Shri Sudhir Giri for bringing this Bill.

This subject has been widely discussed, so, I do not want to take much time of the House.

The founding fathers of the Constitution had taken the care in framing this article and also when it was discussed in the Constituent Assembly it was discussed widely. This article has its own significance. The other hon. Members who have taken part in this discussion have mentioned and cited certain

examples. Of course, I agree with some of them. Abuse of article 356 cannot be tolerated. But this article has its own significance in the present political scenario. The unity and integrity of the country is the most important thing. As Shri K.V. Thomas has mentioned, certain socialist countries and some other countries in different parts of the world are saying that their countries are disintegrating. So, for the national unity, this article is highly necessary.

Some hon. Members were very critical of this article. They are urging for scrapping this article. I want to know if some State Assembly passes a resolution saying that their State will have an independent character then what will be the fate of our country? So there must be a provision in our Constitution so that the States should not say like that. There must be a strong Centre. At the same time, self-sufficient

I agree that this article should be used very carefully and it should not be used on mere political considerations. In the past — I do not want to cite examples; everybody knows — it was used like that. In 1957 this was first used in Kerala. But at that time the situation was entirely different. There was a vast movement. The State Government was not responsive to the people. The will of the people is the most important thing. There was complete breakdown of the law and order situation there. So, the Governor had reported it to the Central Government and subsequently this article was applied and the then Namboodripad Government was dismissed. If we go through the history, we will be able to see that an unprecedented situation was there at that time.

My point is that all the powers should not be centralised in the Central Government. States also should get some freedom. The Sarkaria Commission made lot of recommendations. 247 recommendations were made by the Sarkaria Commission. The States are facing lot of difficulties in running their governments. Let us take the case of Bills, Certain Bills, which are passed by the Assemblies, are sent to the Centre without

[Sh. Ramesh Chennithala]

any valid reason and which is unnecessary. The unnecessary delay in passing the legislation could be avoided. When I was a Member of the Kerala Legislative Assembly I came to know that one Bill was sent from the State which is pending in the Centre for the last twenty three years without any valid reason.

The amendment to the Constitution to give States powers to amend Parliamentary laws of States List is one of the most important recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission. A law should be enacted to ensure regular election and proper working of the local bodies. Shri Oscar Fernandes has rightly mentioned that certain State Governments are dismissing the local bodies. The local bodies are also a part and parcel of our democratic system.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Only one Member has to speak after him. The time allotted for this Bill is over. After the speeches, the Minister concerned will reply and also the mover of the Bill has to speak. Is it the pleasure of the House to extend the time allotted for this Bill by another half-an-hour?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBER: yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The time allotted to this Bill is extended by half-an-hour Shri Ramesh Chennithala may continue.

17.12 hrs.

[SHRI P.M. SAYEED *in the Chair*]

The role of the Governor is widely discussed. The Governor is supposed to be the Head of the State. But before appointing a Governor to a particular State, the States should be consulted on the appointment of the Governors. This is one of the important recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission. Certain other recommendations have also been made. Regarding dismissal of Governments, Sarkaria Commission suggested that the report of the Governor in

dismissal of the Government or dissolution of the Assembly should contain a clear statement of all material facts and it should be given wide publicity. Wide publicity means that the people must be aware as to why this Article is going to be used and why the Governor is sending the report. The people must be aware of the facts as to why there is a breakdown of the law and order situation and why the State Government is not in a position to carry out the normal functioning. The people of the State and other parts of the country must also know about it.

There is another point regarding deployment of armed forces. It is entirely the responsibility of the Centre and there is no doubt in that. But it must be done in consultation with the States. There are lot of complaints in this regard that the para-military forces are arbitrarily sent and the armed forces are sent by the Centre. These will demoralise the local police force also. There are lot of complaints in this regard. Proper consultation with the State Government is highly necessary. This is a sensitive matter.

The issues regarding Centre-State relations can, of course, be discussed in the inter-State council meetings. I would like to know from the hon. Minister – who is going to reply to this now – as to how many times the inter-State councils are meeting. These meetings of inter-State councils should be conducted regularly. Then only the matters can be discussed and sorted out.

The States are complaining about the sharing of the corporate tax, that they are not getting their due and what they are entitled to get. About the grants also, the grants should be given to the States in lieu of railway passenger fare and the States should be allowed to borrow from banks and given foreign exchange. This is what the Sarkaria Commission says. If you take the Budget of any of the States you will notice that all these are very much necessary. They are not in a position to carry out the normal functioning because of the lack of funds. So, support from the Centre is highly necessary and the economic support to which the States are entitled should be given.

Sir, progressive decentralisation is necessary because otherwise the States cannot function. I do not want to go into the details. Even regarding the All India Services there are disputes. We have to discuss about that also. On the one hand the Centre must be strong and on the other hand the States also should get more powers. Progressive decentralisation is necessary so that States can also function properly.

Sir, referring specially to the imposition of President's Rule under Article 356, the Sarkaria Commission has stated that this power was necessary, but it should be used very sparingly in extreme cases when all possible alternatives fail to prevent a breakdown of the Constitutional machinery.

Sir, we must act to invoke this Article with due care. The relationship between the Centre and States is the main thing. The States and the Centre should have good relations.

Lastly, I want to stress the point that the Inter-State Council is, of course, meeting and discussing, but the outcome is nothing. So, some statutory powers should be given to the Council so that they are vested with the power to see that the States get the due share to which they are entitled.

[Translation]

SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH(Buxar): Mr. Chairman Sir, I rise to support the resolution of the hon. Member Shri Sudhir Giri. The amendment in the article 356 of the Constitution is must. There is a lot of difference between the present condition and the condition at the time when the Constitution was framed. At that time there was the rule of only one party in all the States. Therefore the question of Constitutional crisis did not arise. All the State Governments were at the mercy of the Central Government and whenever the Central Government wanted to dissolve any of the State Governments it could have done so easily. Particularly it

was only one party Government therefore, there was no constitutional crisis. But as soon as the opposition party's Government came into existence the misuse of Article 356 has started. I want to submit that this misuse was not initiated by the opposition parties. At first, it was started by the Congress party. The people of opposition parties had raised their voice against this misuse and repeated by said that it was the violation of the law and the Constitution but the people of the ruling party, did not pay any heed to it. They always contended that, according to the report of the Governor, the law and order situation in the State is in danger, so the assembly or the Government is being dissolved at the report of the Governor. But today, if the same thing is repeated by the opposition the brethren of the Congress says that it is a wrong attitude. I want to submit that you have shown the way on which the people of opposition parties also have started walking because there is no alternative left with them but to follow the same path. In view of the present circumstances of the country, it is essential to amend the constitution whether the Government is to be dismissed or not, should be decided on the floor of the Legislative Assembly by its Member and not by the report of the Governor only. When this amendment is passed it will not be at the will of the Central Government to dismiss the State Governments. In this way, this right of the Central Government can be withdrawn. Now the days of the one party rule in all the States are over and different parties are in power in different States. Therefore, the relations of each and every States should be cordial with the Centre. It is the need of the hour. Therefore, it is also the need of the hour to support this amendment irrespective of the party affiliations. Some people may think that this proposal has come from the opposition parties so they may hesitate in giving their support to it but if this amendment is passed, every party will have the benefits of it. I hope that all the parties will be benefited. In view of the present circumstances, none can say, what will happen tomorrow. Therefore, I would submit to the people of all the parties that this proposal must be passed, unanimously.

[Sh. Tejnarayan Singh]

Mr. Chairman Sir, this is not a question of its and buts. I do not want to go into the details but the coalition Government in Andhra Pradesh with the support of the Left-Front was dismissed by Congress. Similarly, the same tactics were adopted in Manipur, Meghalaya and Kerala. I do not want to repeat this History. Therefore, I submit that this proposal should be supported by all the sections of the House and I also support it.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, some more things have come up. The Governor should be elected by the Members of the Legislative Assembly. It will be a right step. Now the Governor is imposed upon the State by the Centre and he gives his report according to the wishes of the Central Government because he is nominated by the Centre. So his report sometimes lacks fairness. If the Governor is elected by the Members of Legislative Assembly then I think that the Governor will give his decision according to the situation of the State and not according to the wishes of the Centre. So, I support that the Governor should be elected by the Members of the Legislative Assembly.

One of my colleagues has said that casteism is prevailing in Bihar. I want to say that there is no casteism in Bihar. On the contrary, if someone goes for casteism there, he is stopped and discouraged. I do not understand why that is called casteism? Casteism is one, where there is the rule of one caste, or a party is formed in the name of caste but it is not like this in Bihar. It is correct casteism was prevailing, but it was prevailing during the reign of the Congress and not during the reign of the opposition parties. In those days, all the Ministers of the Centre, all the Ministers of the State belong to the same caste. The small of casteism can be felt in the States ruled by Congress.

Mr. Chairman Sir, at last I support the resolution of Shri Sudhir Giri and would like to request the people of the ruling party that

if they want to keep up the cordial relations between the Centre and the States, they should also support this resolution. With these words I conclude. Thank you.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister will reply now.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE
(Bolpur): Sir we know his standard speech. Let him say something new.

17.24 hrs.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to the senior leader of the CPM who inaugurated my speech by his successful interruption. I will not be taking much time, because my erstwhile colleague, Shri Chitta Basu is wanting to move another Bill and he whispered the urgency of his Bill. But, this amendment moved by Shri Sudhir Giri is an important topic which, time and again, attracts the attention of a very large number of people of our country. There is no political party which at one time or the other did not comment on this article 356. But I am happy, even Shri Sudhir Giri during the course of his speech mentioned that the framers of our Constitution had in mind, the perception of unity and integrity of India while drafting this very provision. This is what the major point which we have to keep in mind. The unity and integrity of India is very important and everyone of us is committed to it.

But how is article 356 contravened to unity and integrity of India? It is very difficult to even imagine at the remotest piece of imagination. Our Constitution is one of the dynamic Constitutions in the world. It is not a static one. Even Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru when he championed the cause of Constitution, mentioned to the nation the possibility of constant changes, whenever changes were necessary, to suit the conditions exist-

ing in the country at a particular point of time. Well, that may be the reason why some of our friends say, let us have a fresh look at article 356. Essentially on this, there are several instances in our own history when the presiding officers had at one stage discussed about this article. They also came to certain conclusion, by and large supporting the retention of article 356. But there was some criticism. The Governors have also discussed in the Governors' Conference. I do not want to quote all these recommendations of the Governors and that of the Presiding Officers. The Administrative Reforms Commission also analysed this. All of them have agreed by and large that in a country like India where you have multi-party system, various political parties are likely to come to power in various parts of the country—at the Centre as well as in the States—and the President's power must be there unrestricted.

This Bill of Mr. Sudhir Giri is restricting the power of the President in exercising his power vested in the representative of the President. When you look back to the Constituent Assembly our Constitution was considered to be one of the best in the world, though some of our then leaders had said: It is the beggars' Constitution because you borrowed something from England, something from America and something from Soviet Russia. But this has proved to be a very living Constitution and not a dead one. This Constitution is able to face any situation that came up in the country.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHARY:
Then, why do you say constitutional breakdown in the State?

SHRI M.M. JACOB: That is the Constitutional provision to see that there is no break-down. The Constitutional break-down in a State must be averted to maintain the unity and integrity of the country. That is why, provision of article 356 is here. That is the dynamic part of it.

Finally when many of the leaders have stated, "A fresh look is required," the Gov-

ernment of India was very happy to appoint the Sarkaria Commission to analyse the Centre-State relations in toto. The recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission were discussed in the Consultative Committee of the Ministry of Home Affairs and discussed in the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha. Opinions of several leaders were collected and pooled. It resulted in the constitution of the National Integration Council. The National Integration Council was constituted with a purpose to find out how best or how much the Sarkaria Commission recommendation has to be accepted or how best it should be adopted. The National Integration Council met in 1990 and elected a Sub-Committee and that Sub-Committee of the National Integration Council met on three occasions.

I must say for the information of the House that I am one who is very keen on the result of the National Integration Council's Sub-Committee's recommendations. As soon as the recommendations come, this Government will certainly take a very positive decision on the recommendation because that will be the sum result of the collective thinking and the wisdom of the country.

Several points were mentioned and about 18 speakers participated. I do not want to comment on all the speakers looking to the time at my disposal though I have got certain points noted down. One of the speakers has left also!

SHRI PIUS TIRKEY (ALIPURDUARS):
I have raised a new point. What is your thinking on the concept of small States? Have you anything to say on that?

SHRI. M.M. JACOB: That is not within the purview of Article 356 which contains Governor's powers.

As you know, in 1957, the States Reorganisation Commission came out with certain recommendations.

MR CHAIRMAN: Are you talking about the smaller States Council?

SHRI M.M. JACOB: Yes. And we formed certain States on the basis of linguistic provinces. Then we had States formed on the ethnic necessity of 1950. That is a different subject. It does not fit in here. So, I do not want to go into it.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: You are referring again to the National Integration Council. You are right. My friends were telling about even sending para-military forces to a State. Para-military forces are not sent to a State under normal conditions. They will be sent only on the request of the State Government unless otherwise there should be very extreme situation. I do not think that such a situation has been warranted.

SHRI M.M. JACOB: We never invited such a situation. They are sent only at the invitation of the State Government concerned and the para-military forces are deployed on the specific direction of the State Government at that time. That is what we are doing. I do not think that criticism is any more valid on that point.

Another Member has raised a point about State's powers to legislate. Everybody in this House knows we have three Lists, the State List the Central List and the Concurrent List. Under the subjects that fall under the State List, the State Governments are empowered to legislate. Nobody restricts them from legislating on that.

Another friend of mine was saying that this Article was abused many times. Shrimati Malini Bhattacharya criticised it and she said "You abused this Article 356". That was her comment about it. Well, I do not agree to that. We have seen that the unity of the country is maintained. So, we always believed in the ground reality.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:*

SHRI M.M. JACOB: It is a joke for some but the nation is important for some others.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: *

MR. CHAIRMAN : All these things will not go on record.

SHRI M.M. JACOB: Nobody was there when the Governors were summarily dismissed. Nobody came and pleaded with them. Governors were summarily dismissed by one Government here. Governors then were on daily wages. Nobody commented on that. I do not want to comment either. But in 1977, even without any report of any Governor when the State Governments were summarily dismissed nobody criticised at that time in vehement language including the Members sitting on that side.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: We criticised all the time.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: We got the approval of the Supreme Court. You are very enamoured of the Supreme Court. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI M.M. JACOB: Thank you. You always look at the end-result of it. You are found in that Company. Please don't speak about it.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Minister may kindly address the Chair instead of talking to the hon. Members. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI M.M. JACOB: Sir so, I do not think that the criticism of abuse of power under Article 356 by the Governor can be substantiated by any stretch of imagination.

Well, there was one point raised by Shrimati Malini Bhattacharaya and several other Members about the dismissal of a Government in 1959 in Kerala. Everyone who knows the political history will understand that it was done based on the report of the Governor that the administration of the State was paralysed; the Collectorate did not move; the Secretariat did not move. There was almost a large siege around the secretariat. At such a situation, the Governor's report came and the Government was dismissed. There were some Ministers who refused to go out even from the Secretariat

even after the dismissal order came into force. That is a different situation. Now, I do not want to digress.

Then they asked: "What about Tamil Nadu?" Another question was asked. They said: "In Tamil Nadu you dismissed the Government without the Governor's Report. Yes we dismissed that Government. You know that Article 356 says:

"If the President, on receipt of a report from the Governor of a State or otherwise, is satisfied that a situation has arisen in which the Government of the State cannot be carried on.... etc etc."

(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Manoranjan Bhakta, please do not disturb. We are already short of time.

SHRI M.M. JACOB: So a situation had arisen. What happened in Tamil Nadu? What was the result of that? Please look at the result. Soon after that, elections were held with a thumping majority people came to power. The dismissal was ratified. The subsequent events proved that there was something very wrong in that State at that time. Even Shri Rajiv Gandhi lost his life....

(*Interruptions*) Even a person like Shri Rajiv Gandhi lost his life because the ground reality in that State at that time was really warranting some careful attention. I do not want to use any other word. Even in Assam, what happened? The people have given the mandate for the new scenario, for the new set-up. They were also convinced about the action taken by the President at that time based on the recommendation of the Governor of the State.

SHRI SOMNATH Chatterjee: Will the election result justify the imposition?

SHRI M.M. JACOB: It is not a question of imposition. I said that the people's mandate was behind it subsequently. The people were against it. You have also to analyse

another situation. Suppose, there are three realities. Suppose, if nobody is willing to take the administration of a State after the election, if nobody gets the majority, what is the way-out? I would remind you at the situation that existed in 1965 in Kerala.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Are we school children?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not treat us like that sitting and talking. Let him reply. Mr. Minister how much time you may need?

SHRI M.M. JACOB: Maybe, five minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: For a moment, please take your seat. The time for this Bill has to be extended.

Is it the pleasure of the House to extend 10 more minutes for this Bill?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: With the consent of the House, the time for this Bill is extended for another 10 minutes. Mr. Ministers, please continue.

SHRI M.M. JACOB: I respect the sentiments of the House. I only want to point out three situations. One such situation is when nobody is in a state of majority. It happened in one State where no party was prepared to take the administration. If such a thing happens, then the Governor has to send a report and the Governor's rule is necessary. Even here we were running into such a situation. The majority party came to power. One party got the majority of the seats. But that party was not prepared to take the responsibility at that time. So, in such a situation you have to think about it. Or, if there is a break-down of the machinery then also you have to think about it. So, in all scenarios it is necessary to act. Sir, I want to make one more correction. I said in the earlier stage, 'Sub-committee of the National Integration Council.' It is the Sub-committee of the Inter-State Council and not

[Sh. M.M. Jacob]

the National Integration Council. This may be corrected.

With this I have only one request to you that we are again coming before you when the Report of the Sub-committee of the Inter-State Council is ready. We will have plenty of opportunity to discuss this. At this moment, I request the Mover of this Bill Shri Sudhir Giri to withdraw it. Discussion on particularly this Article is very necessary. It is good to review and discuss this Article. Nation is more important and everybody agreed to it. In view of all these factors, I hope while replying, Shri Sudhir Giri will take this into account and withdraw the Bill. We are happy that it is a live subject and this must be thoroughly discussed. Whenever time comes, let us discuss it again. Let us have certain standards in public life, let us have certain standards in political life. And only measure at the moment for maintaining the unity is to strengthen the hands of the President by giving him powers to exercise discretionary powers to exercise under varying circumstances. This is very important, because situations in one State may differ from the other State. In our country, varying situations exist, varying conditions exist and assessment has to be made. The situation says that power has to be retained. And that power is the essence of Article 356. With these words I conclude my speech and request Shri Giri to withdraw his Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now Shri Sudhir Giri to reply.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Before Shri Giri replies I just want to say something.

Sir, the rule of law and the Congress(I) Government cannot subsist together. This is the experience of the people of this country *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: After this, he talked of the unity and integrity of this country. I want probity in political administra-

tion. This Government, right from 1950 onwards, never believed in any Article of the Constitution. No Article of the Constitution has been more misused than this. It is not my statement. That has been made by Justice Sarkaria.... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Normally, after the Minister's intervention on the Bill, the Mover of the Bill gives the reply. Now you have come in-between. I do not know whether I have to give you permission to speak or not.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: With deference to you, Sir, I say that the hon. Minister, instead of giving all bogus excuses and lame excuses, should have accepted this Bill - at least the provision of the Bill which contemplates that the majority of the Council of Ministers will be decided on the floor of the House. You do not want that. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are speaking now as an exception.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: You have never said what is your view on this. What is the Government's view on this?

(Interruptions)

SHRI M.M. JACOB: I said it categorically that the restriction of the President's powers is not conducive... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Somnathji, the Mover of the Bill will be replying. So, please conclude.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: In deference to your desire I concede. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI (Contai): Sir, I express my deep gratitude to the 18 hon. Members and also the hon. Minister who participated in the debate on my Motion for amendment of Article 356 of the Constitution of India. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: As an exception, Shri Somnath Chatterjee's speech will be there on record. But it will not be taken as a precedent.

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI (Contai): I hope the attention of the House has been drawn to the abuse of the extraordinary powers by the Centre in extraordinary situations.

Some friends have supported my Bill and some friends have opposed it.

Hon. Sudhir Sawant ji has mooted the question of constitutional validity of the Bill. He has opined that the Bill is void *ab initio* and *ultra vires* of the Constitution, because the Bill seeks to amend the Article 356 of the Constitution. And in his opinion the Bill for the amendment of Article 356 strikes at the very root of the basic structure of our Constitution.

Here, I vehemently contradict his view. Hon. Sawant ji has cited the decisions in the Keshavananda vs State of Kerala case. I would submit that in Keshavananda's case it was held that the objectives specified in the Preamble contain the basic structure of our Constitution, which cannot be amended in exercise of the power under Article 356 of the Constitution. What are these objectives? The objectives and the nature of the State is a Sovereign, Socialist, Secular, Democratic and Republic.

As regards the freedoms secured to the citizens of India, they are — Justice: Social, Economic and Political; Liberty of thought, belief, expression, faith and worship and Equality of Status and Opportunity. Further the people of India have decided to promote among them all fraternity assuring the dignity of the individual and the unity and integrity of the Nation.

Thus my amendment does in no way infringe upon the nature of our polity. My amendment in no way affects the sovereignty of the country. It also does not affect the socialist functioning of the Government. Further the Secular, Democratic and Repub-

lican character of the State is in no way affected.

The freedoms and opportunities declared to be provided to the people of India have not been infringed upon. Rather my amendment, it will be admitted by you all, will pave the way for strengthening the basis of these individual freedoms and liberty. It will further strengthen the very basic structure of India — the Republican and Democratic character of the State.

I would further submit that Shri Sawant's objections are also not tenable in the light of the decisions of the Supreme Court in the Minerva Mills vs Union of India case, in as much as my amendment does not touch upon the power of judicial review.

The Bill is, therefore, not void *ab initio*.

Hon. Members have raised the question of misconception about the malafide of the Central Government. In this regard, I once again observe with all my force at the command that the Central Government has been abusing the extraordinary powers with an ulterior motive of bundling out the State Governments which differ in political creed with that of the political party ruling at the Centre.

What did the Congress Party do in the case of West Bengal in 1967, 1969 and 1971? What did the Congress Party do in the case of Kerala in 1959? What did the Chandrasekhar Government do in Tamil Nadu at the behest of the Congress Party in 1991? What has the Congress Party done in Manipur a couple of weeks ago? There are so many other cases. What did the Congress Party do in J&K? All these incidence clearly bring out the malafide intention of the Central Government. So, the less we speak of the malafide and fraud on the Constitution of India, imposed by the Central Government formed by the Congress Party, the better for the posterity. There are some people who cannot live without power at their command. And they can stoop so low that principles of democracy appear to them as nothing but

[Sh. Sudhir Giri]

useless ideas of some political thinkers.

Next comes the question of strong Centre. Whenever the promulgation under Article 356 is called in question, the idea of strong Centre is put forward to counter the criticism. It is projected in such a fashion that India can have a strong Centre if more and more power are centralised in Delhi, in the Central Government by denying powers to the States and through the military and the armed forces. This is not proper. This is not the right thing. We are surely second to none to have a strong Centre, a very strong Centre. But the Centre cannot be strong by taking away power from the States, by eroding power of the States. *Tanere* said:

"By developing all the body, if blood is gathered in the face, it cannot be called a good physique. Rather it is a symptom of fatal disease."

In fact, for a really strong Centre we very much need strong States and cooperation and coordination between them. For this purpose we need trust in the people and the good will of the people despite the existence of multi-religious and multi-lingual population as well as multifaceted culture and so on.

How can this be made possible? We have to ponder over the problems and find out the remedies. The Centre has certain functions to perform and the States have other functions to perform. There should not be any conflict or confrontation. To reach the goal there should be decentralisation of powers - political, administrative, legislative and financial - what has been done in West Bengal. However, I do not want to take much time.

It has been raised that without a strong

Centre there cannot be maintaining of unity and integrity of the nation. The question of secessionism has also been put forth. All these things relate to the concept of democracy and right to liberty and equality. Democracy, freedom and equality we cannot have without upholding the majesty of federalism. We will not be able to maintain our Parliamentary democracy which we have adopted from the UK if we do not cautiously guard against the disruptive forces.

Because of shortage of time, I cannot reply to all the questions raised by the hon. Minister and other hon. Members. I want that the hon. Members should accept my Bill. So my party demands that the provisions of this Bill be put to the vote of the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Sudhir Giri, are you withdrawing your Bill?

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: No Sir. I want that the motion should be put to the vote of the House.

SHRISOMNATH CHATTERJEE: May I request that the sitting of the House be extended by a little more time because the voting process will take time?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Before I put the motion for consideration of the Bill to vote, I would like to say that this being a Constitution (Amendment) Bill, voting has to be by division.

Let the Lobbies be cleared -

Now the Lobbies have been cleared.

The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India be taken into consideration."

The Lok Sabha divided:

NOES

Bhakta, Shri Manoranjan

Charles, Shri A.

Deka, Shri Probin

Deshmukh. Shri Ashok Anandrao

Dev. Shri Sontosh Mohan

Dighe, Shri Sharad

Fernandes, Shri Oscar

Gajapathi Shri Gopi Nath

Gehlot, Shri Ashok

Ghatowar, Shri Paban Singh

Handique, Shri Bijoy Krishna

Hooda, Shri Bhupinder Singh

Islam, Shri Nurul

Jaffer Sharief, Shri C.K.

Kanithi, Dr. Viswanatham

Karreddula Shrimati Kamala Kumari

Khan, Shri Ayub

Konathala, Shri Rama Krishna

Kuli Shri Balin

Kumaramangalam, Shri Rangrajan

Marbaniang, Shri Peter G.

Panigrahi, Shri Sriballav

Patel, Shri Shravan Kumar

* Besides, the following members also recorded their votes for AYES" Shri Pius Tirkey, Shri Anand Charan Das and Shri Bhagwan Sankar Rawat.

*Besides, the following member also recorded his rote for Noes: Shri K. Thulasiah Vandayar.

Patel, Shri Uttambhai Harjibhai

18.04 hrs

Pradhani, Shri K.

ADVOCATES (AMENDMENT) BILL*

Rao Shri J. Chokka

(Insertion of New Section 24 B)

Sal, Shri A. Pratap

[English]

Shingda, Shri Damu Barku

SHRI DATTATREYA BANDARU (Sunderabad): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Advocates Act, 1961.

Singh, Shri Dalbir

Singh, Kumari Pushpa Devi

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

Thomas, Prof. K.V.

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Advocates Act, 1961."

Tytler, Shri Jagdish

The motion was adopted.

Umbrey, Shri Laeta

MR CHAIRMAN : The result of the division is:

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU: I introduce the Bill

Ayes : 23

Noes : 34

The motion is not carried in accordance with Rule 157 of the Rules of Procedure and in accordance with the provisions of Article 368 of the Constitution of India.

18.05 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL

(Insertion of New Part XIA)

The motion was negatived.

[English]

(Interruptions)

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): I beg to move:

MR CHAIRMAN: Now, the Home Minister, Shri M.M. Jacob has to make a statement. So, is it the pleasure of the House to extend the time for ten minutes?

"That the Bill further to amend Constitution of India, be taken into consideration".

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

Mr. Chairman Sir,.....

MR. CHAIRMAN: You may continue next time.

*Published in Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section, dated 13-3-1992.

*Besides, the following member also recorded his vote for Noes: Shri K. Thulasiah Vandayar.

The Minister Shri Jacob wants to make a statement now.

18.00 hrs

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Sangrur district shooting incident on 10th March 1992

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): Sir, I rise to inform the House of a sad incident that occurred near the premises of Indian Acrylics Fibre Plant near Sangrur on 10th March, 1992.

According to report received from the Government of Punjab, terrorists about six in number struck at the premises of Indian Acrylics Fibre Plant near Sangrur on March 10 after sunset and shot dead 15 non-Punjabi engineers and experts hailing from Kerala, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh. They were engineers and experts and representatives of various firms i.e. Siemens, ICB Empower PTPL and Grasin. The 200 crore Acrylic Plant is in an advanced stage of construction and was likely to be commissioned shortly. These experts of various firms were helping the Principals of the Acrylics Plant in construction, installation of machinery and equipment and imparting of technical know-how. The terrorists segregated non-Punjabis from the Punjabis and shot them dead with Ak 47 after accusing the Management of not observing bandh as and when such bandh calls were given by the Punjab terrorists.

Sangrur Police had duly warned Indian Acrylics Limited about the security requirements and has even volunteered to set-up a police picket at the premises. Arms were also supplied to the management but these were not made use of as the management

refused to accept any security cover. A copy of the letter written by the management refusing security cover and suggesting withdrawal of the Arms and ammunition sent by the police to the Centre, is with the Government. The Principals has refused security on the ground that the U.S. based foreign collaborators Dupont had opposed stationing of armed securitymen on the campus. The firm had engaged 20 unarmed security personnel who could not render any assistance.

Sardar Beant Singh, Chief Minister Punjab, alongwith senior officers visited the scene of crime on the morning of March 11 and ordered immediate diversion of 12 PMF Coys. from other parts of the State to district Sangrur so as to restore confidence among the Industrial Units in district Sangrur. An army unit has also been stationed near the Campus for extending security cover in the neighborhood. *Ad-hoc* compensation at the rate of fifty thousand to the victims was announced by the Chief Minister on behalf of the State and another *ad-hoc* compensation at the rate of fifty thousand to each victim will be paid by the Indian Acrylics Limited. Further appropriate relief to the victims will be worked out and paid by the respective firms.

The State Governments have been alerted to take due precautions to maintain peace and communal harmony and prevent any reprisal incidents from taking place.

I am sure the Members of this august House will join me in condemning the incident and in conveying our heart felt sympathies to the bereaved families.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned to meet at 11.00 A.M. on Monday.

18.11 hrs

The Lok Sabha adjourned till

*Eleven of the Clock on Monday,
March, 16 1992/Phalguna 26, 1913 (Saka)*