Tenth Series, Vol. XXIII, N[illegible] riday, August 6, 1993
Sravana 15, 1915 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES
(English Version)

Seventh Session
(Tenth Lok Sabha)

(Vol. XXIII contains Nos. 1 to 10)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

Vol. XXIII, [Tenth Series], Seventh Session, 1993/1915 (SAKA)] No. 9

LOK SABHA

Friday, August 6, 1993/Sravana 15, 1915 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

WELCOME TO PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION FROM ROMANIA

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : Honourable Members, at the outset, I have to make an announcement.

On my own behalf and on behalf of the honourable Members of the House, I have great pleasure in welcoming His Excellency, Mr. Doru Ioan Taracila, Vice-President of the Senate of Romania and honourable Members of the Romanian Parliamentary Delegation who are on a visit to India as our honoured guests.

The other honourable members of the Delegation are :—

1. Mr. Manea Ion, Senator
2. Mr. Koszokar Gabor, Senator
3. Mrs. Elena Preda, Senator
4. Mr. Mircea Musat, Deputy
5. Mr. Mahaita Postolache, Deputy

The Delegation arrived Delhi yesterday morning. They are now seated in the special box. We wish them a happy and fruitful stay in our country. Through them, we convey our greetings and best wishes to the President, Prime Minister, the President of the Senate, the President of the Lower House of Parliament, Government and the friendly people of Romania.

SHRI C. K. KUPPUSWAMY (Coimbatore) : Sir, I am receiving the Rules of Procedure always in Hindi and not in English even. Where is this country going ? I want this to be published in Kannada, Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam, Urdu, Oriya, Punjabi and other languages of India. What is the use of giving it only in Hindi ? I am not opposing Hindi but then what is the use ? Sir, you are our custodian and I request you to solve my problem. This is a very important issue in this country.

*The assurance given by Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi needs to be reiterated and I want an assurance in this regard from our Prime Minister. Late Shri Rajiv Gandhi had also given an assurance. Our Prime Minister should respect the sentiments and protect the rights of Tamils, Kannadigas and other non-Hindi speaking people. In Tamil Nadu and Karnataka respectively, Tamil and Kannada are the official languages. Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and Punjab may also go for it. Hence, I request that this document, the Rules of Procedure, supplied to me in Hindi should be published in all the fourteen languages. Successively for the fourth time, I am supplied with this document only in is Hindi version. This should be published in all the 14 languages. This is my request. Sir. You are our custodian.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada) : We support him, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : You hear me first. You have a very good point. I would be very much pleased to discuss this matter with you in my chamber. Please come to my chamber and we will discuss it there.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow) : Mr. Speaker Sir, every document or every pamphlet is being published in English also. That has to be stated.

MR. SPEAKER : His point is that the documents should be published in Telugu, Tamil and various other languages also.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : We are not opposed to other languages.

*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

SHRI C. K. KUPPUSWAMY : Nor am I against Hindi. I only say that it should not be imposed on us. The documents should be published in all the languages. It is my right to ask for a version in my language. I am not anti-Vajpayeeji. I am not against you. I respect you.

MR. SPEAKER : Vajpayeeji is also not against you. He is only saying that these are published in Hindi as well as in English.

Now, Shri Vajpayeeji is very correct. These documents are published in Hindi as well as in English. As far as other things are concerned, we will discuss.

Question 161 please.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

GOLD BOND SCHEME

*161. SHRI B. L. SHARMA PREM :

SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Gold Bond Scheme introduced by the Government on March 15, 1993 has yielded the desired results;

(b) the quantity of gold collected under the scheme and the market value thereof;

(c) the number of persons who invested in the bonds and the quantity of gold received, state-wise ;

(d) the manner in which the gold is proposed to be utilised ;

(e) the details of the interest payable on this gold;

(f) whether the Government propose to re-introduce the scheme; and

(g) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (g) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The total subscription amounted to 41.12 MTs and the value at international price is Rs. 1628.35 crores approximately.

(c) The State-wise details of number of tenders and quantity of gold received are as under :—

	Name of the State	No. of Tenders	Quantity of Gold (In MTs)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1009	0 98
2.	Assam	68	0.07
3.	Bihar	334	0.34
4.	Goa	39	0.04
5.	Gujarat	6212	5.94
6.	Himachal Pradesh	39	0 05
7.	Kerala	258	0.34
8.	Karnataka	1302	1.34
9.	Madhya Pradesh	1404	1.36
10.	Maharashtra	1216	12.88
11.	Orissa	155	0.13
12.	Rajasthan	854	0.91
13.	Tamilnadu	2767	2·70
14.	West Bengal	2859	3.52
15.	Uttar Pradesh	2316	2.55
16.	Punjab	1247	1.63
17.	Meghalaya	16	0.02
18.	Delhi (U.T.)	4106	5.74
19.	Chandigarh (U.T.)	515	0.58
	GRAND TOTAL	37667	41.12

(d) The Scheme was introduced to mobilise idle gold resources from resident Indians for develoment of the country. It could also be deployed for strengthening the foreign exchange reserves of the country.

(e) A lumpsum interest is payable at the rate of Rs. 40 per gramme of gold of 0.995 fineness at the end of 5 years. The total interest payable will work out to Rs. 165 crores approximately.

(f) There is no proposal under consideration at present.

(g) Does not arise.

SHRI B. L. SHARMA PREM : Sir, what are the likely effects of the amount of gold netted by Government on inflation, prices of commodities, foreign capital investment and import and export bill ?

SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : Perhaps there is no evidence to link the gold bond scheme and its likely effects to the export and import bill. Even the price of gold is not directly linked with the gold bond scheme.

SHRI B. L. SHARMA PREM : My second supplement is whether the stock of gold can result in an increase in our foreign exchange reserves.

SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : Sir, the main objective of this scheme is to mop up gold reserves to supplement our national reserves. These reserves can be used for developmental and productive purposes. In addition, by depositing the gold reserves, we can raise foreign exchange also.

SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL : Hon. Speaker Sir, while congratulating the Finance Minister for collecting over 41 MTs of gold through the Gold Bond Scheme, 1993— which is a little less than the original projected figure of 50 MTs and which is definitely much higher than the previous Gold Bond Schemes of 1963 and 1965, during the wars against China and Pakistan, where we collected only 16 MTs and 20 MTs respectively—I would like to know from the Finance Minister about Government's assessment regarding the position held by the yellow metal described by the former Reserve Bank Governor as a barbaric relic in the Indian psyche. How does the Government plan to change this Indian psyche ? How do they intend to alure people for going in for more paper gold rather than the metal gold ? What are their definite plans for this purpose ?

I also want to know whether the low rate of interest appended to paper gold is considered adequate attraction for conversion of gold metal into bonds.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH) : Mr. Speaker Sir, it is no doubt that there is a very considerable desire on the part of certain segments of our population to hold their wealth in the form of gold. The motives for this, vary. But I do believe that if we manage to bring inflation under control, if we manage to reduce the amount of generation of black money, if we manage to reduce the amount of smuggling over time, that would help to reduce the lure of gold for our people.

As regards the second part of the question on the rate of interest, this rate of interest is denominated in terms of gold and because of the very facts that this is tax free and that certain immunities are attached to it, we feel that this is sufficiently attractive.

As the hon. Member has himself mentioned, at the present time we have received lot more gold than under the previous three schemes which were launched in 1962 and thereafter.

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in part (d) of the reply, it has been stated that for the development of the country this scheme was introduced to mobilise idle gold resources. I would like to know what is the detailed scheme of the Government to utilise this amount for the development of the country.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is our intention to transfer this gold after assaying to the Reserve Bank of India. The amount of gold that we have mobilised through this method, at the international prices, is over Rs. 1600 crore and when transferred to the Reserve Bank of India it would lead to an increase

in the reserves held by the Reserve Bank of India by over Rs. 1600 crore. Improvement in the reserves would certainly increase international confidence in our currency. It would also enable us to raise loans, if we want to raise such loans in any eventuality, at lower cost. Overall improved reserves position certainly will help our balance of payment position in a much better way than is otherwise possible.

[Translation]

EXPORT PROCESSING ZONES

*162. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA :

DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Export Processing Zones are functioning satisfactorily in the Country;

(b) the total expenditure incurred on setting up of these zones, zone-wise;

(c) the details of production made and the percentage of the total production exported by these zones during each of the last three years, zone-wise;

(d) whether the targets fixed for exports from these zones have been achieved during the above period;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(g) the steps being taken by the Government to boost the export from these zones ?

[English]

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

(b) to (g) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(b) Total expenditure incurred on setting up of the six functional Export Processing Zones is as under :

Name of the Zone	Expenditure as on 31-3-1993 (Rs. Crores)
Kandla Free Trade Zone (KAFTZ)	13.24
Santacruz Electronics Export Processing Zone (SEEPZ)	26.89
Noida Export Processing Zone (NEPZ)	25.86
Madras Export Processing Zone (MEPZ)	21.38
Cochin Export Processing Zone (CEPZ)	18.56
Falta Export Processing Zone (FEPZ)	17.77
Total	123.70

(c) The export performance of EPZs during the last three years is indicated below :—

Name of the Zone	Exports (Rs. Crores)		
	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
Kandla FTZ	456.55	427.18	167.21
Santacruz Electronics EPZ	389.86	500.17	806.24
Noida EPZ	44.58	70.84	145.23
Madras EPZ	61.32	122.47	177.13
Cochin FPZ	5.46	28.58	62.25
Falta EPZ	25.02	27.90	18.25
	982.79	1177.14	1376.31

(d) to (f) : The export target and the achievement in regard to EPZs during the last three years are indicated below :

(Rs. Crores)

	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
Target	850.00	1188.00	1330.00
Achievement	982.79	1177.14	1376.31

The marginal shortfall in achievement of export target during 1991-92 was mainly on account of dislocation of exports to Rupee Payment Areas.

(g) Steps taken by the Government to make the EPZ Scheme more attractive and improve the performance of units in the Zones, inter alia, include speedier approval procedures, simplification of policy framework, easier DTA access with reduced rate of duty, concessional lease rent for plots/sheds and delegation of powers to Development Commissioners of EPZs.

[*Translation*]

DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, my question is related to Export Processing Zones. This scheme was started by the Government 8-10 years ago and at that time the industrialists involved in the scheme were allowed to export their entire production and the Government had also given them permission to make imports. I would like to say that my question has three parts. In the first part of my question I have asked whether these export processing zones were functioning satisfactorily, for which your answer was in the affirmative. I have nothing to say in this regard. In the second part of my question I have asked about the expenditure incurred setting up of such zones. I have nothing to say about this also. In the third part of my question I have asked the zone-wise percentage of total production exported to foreign countries. The hon. Minister has given figures about the target fixed for profit and actual profit made. There was a provision of making 100 per cent export. I would like to know the total production made, zone-wise, and the percentage thereof exported.

[*English*]

SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED : The production of these zones is supposed to be exported hundred per cent plus 25 per cent, which is allowed for DTA, that is Domestic Tariff Area. What we have shown is the amount of export that has taken place in each of these zones. If the hon. Member wants to know the production level zone-wise, I will collect the information and give it to him.

[*Translation*]

DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in reply to to my second question the hon. Minister has admitted that they had not been able to achieve the targets that were fixed for 1991-92. He has given certain reasons for it. He has also given the steps for making these centres more attractive which include simplification of procedure etc. I would like to say that the hon. Minister has given reasons for which this scheme could not work as efficiently as was expected. Another scheme is to be launched on the same line under the name of 'Spot Market'. So, I would like to know whether the Government has been able to sort out the problem experienced in the earlier scheme and if not, the time it will take to remove them so that the second scheme under consideration of the Government could function efficiently.

[*English*]

SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED : Sir, my submission is that, only in the year 1991-92, there was a slight difference in the achievement of the target The target to be achieved was Rs. 1188 crore but we achieved Rs. 1177.14 crore. The slight difference was mainly because we failed due to reduction in rupee payment area exports.

That was the main reason. Otherwise, there was nothing. I can only assure the hon. Member that our exports to the GCAs have improved and we have almost filled up that gap.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to say that Department of Food Processing was set up 7-8 years ago to encourage export. Pepsi Cola was given licence on the condition of exporting fruit and vegetables. So, I would like to know the quantity of fruit and vegetables exported by it so far... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : No, Export Processing Zone and the Department of Food Processing are two different things. Even then if the hon. Minister wants to share the information, he can do so.

[*English*]

SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED : Sir, I need a separate notice because it pertains to the Food Processing Ministry.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Sir, the Export Processing Zones are set up for boosting exports. In order to make EPZ more attractive and also in order to improve the performance of the Units in the Zones, certain measures are to be taken. As the hon. Minister has explained in the statement, the measures taken are not satisfactory. The Units in those Zones are facing lot of difficulties even though, the Government had delegated certain powers to the Development Commissioners. There are lot of bottlenecks. Actually, when these Units approach, at that time, these bottlenecks are quite evident.

So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, in order to avert these bottlenecks, whether he will streamline the activities of the Export Processing Zones so that these Units can get more liberal facilities for their exports.

SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED : Sir, I can assure the hon. Member that whatever bottlenecks are coming up, we are trying to solve them out. In fact, I have started visiting these Zones also. I had gone to NOIDA; I had gone to Madras and I intend visiting all the Zones. I will personally get information about the bottlenecks and I will try to solve them out. I do not think, there will be any grievance for the Members.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE : The Government of Andhra Pradesh has made available more than 1000 acres of land for setting up an Export Processing Zone at Vishakhapatnam. I would like to know from the hon. Minister what steps he had taken to see that the Export Processing Zone functions at Vishakhapatnam because it is a certainly located place along the East Coast. Here, there is a tremendouss progres in respect of brackish water plant culture and pisciculture.

I want to know whether the Vishakhapatnam EPZ will be developed as Marine Products Export Processing Zone just like Santa Cruz, by installing electronic equipment.

SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED : It is very good suggestion. We can think over that. I can assure that Vishakhapatnam EPZ is coming up. It is in the process because, the infrastructural facilities have to be provided there.

Sir, the State Government is also helping in that matter.

NATIONAL INVESTMENT LAW

*163. SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDELWAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Dr. Ranga Rajan Committee on "Balance of Payments" has recommended the introduction of a National Investment Law for codifying the existing policy and practices relating to dividend repatriation, disinvestment etc;

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

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

[*Translation*]

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

(b) and (c) The report of the Committee was submitted to Government in April, 1993 and its recommendations are under examination of Government. The implementaion of these recommendations will depend on legislation being enacted, a time-frame for which cannot be specified at this stage.

[*Translation*]

SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDELWAL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the way this important question has been replied by the hon. Minister, it seems that a lot of effort has been made to cover up the issue and evade the reply. Dr. Rangarajan Committee report was submitted in April, 1993. Four months have elapsed since then. Through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, the recommendations of this Committee implemented by Government so far. And if no recommendation has been implemented the time likely to be taken by Government to implement the recommendations and the present position of balance of trade.

DR. ABRAR AHMED : In reply to the main question I have already said that a time-frame cannot be specified at this stage. In this connection, I would like to say that the Government is reviewing the recommtndations made by the Rangarajan Committee, but no final decision has yet been taken.

SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDELWAL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, when I went through the Rangarajan Committee report I found that there was a recommendation in the report that thirty per cent of the total gold with the Reserve Bank of India could be liquidated to make foreign payments. It is a fact and whether Government are thinking over it ? What measures have been taken by the Government for encouraging NRIs to make investment in the country ? Is it a fact that NRIs are facing great difficulties in making investment due to strict rules.

DR. ABRAR AHMED : This question is mainly related to recommendations made by Rangarajan Committee about investment.

MP. SPEAKER : You please reply the relevent questions and leave the others.

DR. ABRAR AHMED : In this connection, I would like to say that the Rangarajan Commitee has made several recommendations covering a number of points. But regarding investment, it has recommended for enacting a National Investment Law. The Government is thinking over this issue. The main issue behind it is that the Government is considering to enter into bilateral treaty with various countries, separately, because it would protect the interests of both the countries which would invest under the National Investment Law. National Investment Law protects the interest of the country which makes investment. If the Government finds the bilateral treaty helpful it will work in this direction. Several countries have made offers for the bilateral treaty and we are camining the offer of bilateral treaty received from U.S.A., Britain, Germany and the Netherlands. Finance Secretary has called a meeting on the 12th of August in this connection. A committee under the Chairmanship of the Finance Secretary has been constituted for this purpose.

[*Translation*]

TOURISM TRAINING INSTITUTIONS

*164. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the Government-run institutions in the country imparting training relating to tourism and the locations thereof ;

(b) the number of students who get admission in these institutions every year ;

(c) the minimum number of such institutions required in the country in view of the development of tourism and on the basis of population;

(d) whether more such institutions are proposed to be opened in the country, particularly in the North-Eastern region, to encourage tourism; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM) (SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR) : (a) to (e) A *statement* is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) Training Instiutions set up with Central Government assistance in the tourism sector are :—

(1) Indian Institute of Tourism & Travel Management, Gwalior.

(2) Indian Institute of Skiing & Mountaineering, Gulmarg

(3) National Institute of Water Sports, Goa

(4) 16 Diploma level and 15 Food Craft level Institutes of Hotel Management, Catering Technology & Applied Nutrition in the country. A list as annexure indicating the location is annexed.

(b) A total number of 1877 participants were admitted and successfully completed the Management Devolopment Programmes of the Indian Institute of Tourism and Travel Management from July 1989 to 31-3-1993. The Indian Institute of Skiing and Mountaineering, Gulmarg trains upto 250 trainees per year. The National Institute of Water Sports has provided training to 125 persons from 13 States in eight courses since 1991. The number of students who get admission in the Institutes of Hotel Management and Food Craft is approximately 4500 per year.

(c) to (e) The number of institutions required for the development of manpower keep pace with the demand of the industry and apart from Government run institutions, private training instiutions are also meeting the requirements of trained manpower. In addition to setting up Food Craft Institutes at Gangtok, Darjeeling and Guwahati, a new Food Craft Institute at Shillong has been sanctioned.

Annexure

1. Institute of Hotel Management Catering & Nutrition, New Delhi.
2. Institute of Hotel Management Catering Technology & Applied Nutrition, Bombay.
3. Institute of Hotel Management Catering Technology & Applied Nutrition, Madras.
4. Institute of Hotel Management Catering Technology & Applied Nutrition, Calcutta.
5. Institute of Hotel Management Catering Technology & Applied Nutrition, Goa.
6. Institute of Hotel Management Catering Technology & Applied Nutrition, Bangalore.
7. Institute of Hotel Management Catering Technology & Applied Nutrition, Lucknow.
8. Institute of Hotel Management Catering Technology & Applied Nutrition, Hyderabad.
9. Institute of Hotel Management Catering & Nutrition, Ahmedabad.
10. Institute of Hotel Management Catering Technology & Applied Nutrition, Bhubaneswar.
11. Institute of Hotel Management Catering Technology & Applied Nutrition, Bhopal.
12. Institute of Hotel Management Catering Technology & Applied Nutrition, Jaipur.
13. Institute of Hotel Management Catering Technology & Applied Nutrition, Srinagar.
14. Institute of Hotel Management Catering Technology & Applied Nutrition, Thiruvananthapuram.
15. Institute of Hotel Management Catering Technology & Applied Nutrition, Chandigarh.
16. Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology & Applied Nutrition, Gwalior.
17. Foodcraft Institute, Alwaye (Kerala)
18. Foodcraft Institute, Pune.

19. Foodcraft Institute, Chandigarh.
20. Foodcraft Institute, Tiruchirapalli
21. Foodcraft Institute, New Delhi.
22. Foodcraft Institute, Shimla
23. Foodcraft Institute, Guwahati.
24. Foodcraft Institute, Visakhapatnam.
25. Foodcraft Institute, Visakhapatnam.
26. Foodcraft Institute, Pondicherry.
27. Foodcraft Institute, Udaipur.
28. Foodcraft Institute, Faridabad.
29. Foodcraft Institute Darjeeling.
30. Foodcraft Institute, Gangtok.
31. Foodcraft Institute, Patna.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the reply given by the Government is not appropriate. I had clearly stated that it is in the interest of the country to make efforts. The country earns huge revenue from tourism, but the Government has always been indifferent towards it. Secondly, in comparison to other countries, we make less efforts in this direction. I have asked the Government the number of persons required for this task on the basis of population. What scheme Government has in this regard ?

[*English*]

SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR : It is very difficult to give an estimate of how many people are required for the industry on the population basis. What we do is that periodically an assessment is made by the industry, according to what the industry needs. During our discussion with the State Government, if the State Government asks for an institute, we are looking into the needs of the area and the industry. Then we set up these institutes. It is not that we set up these institutes on the basis of the population of the country.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH : My original question which was very concrete, has not been properly answered, I would like to ask the hon. Minister through my second supplementary. Bihar is a backward State and I have found that only one Tourism Training Institute is being run at Patna, Bodhgaya, Rajgir, Nalanda, Vaishali, Pawapuri etc. are also the important tourist centres of international fame, but have been ignored by Government. Through you I would like to know from the hon. Minister the funds allocated by the Government for the development of these tourist centres and the schemes under which these funds have been allocated.

[*English*]

SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR : Sir, this question relates to the Institute of Food Crafts and he wants to know the money sent for the infrastructure for the tourism development. For that a separate notice has to be given. But, I would like to inform the hon. Member, as I said before, that we have, every year, discussions with the officials of the State Government and proposals which are brought to us by the Central Government are, invariably almost 99.9 per cent, cleared by the State Government. So there is no hesitation on the part of the Central Government to deprive Bihar of any facility whatsoever.

SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HANDIQUE : Mr. Speaker Sir, accepting that tourism is a money spinner and source of revenue to various States, it is also imperative to balance the economic aspect of tourism with ecological responsibility.

In view of the damaging effects of the pressure of tourists in many ecological fragile areas, may I know from the hon. Minister whether Government has introduced any training course in eco-tourism so that only selected visitors, who are eco-conscious are allowed to visit such areas, particularly the hill regions; and whether such institutes would organise treks in degraded areas so the trekkers can be involved in restoration of degraded environment by planting trees ?

SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR : There is no doubt that the ecology plays a very important role as far as development of tourism is concerned. We appreciate that,

for our new projects, we are looking into this to ensure that ecology of State or the area is not upset.

As far as the courses in ecology are concerned, we have not yet introduced these. We have had lectures from people coming to speak on this subject from time to time, but as a regular course we do not have them at the moment. It is a very good suggestion, we will definitely see to it.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government forwards the fact that there are ample possibilities of development of tourism industry in the country. Through tourism we not only can earn foreign exchange but can also improve the image of our country in foreign countries and check the anti-India propaganda being launched in foreign countries. Our image in foreign countries would be better. Through you, I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that the Central Government has never explored the tourism prospects in Uttar Pradesh. The entre Uttranchal area is full of tourist places. Several historical places are there in Uttar Pradesh and a great deal of trained manpower can be had, if more such tourist institutes are set up and as a result of it this industry can be further promoted in Uttar Pradesh. The hon. Minister has stated that there are two training institutes in Uttar Pradesh. One is at Lucknow and the other is somewhere at Aligarh. Besides, these two, whether Government propose to set up some new training centres at some other places also, so that tourism could be promoted in the State ?

SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR : The first thing is that the Central Government has provided facilities to set up tourist centres at several places in Uttar Pradesh. It is not the correct statement of hon. Member that the Central Government has never accepted the proposals submitted by Uttar Pradesh Government or tried to solve the problems being faced by Uttar Pradesh in this regard. However, the question asked by the hon. Member is not related to the original question so I would like to confine my reply to institutes only and would say that as soon as we receive any proposal from the State Government, we would certainly think over it and would try our level best to promote tourism in the State.

SHRIMATI KESARBAI SONAJI KSHIRSAGAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Ajanta and Elora are tourist centres in Maharashtra. Thousands of tourists come over there and the population of Marathwara division is also large. Does the Government propose to set up a training centre there ?

MR. SPEAKER : The original question is regarding training institutes. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Would you like to set up a centre at Aurangabad ?

SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR : At present there is no such proposal.

[*English*]

CHILD LABOUR

*165. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO :
PROF. K. V. THOMAS :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of child labour at present in the country, State-wise ;

(b) whether the Government propose to formulate any scheme to abolish child labour ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ;

(d) the financial assistance provided by ILO for the eradication of child labour in India ;

(e) whether the Government propose to enforce the rule of Equal Wages for Equal Work to curb the menace of child labour ;

(f) if so, the details thereof ;

(g) whether the Government propose to amend the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 with a view to solve the child labour problem; and

(h) the other welfare schemes formulated by the Government for the welfare of child labour so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (h) A *Statement* is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Authentic data regarding the number of working children (Child Labour) is available through census which is conducted every ten years. According to the 1981 census the number of child labour in the country state-wise is at *Annexure*.

2. Complete abolition of child labour in the near future being considered not feasible due to socio-economic conditions, the policy of the Government is to eliminate it progressively. This is sought to be achieved through legislation and strict enforcement measures ; launching of welfare programmes and action-oriented projects aimed towards improving the working conditions of children ; generation of consciousness amongst parents, employers and public at large ; and provision of education to children.

3. There are two programmes of ILO which are titled "International Programme on Elimination of child labour" (IPEC) and Child Labour Action & Support Programme (CLASP). Under IPEC India has been allocated US $ 2.25 million for the period upto December, 1993 and $ 830392 has been earmarked under CLASP for a period of three years.

4. The Government is also considering a proposal to eliminate the scope for fixation of differential wages for children vis-a-vis adults by appropriately amending the Minimum Wages Act, 1948.

5. There is a proposal to amend the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 to make it more effective.

6. Setting up of National Child Labour Projects under the National Child Labour Policy, 1987 in areas of concentration of child labour and financing of Non-Governmental Organisations for undertaking action-oriented projects are some of the welfare schemes of the Government.

ANNEXURE

STATEMENT SHOWING STATE-WISE DISTRIBTUION OF CHILD WORKERS (0.14) AGE GROUP) ACCORDING TO 1981 CENSUS

Sl. No.	States/Union Territories	Workers in the age group 0-14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1,951,312
2.	Assam	**
3.	Bihar	1,101,764
4.	Gujarat	616,913
5.	Haryana	194,189
6.	Himachal Pradesh	99,624
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	258,437
8.	Karnataka	1,131,530
9.	Kerala	92,854
10.	Madhya Pradesh	1,698,597
11.	Maharashtra	1,557,756
12.	Manipur	20,217
13.	Meghalaya	44,916
14.	Nagaland	16,235
15.	Orissa	702,293
16.	Punjab	216,939
17.	Rajasthan	819,605
18.	Sikkim	8,561
19.	Tamil Nadu	975,055
20.	Tripura	24,204
21.	Uttar Pradesh	1,434,675
22.	West Bengal	605,263
23.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1,309
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	17,950
25.	Chandigarh	1,986
26.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	3,615
27.	Delhi	25,717
28.	Goa, Daman & Diu	9,378
29.	Lakshadweep	56
30.	Mizoram	6,314
31.	Pondicherry	3,606
	Total	13,640,872

**1981 census could not be conducted in Assam due to disturbed conditions prevailing there then.

SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO : According to 1990-91 census the number of child labour is 17 million and 80 per cent of this child labour is employed in rural areas, in agricultural areas and home based sector. May I know from the hon. Minister what would be the *modus operandi* to check child labour in agriculture and home-based sector ?

SHRI P. A. SANGMA : It is not correct to say that 80 per cent of child labour is in the agricultural sector. The percentage of child labour in agricultural sectors should be around 40 to 45 per cent. As the House is aware, this House had passed the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 to deal with the problem of child labour in the country. Various steps have already been taken. We have two-pronged measures that have been adopted by the Government. One is the implementation of the legal provisions which are available to eliminate or regulate child labour.

Second is, the welfare schemes where we are giving much more importance. Under the welfare schemes we have got at the moment many projects. One is the National Child Labour Project, under which we have got nine projects in areas where child labour is concentrated. Secondly we have got a Child Labour Cell in the Ministry which helps the voluntary organisations to look after the working children in supplementing their nutrition and giving education and health to them. We have got nine such projects.

Third is, we have got an international programme for elimination of child labour which is an ILO project under which we have got 50 projects under consideration. We are going to finalise them. This is a project which is headed by ILO and for that ILO has provided US $ 2.25 million. Every year for the next five years we will get the same amount.

The fourth one is another ILO project, called the CLASP which is for the strengthening of enforcement of the machinery. We have got Rs. 87 lakhs for this project for 1993.

Recently, on the 2nd of July I had also taken a meeting with the representatives of the employees of child labour. We are trying also to see whether there is any possibility of setting up a welfare fund by way of contribution from the employers or from others whereby we can attack this problem in specified areas.

SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO : May I know from the hon. Minister what are the specific steps taken to amend the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 and the manner in which the amendments are being sought to be made ?

SHRI P. A. SANGMA : We are actively considering the amendments to the existing Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act. We had appointed a committee under the Chairmanship of the present High Commissioner of India to the United Kingdom. On the basis of the suggestions that had been received we are in the process of finalising the amendments.

I hope, we will be able to bring the Ammendment Bill within this Session of Parliament.

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : Sir, the issue of child labour has now attracted international attention and I am sure the Government is aware of the initiative in the U.S. Senate to ban import of carpets made by child labour from India, Nepal and Pakistan. I would like to know the steps taken by the Government of India in consulting these countries, namely Pakistan and Nepal, to meet this challenge together.

The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act is not working well, as we all know. Part (b) of my question is: how many prosecutions were launched under this Act in the last three years and how many convictions were there ?

SHRI P. A. SANGMA : The hon. Member is particularly referring to a Bill which is known as Harkins Bill. It is a private Member's Bill before the Senate of the United States. I have got a copy of this Bill. If the hon. Members are interested to study, I can always supply a copy. The main object of this Bill is to eliminate the role of the United States in providing market for foreign products made by underaged children and so on and so forth. It is a private Member's Bill. But we have information that it has more or less the

support of the present Government. It is expected that this Bill may be passed some time in October 1995. I have a statement with me, which has been made by the Senator Harkins himself, where he has appreciated the actions that have been initiated by the Government of India towards the progressive elimination of child labour and he has himself said—I do not want to quote from the magazine—that India should not be worried about that. But we are not taking it for granted. Whatever steps that are to be taken, we are going to take. So far, we do not have officially any communication about the intention of any Government to ban the commodities produced by child labour in India or any other country.

I would like to point on the floor of this august House that the problem of child labour is not confined to India or to the developing countries alone. Actually the problem of child labour or exploitation of children is prevalent throughout the world including the Europe and the United States... (*Interruptions*) Let us very seriously discuss this matter.

Sir, I would like to quote page 2 of the ILO Annual Report 1992 just for the information of the House because an impression is created that it is only in India and in the developing countries, the problem of child labour is prevalent and nowhere in the world such a problem exists. It is not true. Therefore, any Government in the world, whether it is the United States or any European country cannot blame India for this problem because they do have this problem. Sir, I would like to quote only one paragraph from page 2 of the World Labour Report of ILO.

> "Child labour is not confined to developing countries. However, millions of of European children work in agriculture and in factories; and hundreds of thousands more work in the United States the majority amongst immigrant communities working on farms."

Therefore, if any developed country thinks that this problem is confined to India only, I think, it is certainly not correct. In fact, there is a report I do not know how far it is correct—that the President Mr. Clinton himself was finding a difficulty in the appointment of some person or persons to a very high office. Therefore, this problem is prevalent all over the world. I am not blaming anybody.

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN: Sir, part (b) of my question about convictions has not been answered.

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: I am sorry. Sir, as far as the convictions are concerned, well, the number of prosecutions launched in 1990-91 under the Child Labour Act is 616 and under the Factories Act it is 950. The number of persons convicted is 72 and 384 respectively. In 1991-92, the figures are 787, 504, 274 and 507 respectively. For 1992-93, the information is not complete. The figures are 349, 29, 162 and 27 respectively.

SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI: Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether a National Steering Committee has been constituted for the purpose of selection of programmes to be recommended to the ILO and if so, whether any time limit has been given for the submission of its report. Also, I would like to know from the hon. Minister the role of NGOs. We cannot deny the importance of the role played by the NGOs for the eradication of child labour. So, I would like to know whether for the implementation of IPEC programme, NGOs are involved.

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: Yes, Sir, there is a National Steering Committee which is a tripartite committee and which will select the NGOs for execution of projects under the ILO scheme called International Programme on Elimination of Child Labour. Selection process is going on and the selection process will be on the basis of recommendations of the respective governments because it is they who would be able to guide us about the credibility of the NGOs. On the 17th of May, 1993, I had myself taken a meeting of NGOs from all over India. It was quite a big meeting where this programme was explained to them, and I sought the cooperation of all the NGOs. We have got a very positive response. In fact, many applications have already come. I do not exactly remember the last date on which applications should be received but this

programme is going on. As rightly pointed out by the hon. Member, we propose to implement the entire 49 projects under this Programme, which provides for about eleven million US dollars within a period of five years through the NGOs.

[*Translation*]

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as per the reply given by the Minister national child labour projects are also run by some voluntary organisations. These voluntary organisations function in the name of Child Labour Liberation Front. My constituency Mirzapur is the biggest carpet industry area in the country. There was a report in the New York Times' that three lakh twenty-four thousand children are engaged as child labour in Sewapuri block of our area whereas the total population of that area is only one lakh seventy-five thousand. Mr. Minister has given the statewise number of child labour on the basis of 1981 census. I would like to ask as to on the basis of what data he has given this figure of child labour in that block ? Likewise, it has also been stated that foreign assistance is also received for the upliftment of child labour and our Government also provides funds for the upliftment, welfare of child labour. The problem of child labour is worldwide, though in our social system, the parents and their children work together voluntarily. The Government has defined child labour as—children below the age of 14 years working...

MR. SPEAKER : What is your question ?

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH : I am asking the question... (*Interruptions*) If that doesn't sound like a question, then I'll sit down.

MR. SPEAKER : You may sit down if you wish to Come to the question please.

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH : The child labour has been defined as children under the age of 14 years. Our social system is such that children work along with their parents. It means that the father himself makes his child, a child labourer and bonded labourer. That's why I would like to know that what action is being taken against the voluntary organisations who work in the name of upliftment of child labour and carry out propagenda in the foreign countries ? How many children have been uplifted and in what conditions they are living now and secondly, what is being done by the Government in respect of the definition of child labour which has not been made keeping in view our social system.

[*English*]

SHRI P. A. SANGMA : Sir, I could not make out the question.

MR. SPEAKER : Well, it is difficult for me also to make out the question.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Sir, this House has discussed the problem of child labour a number of times. There is a law - Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986. In spite of this Act, the number of child labour is increasing. The figure given by the hon. Minister excludes the child labour of agricultural sector.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Acharia, the question should be understandable.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Sir, It will be a very short and pointed question. The child labour who are engaged in agricultural work are excluded from this list. Eighty per cent of the child labour belongs to agricultural sector. These child labour have been excluded from the list given here.

May I know from the hon. Minister whether he will consider amending the law to include the chlid labour who are engaged in agriculture and in shops ? Secondly, since the enactment of the Act in the year 1986, whether there is any impact in the reduction of the child labour ? It is a very simple question.

SHRI P. A. SANGMA : I have already given the figures. The figure of 17 million which is according to the 43rd round of survey of National Sample Survey of India includes the agricultural labour and the cultivators. I am not quoting 1991 census because it has not been released.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Does it include unorganized sector also ?

SHRI P. A. SANGMA : Yes, absolutely. If we go to the 1981 census, the exact figure of child agricultural labour helping their parents who are cultivating in their own farms is 35.93 per cent. But those who are working as daily wagers in agriculture is 42.75 per cent. Therefore, if we take the children working in their own field as a domestic affair plus the daily wage workers, may be, the figure which the hon. Member is quoting is more or less coming nearer to that because it is 78.68 per cent. But, if we go strictly by the definition of child labour, who are earning on a daily wage, the percentage is 42.75 per cent.

[Translation]

SHRI HARADHAN ROY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am here for the last three years and I did not get even a single chance to speak...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : If you do like this, I will refer your case for breach of Privilege.

SHRI HARADHAN ROY : You may do whatever you like, I do not care... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : It is very wrong and you always say the same thing.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down now. You cannot hold the House to ransom like this.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : It is very wrong and you always say the same thing.

(Interruptions)

[English]

TOURISM DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

*166. SHRI SURESHANAND SWAMI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the number of projects for tourism development sent by each State-Union Territory Government during the Seventh Five Year Plan which got the sanction of the Union Government;

(b) the funds sanctioned for each project and the amount released for the same; and

(c) the main reasons for not releasing the whole sanctioned amount ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM) (SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR) :

(a) The Union Government sanctioned 360 projects/schemes amounting to Rs. 5619.55 lakhs dur ng the Seventh Plan period to all the States and Union Territories. An amount of Rs. 4422.74 lakhs has been released against the sanctioned amount till date.

(b) Information is given in the *Statement.*

(c) Funds are released on the basis of the physical progress made in each project.

Statement

(Rs. in lakhs)

S. No.	Name of the State/ Union Territory	No. of Projects Sanctioned	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released
1	2	3	4	5
States				
1.	Andhra Pradesh	17	279.65	215.61
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3	39.69	28.00
3.	Assam	8	102.07	85.08
4.	Bihar	4	36.93	22.00
5.	Goa	4	36.89	35.99

1	2	3	4	5
6.	Gujarat	17	237.29	176.73
7.	Haryana	19	376.60	372.04
8.	Himachal Pradesh	12	153.87	128.01
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	14	226.78	133.30
10.	Karnataka	16	213.10	137.65
11.	Kerala	30	861.09	763.64
12.	Madhya Pradesh	24	265.00	169.76
13.	Maharashtra	8	83.37	79.86
14.	Manipur	9	75.08	61.25
15.	Meghalaya	6	122.21	84.00
16.	Mizoram	8	89.86	76.90
17.	Nagaland	12	134.97	118.76
18.	Orissa	14	138 49	115.79
19.	Punjab	15	178 62	110.83
20.	Rajasthan	19	146.90	129.04
21.	Sikkim	7	118 97	90.21
22.	Tamil Nadu	38	473.67	337.01
23.	Tripura	7	86 27	78.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	22	442 63	307.91
25.	West Bengal	13	371.00	284.24
U.Ts.				
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	5	195 48	167.94
2.	Chandigarh	—	—	—
3.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	—	—	—
4.	Daman & Diu	—	—	—
5.	Delhi	2	85.00	3.50
6.	Lakshadweep	4	80.34	71.86
7.	Pondicherry	3	47.73	37.83
	Total	360	5619.55	4422.74

[Translation]

SHRI SURESHANAND SWAMI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know the total number of projects sent by Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh Governments while 22 projects of Uttar Pradesh and 24 projects of Madhya Pradesh have been sanctioned. I would like to know specifically about the total number of projects sent by Uttar Pradesh.

[*English*]

SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR : Sir, from Madhya Pradesh a toal number of 24 schemes have been sanctioned. We do not have the figures because discussions on these were held and then the projects are prioritised.

MR. SPEAKER : You can check and send these later on -- how many projects were sent to the Central Government.

SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR : Sir, the process is that the officials are called and they have discussions and then a number of schemes are prioritised, and out of them for the one set of projects that are sanctioned we have the figure and for the other we have to get the figure and give it to him -- the total number.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJAPAYEE : He asked the total number of projects recommended by the State Government. If the hon. Minister does not have the figures, say so.

SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR : I have said so, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : You can send.

SRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR : I said I have got the sanctioned number and the total figure regarding the number of projects that were discussed, I will give it to him. I said that.

MR. SPEAKER : Send it please.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SURESHANAND SWAMI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, due to non-availability of funds in time for the sanctioned projects, there was delay in monitoring the physical progress of the projects. I would like to know the reasons for delay ?

[*English*]

SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR : Sir, the system is that we sanction the amount for the project and then 50 per cent of that amount is released in the first instalment and then the subsequent amounts are released as and when the work is completed. So, how each project was delayed or what happened, why, and when the amount was released, it is not possible readily to say for each little project. But that is the way we work.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA : Hon. Speaker, Sir, it has been given in the reply that 70 projects have been sanctioned for Gujarat. How many projects were sent to the Central Government by the Gujarat Government for approval. Junagarh is a historical place. In this regard, I had raised this issue in the last session too whether the project for that place has been sent by the State Government or not ? There were more than 70 projects whereas you have sanctioned only 70 projects.

[*English*]

SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR : Sir, in the Seventh Plan, all the projects that were put up by the State Government have been sanctioned for Gujarat.

[*Translation*]

All the projects that were received during Seventh Plan, have been sanctioned.

NTC MILLS

SHRI RAJESH KUMAR :
*167. SMT. SHEELA GAUTAM :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the National Textiles Corporation (NTC) Mills which have earned profit during 1991-92 and 1992-93 ; and

(b) the details of the export orders received by the National Textiles Corporation for the supply of textiles during the same period ?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) and (b) A *statement* is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) A list indicating the NTC mills which have earned cash profit during 1991-92 and 1992-93 is enclosed as *Annexure*.

(b) Rs. 58.12 crores and Rs. 47.76 crores of export orders were received by NTC in 1991-92 and 1992-93 respectively.

Annexure

MILLS OF NTC MAKING CASH PROFIT

S. No.	Name of the Mill	Name of Subsidiary
	1991—92	
1.	Barshi Textile Mills	SM
2.	Alagappa Textile Mills	APKK & M
3.	Kerala Laxmi Mills	—do—
4.	Podar Textile Mills	SM
5.	Podar Processors	SM
6.	Combodia Mills	TN & P
7.	Krishnaveni Mills	—do—
8.	Sri Rangavilas Mills	—do—
9.	Pankaja Mills	—do—
10.	Pioneer Mills	—do—
11.	Balarama Mills	—do—
12.	Kaleeswarar Mills 'B'	—do—
13.	Coimbatore Murugan Mills	—do—
14.	Somasundaram Mills	—do—
15.	Sri Sarada Mills	—do—
	1992—93	
1.	Barshi Textile Mills	SM
2.	Alagappa Textile Mills	APKK & M
3.	Cannanora Mills, Cannanore	—do—
4.	Cannanore Mills, Mahe	—do—
5.	Kerala Laxmi Mills.	—do—
6.	Vijaya Mohini Mills	—do—
7.	Pankaja Mills	TN & P
8.	Kaleeswarar Mills 'B'	—do—

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH KUMAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the National Textile Corporation incurred a loss of Rs. 190.73 crores in 1990-91, whereas during 1989-90, the loss was of Rs. 275 crores during 1987—89, it was Rs. 308 crores and 88 lakhs. The Corporation has been continuously running in loss. I want to ask the Government as to what steps are being taken to identify the reasons responsibility for this continuous loss ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : Sir, out of the nine subsidiaries of NTC, seven are with the BIFR and one more is also on the way and is being referred to the BIFR. But, in spite of that, last year in the month of August, there had been a strategy evolved which is called 'turn around strategy' which is requiring Rs. 533

crore for modernisation and under that scheme, a number of measures are being taken like modernisation, V. R. S., other assistance, etc. If the Member wants to know the details as to what strategies are being adopted, I can read out the whole thing.

MR. SPEAKER : You can send it.

SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED : Yes, I will send it.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH KUMAR : The Textile Industry in India is on the verge of closure as the number of sick mills which was 58 in 1985, rose to 90 in March, 1987 and 133 in June, 1989, whereas in June, 1991 its number went upto 190. This clearly shows that the number of sick Mills under Textile Corpoartion is increasing, which has endangered the future of lakhs of workers working in these Mills. Is Government going to take any concrete steps to ensure the bright future to the labourers.

[English]

SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED : Sir, I have just now said that I will pass on to him details of the whole 'turn around strategy' about modernisation etc.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have just to say that the answer does not relate to the question asked. I, therefore, request you to ask the Minister to make a reply once again. The question is that :

[English]

> "Will the Minister of Textiles be pleased to state the details of the National Textiles Corporation (NTC) Mills which have earned profit during 1991-92 and 1992-93."

[Translation]

and the answer is that :

[English]

> "Statement indicating the NTC mills which have earned cash profit during 1991-92 and 1992-93 is enclosed."

[Translation]

He has not given the details as to which mill has earned how much profit. There is a difference in cash profit and profit. The question was about the profit and he is giving details about the cash profit. He has not even mentioned as to which mill has earned cash profit. You may direct them that reply should be given to whatever is asked for and nothing should be concealed.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : All NTC mills are sick mills.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : I know this fact. That is why I wanted a reply in this regard. Why the facts are concealed ? You tell us about the actual total profit, as the question does not relate to cash profit. You should provide data in respect of every mill. Why are you concealing the facts ? Do not make a mockery of the House.

SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED : There is nothing to be concealed.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : It should not be like this. No one goes deep into the answers but today, the cat is out of the bag.

SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : I have answered what was asked about.

[English]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : You have not given that. There is a difference between the "profit" and the "cash profit". The Minister and his officials should know that. Why are they taking the House for granted in this fashion ?

SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED : Sir, in my reply I have said that a statement indicating the NTC mills which have earned cash profit during 1991-92 and 1992-93 is enclosed. The question was about the details of the National Textiles Corporation (NTC) Mills which have earned profit during 1991-92 and 1992-93. These

are the mills and the details are given in the reply.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : The details means it should be given millwise.

SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED : Sir, if the hon. Member wants all the details about cash profit, loss and everything, I can pass it on to him.

MR. SPEAKER : The question which Mr. Fernandes is asking is, there is a difference between "cash profit" and "profit". He says, the Question was, what is the profit earned. The reply is, what is the cash profit earned.

SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED I can read out the details.

Barshi Textiles Mills' profit is Rs. 35.82 lakhs.

Alagappa Textiles Mills' profit is Rs. 35.43 lakhs.

Kerala Laxmi Mills. (*Interruptions.*) The profit is in rupees in lakhs.

[*Translation*]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this reply should be detained and the correct answer should be given instead.

[*English*]

SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED : I have the details of net profit and also the cash profit. Both are there. Whatever he wants, I can give it to him just now.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : He is supposed to give it. He is not doing a favour to the House.

MR. SPEAKER : Now the Textiles Minister is not well. He is holding a brief for him. The Textiles Minister is not well.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Then, it is the Ministry that is responsible. Whosoever has drafted this answer should be identified and he should be summoned before the House.

[*Translation*]

He is just cutting a joke.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : Let us understand that if the Members are not satisfied with the reply given, there is some other procedure also, which can be followed. You can seek an half-an-hour discussion also. You give a notice.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Sir, there is a difference between "satisfied" and "not satisfied". Here, it is a deliberate attempt to mislead the House.

MR. SPEAKER : You can highlight it in the half-an-hour discussion.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE :Sir, if the Answer given does not even purport to deal with the Question, it is not a question of clarification. It is a question of answering the Question. This is the point.

You are right, if it is the answer, then one can seek a clarification. If it is irrelevant answer and not to the point, what can be done ?

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

LIC BRANCHES IN WEST BENGAL

*168. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of branches of the Life Insurance Corporation of India functioning at present in West Bengal;

(b) the average and actual annual business done by LIC in West Bengal during each of the last three financial years;

(c) the amount invested by LIC in the State during the above period; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to provide more insurance cover to the people of West Bengal through LIC and increase its investment in the State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) 127.

(b) : The requisite information is as follows :—

		1990—91	1991—92	1992—93
(i)	Sum Assured (In Crores of Rupees)	2064481	2382.62	2628.85
(ii)	Amount of Premium Collected (in crores of rupees)	532.30	651.83	707.09
(iii)	No. of Policies	727631	767117	8436·12
Average business in the last three years.				
(i)	Sum Assured (in crores of rupees)		2358.76	
(ii)	Average amount of Premium (in crores of rupees)		630.41	
(iii)	No. of Policies		779453	

(c) : The requisite information is as under :—

(in crores of rupees)

1990—91	1991—92	1992—93
91.76	122.16	248.13

(d) In the current financial year, 7 new branches are being opened by the L.I.C.

LIC's investment in West Bengal during 1992-93 was over 100% higher than in 1991-92.

This year, so far (up to the end of July 1993) LIC has already released an amount of Rs. 134.96 crores to various agencies in the State under different Schemes.

PROMOTION OF EXPORTS

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

(a) the value of exports, imports and trade deficit during the first quarter of 1993-94, in terms of Dollars, SDRs and Rupees;

(b) the corresponding figures for 1992-93; and

(c) the measures introduced during the period mentioned in para (a) above for facilitating and promoting exports and streamlining the export procedure and for containing imports ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED : (a) and (b) The value of exports, imports and trade deficit during April-May 1993, the latest period for which such data are available, and those for the corresponding period of last year in US Dollars, SDRs and Rupees is given below :

		US$ Million	SDR Million	Rupees Crores
(i)	*Exports*			
	April—May'93	3458.58	2444.78	10832 08
	April—May'92	2666.83	2146.14	7663.43
(ii)	*Imports*			
	April—May'93	3465.17	2449.43	10852.70
	April—May'92	3611.57	2906.42	10378.25
(iii)	*Trade Deficit*			
	April—May'93	6.59	4.65	20.62
	April—May'92	944.74	760.28	2714.82

(c) Important changes have been made in the Export and Import Policy and Procedures since April 1993. In the revised Policy, special attention is being paid to the growth of exports in the agricultural and allied sectors. The Export Oriented Units in Agriculture, aquaculture, animal husbandry and floriculture, etc. can avail of the benefits of duty free imports even if they export only 50% of their production and sell the remaining 50% in the domestic market as against the limit of 25% prescribed for the non-agricultural exports. 144 items of exports have also been removed from the Negative List of exports. The Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme has also been extended to the Services Sector.

For expeditious disposal of advance licence applications, input-output norms for 232 more products have peen notified since April 1993, in addition to 2212 norms already standardised earlier. The financial powers of Regional Advance Licensing Committees for grant of advance licences have been enhanced from Rs. 25 lakhs to Rs. 50 lakhs. Moreover, to eliminate the need for taking advance licences repeatedly a new provision has been introduced to grant advance licences without an export order for a value equivalent to 125% of the average FOB value of exports in the preceeding three licensing years. Under the Duty Exemption Scheme, the licence holder has been permitted to make imports from any of the specified ports, in addition to the port of registration. Besides, an Exporter's Redressal Cell has been set up by the Government to facilitate action on problems being experienced by exporters.

REGIONAL RURAL BANKS

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

(a) whether the Worknig Group set up by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development in September, 1991 for the employees of Regional Rural Banks has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the recommendations of the above working group have been implemented;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which these are proposed to be implemented; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to make the Regional Rural Banks viable and a dependable source to serve the rural areas and the priority sectors ?

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

(b) to (d) The Working Group submitted its Report to National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) in February, 1992. The recommendations of the Working Group have been generally accepted by the Government on the advice of NABARD. The recommendations broadly cover the issues such as the fitment of the employees in the pay scales, Staff Services Regulations and Recruitment and Promotion Policy. NABARD has issued instructions in regard to the recommendations concerning the fitment in the pay scales to all Regional Rural Banks and Sponsor Banks on 20th March, 1993. In regard to Staff Service Regulations and Recruitment and Promotion Policy, drafts of the rules and regulations have been prepared and these are to be examined further in consultation with Sponsor Banks and NABARD.

(e) Various steps have been taken by Government to improve the viability of RRBs. These steps inter-alia include payment of a minimum of 13.5% interest per annum by sponsor banks on the deposits of RRBs kept with these banks for the period of 15 days and above, financing of light/small transport vehicles, and financing of non-target group borrowers up to 40% of their incremental lending by Regional Rural Banks.

EXPORT OF TEXTILES

*171. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA :

DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the targets fixed for export of textiles during the last three years;

(b) the extent to which they have been achieved;

(c) the details of the textile items which have recorded negative growth rate;

(d) the targets fixed for export of textiles during 1993-94; and

(e) the total foreign exchange likely to be earned during 1993-94 and how it compares to the preceding three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) and (b) The targets fixed for export of Textiles (including jute, coir and handicrafts) during the last three years and the achievements are as indicated below :—

Year	Target (In Rs. Crores)	Achievements (In Rs. Crores)
1990—91	8820	9432
1991—92	13202	14379
1992—93	17796	19104 (Provisional)

(c) During 1992-93, export of Jute goods has registered a negative growth of 12.2% as compared to the achievement in 1991-92.

(d) and (e) For 1993-94, a target of US $ 7400 million (equivalent to Rs. 23,240 Crore) has been fixed for export of textiles.

INDIA TRADE PROMOTION ORGANISATION

*172. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to encourage small exporters to use the facilities of the India, Trade Promotion Organisation to exhibit their goods abroad;

(b) if so, the details of incentives extended by I.T.P.O. to encourage small scale units and new entrepreneurs to participate in exhibitions abroad;

(c) whether the rental price of space in Pragati Maidan has also been increased during the last years; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the comparative rents charged by I.T.P.O. during each of the last three years for space at various exhibitions ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) and (b) Facilities of India Trade Promotion Organisation to exhibit their goods abroad are already being made available to small and new entrepreneurs. Upcoming and New exhibitors as well as women entrepreneurs are encouraged to participate in exhibitions abroad by keeping up to 25% and 5% respectively of the available space in fairs abroad for allocation to them. In addition, India Trade Promotion Organisation gives 10% concession in space rent for participation in fairs abroad to registered small scale industrial units. Moreover, no service charges are levied on such units for the value of exhibits sold by them in fairs abroad.

(c) and (d) The rent for space in Pragati Maidan has been increased keeping in view the increase in cost of providing facilities, services and maintenance of Pragati Maidan. Comparative rents charged by ITPO during each of the last three years for space at various exhibitions, were as follows :—

Name of the fair	(Rs. per sq. meter) 1990—91	1991—92	1992—93
I. I. T. F.	700	1000	1000
Intl. Security Exhibition	N.H.	1200	N. H.
Electronics India	1500	N. H.	2000
Tex India	500	1000	1250
Ahara	700	1250	1250
Print Pack India	700	N. H	1250
Weatlth & Medicare	N. H.	N. H.	2000
Consumexh	N. H.	900	1100
Sajavat	N. H	1200	1400
		(N.H : Not Held)	

PRODUCTION OF NATURAL RUBBER

*173. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have drawn up a perspective plan to achieve self sufficiency in the production of natural rubber by 2000 A.D.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the stage at which this plan stands at present ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) to (c) Yes Sir. A perspective plan has been drawn up to achieve self-sufficiency in the production of natural rubber subject to availability of funds. This plan includes the following strategies to augment the production of natural rubber in the country :—

(i) Expand the area under rubber cultivation by bringing more and more non-traditional regions under plantation.

(ii) Spread-up replantation of old and low yielding areas with modern high yielding cultivars.

(iii) Raise reductivity of existing mature plantations by popularising adoption of modern technology.

This comprehensive perspective plan involves an outlay of Rs. 270 crores between the period 1992-93 to 1996-97. The Plan outlay for the current year 1993-94 is Rs. 42.38 crores which includes a foreign aid component of Rs. 16.41 crores.

In order to achieve the target as set out by the perspective plan and to augment the availability of funds, the Rubber Board has recently finalised a comprehensive project with the World Bank with a total foreign aid of US $ 92.0 Million. This project is likely to commence after necessary portocols are signed during the current year. After the implementation of the World Bank Project by 1997-98, possibilities can be explored by the Rubber Board to finance the rest of the schemes as envisaged in the perspective plan to achieve self-sufficiency.

[*Translation*]

PRIVATE AIRLINES

*174. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :

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

(a) the details of the charges/taxes payable by the private airlines to the Government;

(b) whether some private airlines are not depositing in the Government treasury inland air travel tax charged from passengers;

(c) if so, the names of such airlines and amount outstanding against each of there; and

(d) the action being taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (d) :

(a) Every carrier including air taxi operators is required to pay Inland Air Travel Tax (IATT) at the rate of 15% of the ticket value in accordance with Finance Act, 1989 read with IATT Rules, 1989.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Details of air taxi operators against whom arrears of IATT are outstanding and the estimated amounts reported by the Ministry of Finance are as follows :

(i) M/s. Jagson Airlines, New Delhi.	—Rs. 11.31 lakhs up to March, 1993
(ii) City Link Airways, New Delhi.	—Rs. 63.15 lakhs up to February, 1993.
(iii) Continental Aviation Pvt. Ltd., Bombay.	—Rs.35.83 lakhs up to November, 1992
(iv) East-West, Airlines Bombay,	—Rs. 14.28 crores up to February, 1993

(d) Show Cause Notices have been issued by the Competent Authorities of the Customs Department to the defaulting air taxi operators under the provisions of IATT Rules, 1989 for recovery of the outstanding dues.

HANDLOOM WEAVERS

*175. SHRI NITISH KUMAR :
PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of handloom weavers in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government have prepared any concrete schemes for their upliftment and welfare;

(c) if so, details thereof; and

(d) the time bound programme for implementation of these schemes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) The State-wise data on number of handloom weavers is given in the *statement* attached.

(b) and (c) The Government of India is implementing various schemes for upliftment and welfare of handloom weavers including workshed-cum-housing scheme, Thrift Fund Scheme, Group Insurance Scheme and Health Package Scheme.

(d) These schemes are ongoing schemes, and are implemented on a continuous basis.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Name of State	Number of persons engaged in preparatory and weaving work in handloom sector.
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	452954
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	47285
3.	Assam	1996753
4.	Bihar	239510

1	2	3
5.	Goa	80
6.	Gujarat	67765
7.	Haryana	25013
8.	Himachal Pradesh	54141
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	53330
10.	Karnataka	180904
11.	Kerala	64916
12.	Madhya Pradesh	76722
13.	Maharashtra	134170
14.	Manipur	334626
15.	Meghalaya	13823
16.	Mizoram	128818
17.	Nagaland	147587
18.	Orissa	243728
19.	Punjab	22555
20.	Rajasthan	77538
21.	Tamil Nadu	663318
22.	Tripura	137234
23.	Uttar Pradesh	640596
24.	West Bangal	711563
25.	Delhi	11697
26.	Pondicherry	6534
	Total	6533160

Source : National Handloom Census (1987—88)

[*English*]

UNORGANISED WORKERS

*176. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH :

SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have prepared any action plan to protect the interests of workers in the unorganised sector in terms of wages, working hours and social security;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the workers in unorganised sectors observed a strike all over the country in July, 1993;

(d) if so, the main demands of the workers; and

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (e) The Government of India has already enacted several laws like Minimum Wages Act, Payment of Wages Act, Equal Remuneration Act, Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act for the protection of Labour in the unorganised sector in terms of wages, working hours and social security. These Acts are enforced by the appropriate Government i.e. Central and the State Governments as the case may be. Welfare and social security schemes also exist which provide benefits to many of these workers.

It has been reported that the workers in unorganised sector observed a strike on 14th July, 1993. Their main demands included increased minimum monthly wages for unskilled, semi-skilled, skilled, highly skilled workers and post-graduates; equal pay for identical jobs, introduction of House Rent Allowance, Dearness Allowance, Pension Schemes, Abolition of Contract Labour System, regularisation of casual workers, extension of ESI and PF benefits to all workers etc.

The enforcement machinery under the Central Government is taking eleborate measures for stricter enforcement of the

laws mentioned above by routine inspections as well as by specially arranged crash programmes in establishments in remote areas where labour is usually casual and unorganised. EPF and ESI Schemes are also available to unorganised workers subject to coverage of the establishment.

[*Translation*]

NON-OPERATIONAL AIRPORTS

*177. DR. GUNVANT RAMBHAU SARODE :

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

(a) the details of the new airports in the country which are not yet operational, State-wise;

(b) the estimated cost of construction of each of these airports;

(c) whether the Government propose to handover some of these airports to the private parties; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) Salem airport in Tamil Nadu, constructed at an estimated cost of Rs. 6.50 crores by the National Airports Authority, is the only newly built airport which is not yet operational. The airport will be commissioned after necessary clearance is received from the Director General of Civil Aviation.

(c) and (d) There is no plan to handover this airport to private parties.

[English]

AIRLINKING OF STATE CAPITALS WITH DELHI

*178. SHRI LAETA UMBREY :

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

(a) the names of the State Capitals not directly linked to New Delhi by the Indian Airlines flights;

(b) whether there has been any deterioration in the Indian Airlines services to the North-Eastern region airports in the recent years;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any special thrust has been given by the Government to improve air services to the communicationally most backward North-Eastern region;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) The following State capitals are not airlinked to Delhi by direct flights of Indian Airlines :

(i) Agartala
(ii) Aizwal
(iii) Chandigarh
(iv) Gangtok
(v) Imphal
(vi) Itanagar
(vii) Kohima
(viii) Shillong
(ix) Shimla.

(b) and (c) Owing to operational constraints, Indian Airlines has had to suspend some flights, reduce the frequency of some and combine some flights.

(d) to (f) Indian Airlines will increase its services as soon as its operating crew constraint improves. Vayudoot's services in the North East will also increase with improvement in its fleet position for which action has already been initiated. Further, it has been decided that Pawan Hans will operate helicopter services in the North East to connect remote areas.

VISIT BY ADB TEAM

*179. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a team of the Asia Development Bank visited India during June, 1993 to review the progress of the projects

for which assistance has been sanctioned by the aforesaid bank in the country;

(b) if so, whether some of the projects identified have been pruned by the team;

(c) the paticularof the projects so identified by the team and the factors that led to their pruning; and

(d) the amount of savings, project-wise?

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

(b) to (d) The Asian Development Bank team held discussions with the concerned Departments and agencies regarding likely saving in the A. D. B. portfolio. Details of projects and the amount of savings which could be cancelled are being discussed with the concerned agencies.

INDUSTRIAL SICKNESS

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

(a) whether the Government are aware that the sickness in the industrial units/companies has increased during the last three years;

(b) if so, the strategy adopted or proposed to be adopted by the Government to check it, and

(c) the performance of the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction in reviving sick industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) The year-wise position of the cases registered with BIFR is given below :

Year	No. of cases registered	Year	No. of cases resistered
1987	311	1991	155
1988	298	1992	177
1989	202	1993 (up to June)	72
1990	151		

The above does not indicate any increasing trend in the registration of cases by BIFR.

(c) Since its inception, BIFR has sanctioned 292 revival schemes and approved the companies own schemes of revival in 118 cases, thereby putting 410 sick industrial companies on the revival path. 216 cases have been recommended by the BIFR to the concerned High Courts for winding up. In addition, the Board has ordered sale of wound up units and 4 references received from High Courts/Supreme Court have been disposed of as on 30-6-1993.

ISRAELI INVESTMENT

1836. DR. R. MALLU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the Israeli Industrialists have explored the possibility of investment in various sectors like power, energy, agriculture, finance and tele-communications in India;

(b) if so, the details of the projects finalised therefor; and

(c) the projects on which the work has already been started ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Since the establishment of diplomatic relations between India and Israel, the Israeli and the Indian industrialists/businessmen have been interacting with each other and discussing possibilities of investment collaborations and business tie ups in areas like power, energy, agriculture, finance and computer software etc.

[*Translation*]

SPINNING MILLS IN GUJARAT

1837. SHRI N. J. RATHAVA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the place-wise total number of spinning mills functioning at present in Gujarat particularly in the tribal areas;

(b) whether most of the spinning mills in Gujarat are running in loss;

(c) if so, the names of the mills running in loss and the amount of loss incurred in each mill; and

(d) the reasons for losses ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) The place-wise total number of spinning mills functioning as on 31st May, 1993 in Gujarat is as under :—

Location	*No. of Spinning Mills*
Ahmedabad	4
Surendranagar	2
Surat	2
Bharuch	4
Sabarkantha	1
Baroda	2
Petlad	1
Jamnagar	2
Cambay	1
Wadhwan	1
Valsad	1
Morbi	2
Ankleshwar	1
Dholka	1
Mehsana	3
Total :	28

(b) and (c) The profitability positon of only 8 mills is available in the Office of Textile Commissioner, Bombay. Out of these 8 mills, 4 mills incurred loss during the year 1991-92 as per the details given below :

Name of the Mills	Amount of Loss incurred during 1991-92 (Rs. lakhs)
Star of Gujarat	184.00
Narmada Roo Utpadhakoni Sah Spg. Mills. .	84.55
Sabarkatha Jilla Roo Utpadkoni Coop. Spg,. Mills Ltd.	140.90
Visnagar Coop. Spg. Mills Ltd. . . .	242·32

(d) The specific reasons for loss of these mills are not known. However, general reasons for losses incurred in the textile industry are high cost of raw materials, old and obsolete plant & machinery, working capital problems, low productivity etc.

[English]

REFORMS IN BANKING SECTOR

1838. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Asian Development Bank has suggested some economic reforms as a result of which the sale of assets, merger and closure of many banks may be necessary;

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

(c) the particulars of public sector banks which are facing closure and the time by which these are likely to be closed;

(d) the justification thereof; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to safeguard the interest of the employees of these banks which are facing closure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFRAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) The Asian Development Bank have not made any suggestion to this effect.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Presently, there is no proposal for closure of any public sector bank.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

FUNCTIONING OF PUBLIC SECTOR BANKS

1839. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to liberalise the functioning of public sector banks;

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

(c) the guidelines issued by the Government for overseas visits by chief and executive of the above banks ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) Pursuant to the recommendations of the Committee on the Financial System, Reserve Bank of India RBI) have taken certain policy initiatives for liberalising the functioning of public sector banks. Some of the important measures taken by the RBI are as under :—

(i) The banks have been permitted to close down branches, other than in rural areas, which are not viable, and also to swap unremunerative/ remote area branches. It is also proposed to permit banks to relocate their branches, open specialised branches, spin of business to other locations, set up controlling offices/ administrative offices and also to open extension counters.

(ii) Lending rates have been rationalised. Reserve aBnk of India fixes the floor rate of interest. Banks are free to charge interest according to their commercial judgement and competitive efficiency subject to such floor rates.

(iii) Interest rates on deposits have been rationalised. The banks are now free to determine the maturities and deposit rates subject to certain conditions.

(iv) The Boards of Directors of banks have been authorised to delegate suitable powers to various functionaries in the banks for write off of said debts/losses and acceptance of compromise proposals subject to such safeguards/conditions as the Boards may prescribe.

(c) Requests of wholetime directors, including the chief executives of public sector banks, are considered on a case to-case basis keeping in view among other things the objective of the visit, duration of the visit and benefits expected to accrue to the bank from the visit. The wholetime directors are also required to submit reports on such visits to RBI and Government of India.

OVERDUES OF PUBLIC SECTOR BANKS

1840. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VERMA :

SHRI P. P. KALLIPERUMAL :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the category-wise overdues in respect of public sector banks as on March 31, 1993 as compared to March 31, 1992; bank wise;

(b) the number of defaulters of repayment of loans of public sector banks during the above period; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to recover the overdues ?

5—723LSS/94

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) The category-wise overdue advances and also number of accounts involved i.e. defaulters accounts, for each of the public sector banks as on September 1991 and September 1992 (latest available) are given in the Statement attached.

(c) The recovery of dues from the borrowers is a normal banking atcviity and the Government or Reserve Bank of India (RBI) do not issue any instructions in this regard. However, 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 :

(i) Banks have been impressed upon to institute available 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.

(ii) The Chief Executives of the banks have been advised to pay close attention to the monitoring of large advances.

(iii) 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

(iv) To keep a watch on the recovery of top stick accounts.

(v) Taking corrective action where advances are found to have became sticky.

STATEMENT

CATEGORY-WISE OVERDUE ADVANCES SEPTEMBER 1992

	Industry Large & Med.		SSI		Agriculture	
	No. of Accs.	Overdue Amount	No. of Accs.	Overdue Amount	No. of Accs.	Overdue Amount
STATE BANK AND ASSOCIATE BANKS						
1. S.B.I. . .	2116	201018.20	313907	97748.28	2039381	91836.07
2. S.B.B. & J. .	1028	6265.86	33065	4674.09	140378	9547.08
3. S.B.H. . .	441	4944.44	28489	6151.11	98404	8777.47
4. S.B. Indore .	76	3883.02	13487	2434.40	54164	3821.48
5. S.B.M. . .	1438	4067.03	44271	5277.90	150126	4857.26
6. S.B.P. . .	30	5256.00	7632	2550.00	53147	2946.00
7. S.B.S. . .	37	865.63	6337	944.96	20322	1581.86
8. S.B.T. . .	982	4529.00	30494	5999.00	95015	3185.00
9. State Bank & Assoc. . .	6145	230329.18	477682	125779.74	2650937	126552.22
NATIONAL BANKS						
1. Allahabad Bank	128	13265.00	60700	10774.00	232430	9527.00
2. Andhra Bank	198	5545.00	12065	6063.00	254577	11933.00
3. Bank of Baroda	1837	34814.00	29886	20262.00	325815	19251.00
4. Bank of India	1076	35700.00	49385	25000.00	431459	25100.00
5. Bank of Maha. .	3664	18338.00	15399	14350.00	184542	11190.00
6. Canara Bank .	2573	60812.00	72187	40980.00	668011	36781.00
7. Central Bank .	751	42651.00	64664	40794.00	561399	25668.00
8. Corporation Bank	224	2367.00	10564	2729.00	97932	6218.00
9. Dena Bank .	404	14911.00	19858	9476.00	141200	7514.00
10. I.O.B. . .	366	24780.00	22489	20262.00	456609	18849.00
11. Indian Bank .	824	21500.00	24266	15913.00	330236	16748.00
12. New Bank India	233	11452.63	18166	10446.62	78144	6052.59
13. O.B.C. . .	220	3082.00	7619	1509.00	94078	4088·00
14. P & S Bank ·	476	8996.00	17801	8187.00	97771	8382.00
15. P.N.B. · ·	1005	34339.00	110620	20134.00	562290	27744.00
16. Syndicate Bank ·	2119	22527.20	47751	22689.59	439699	23387.14
17. UCO Bank ·	—	—	—	—	—	—
18. Union Bank ·	311	13764.00	40068	14160.00	323457	14859.00
19. United Bank ·	126	4521.16	60512	7529.86	158173	5511.20
20. Vijaya Bank ·	42	9234.00	3310	7646.00	63426	8621.00
21. 20 Nationalised Banks	16577	385601.99	687310	298905.07	5501248	287423.93

September, 1992 (Rs. in Lakhs)

Other Priority		All Others		Tortal	
No. of Accs.	Overdue Amount	No. of Accs.	Overdue Amount	No. of Accs.	Overdue Amount
953730	56232.97	576068	43085.79	3885202	489921.30
73855	3329.97	7023	1187.42	255349	25004.40
64504	5126.49	27914	4136.48	219752	29135.90
34892	1638.28	11818	2323.58	114437	14100.70
68172	3491.31	73370	2208.31	337377	19901.80
11978	1725.00	6924	1023.00	79711	13500.00
7720	197.64	5973	4388.91	40389	7979.00
68359	5716.00	49987	2714.00	244837	22143.00
1283210	77457.66	759077	61067.49	5177054	621685.20
228404	8571.00	42352	11095.00	564014	53235.00
239304	6208.00	70184	6895.00	576328	39644.00
281846	16602.00	44497	15508.00	683881	106237.00
315435	17700.00	50850	18000.00	848205	121500.00
186324	8990.00	26531	17515.00	416460	70383.00
505236	26092.00	37553	31682.00	1285560	196347.00
533858	33130.00	65974	21255.00	1226546	163498.00
81251	3531.00	24925	4554.00	214896	19390.00
182295	7829.00	36686	6499.00	380443	46229.00
351716	11275.00	98950	10643.00	930130	85800.00
262082	12441.00	26500	13500.00	643908	80102.00
83540	5730.91	8186	13176.88	188269	44859.61
68547	3712.00	17452	5336.00	187916	17727.00
82827	8627.00	11606	21211.00	210481	55403.00
427186	15516.00	63511	13844.00	1164612	111577.00
414108	18641.20	192653	28381.77	1096330	115626.90
—	—	—	—	—	—
300305	14649.00	28744	10340.00	692885	67772.00
138615	12617.19	26918	5517.59	384344	35697.00
78647	9597.00	79223	12337.00	224648	47435.00
4761526	241259.30	953295	267290.24	11919956	1420480.50

CATEGORY-WISE OVERDUE

	Industry Large & Med.		SSI		Agriculture	
	No. of Accs.	Overdue Amount	No. of Accs.	Overdue Amount	No. of Accs.	Overdue Amount
STATE BANK OF ASSOCIATE BANKS						
1. S.B.I	2038	131427.01	280937	88654.49	1752940	94108.37
2. S.B.B. & J.	625	11770.00	27146	3636.53	122584	7053.88
3. S.B.H.	1704	5520.49	24332	8388.85	99741	6822.41
4. S.B.Indore	431	1883.80	14116	1792.70	56847	4069.48
5. S.B.M.	1205	4788.61	30889	5630.08	121856	3670.06
6. S.B.P.	30	2198.00	7689	1595.00	53084	2612.00
7. S.B.S.	80	299.00	1659	572.00	2249	392.00
8. S.B.T.	893	3888.00	28836	6655.00	93875	3420.00
9. State Bank & Assoc.	7006	161774.91	415604	116924.65	2303176	122148.20
20. Nationalised Banks						
1. Allahabad Bank	212	10608.00	45205	7698.00	207519	7520.00
2. Andhra Bank	551	7023.00	10769	4924.00	271254	12477.00
3. Bank of Baroda	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Bank of India	905	26244.00	45495	20772.00	433809	20385.00
5. Bank of Maha.	3950	14067.00	12208	10301.00	135094	6561.00
6. Canara Bank	1426	44480.00	75623	37637.00	688046	33182.00
7. Central Bank	763	36274.00	58851	32943.00	547886	21078.00
8. Corporation Bank	187	1357.00	11169	2887.00	106184	5668.00
9. Dena Bank	340	12550.00	20069	8578.00	139026	8044.00
10. I.O.B.	381	21540.00	24279	9932.00	432651	16863.00
11. Indian Bank	517	16805.00	24953	12323.00	178480	9281.00
12. New Bank of India	223	9471.33	16813	8038.86	73650	4989.79
13. O.B.C.	235	2474.00	10685	2117.00	93872	3219.00
14. P & S Bank	405	6685.00	12490	6570.00	11836	8102.00
15. P. N. B.	761	26634.00	107300	21271.00	590000	20354.00
16. Syndicate Bank	1417	16553.79	36467	17762.94	345542	17387.26
17. UCO Bank	500	29088.75	33166	12771.07	365601	11844.31
18. Union Bank	312	14193.00	41189	13444.00	348714	14130.00
19. United Bank	130	4760.80	61724	7828.35	167927	3520.82
20. Vijaya Bank	46	5556.00	559	2587.00	107059	6575.00
21. 20 Nationalised Bank	13261	306364.67	649014	240935.22	5244160	233681.18
Grand Totals	20267	468139.58	1064618	357859.87	7547336	355829.38

ADVANCES SEPTEMBER 1991

(Rs. in lakhs)

OtherPriority		All Others		Total	
No. of Accs.	Overdue Amount	No. of	Overdue	No. of Accs.	Overdue Amount
977605	49485.58	2178825	67162.03	5192345	430837.48
62455	2812.10	4931	1355.00	217741	26627.51
62953	3892.06	28747	44030.20	217477	68654.01
31887	1698.75	6190	2222.43	109471	11667.16
85776	3453.57	60308	1551.40	300034	19093.72
11972	1453.00	6045	872.00	78820	8730.00
2121	87.00	195	704.00	6304	2054.00
65716	4965.00	49636	1833.00	238956	20761.00
1300485	67847.06	2334877	119730.06	6361148	588424.88
204056	7377.00	40881	5968.00	497873	39171.00
217402	5833.00	69582	5879.00	569558	36136.00
—	—	—	—	—	—
308721	15237.00	52409	16918.00	841339	99556.00
146297	6686.00	25433	12157.00	322982	50272·00
516779	26726.00	38267	32004.00	1320141	174029.00
486969	27101.00	56877	18345.00	1151346	135741.00
81874	3170.00	35517	5436.00	234931	18518.00
168376	6918.00	23702	5382.00	351513	41472.00
342258	5360.00	85832	6825.00	885401	60520.00
240806	9936.00	23275	14505.00	468031	62850·00
78714	5570.42	10638	10412.23	180038	38532.63
55494	3304.00	11665	2958.00	171951	14072.00
81314	6465.00	11133	11685.00	117178	39507.00
413000	14305.00	70200	5963.00	1131261	89027.00
331277	15385.74	166418	21889.67	881121	88979.40
380801	16413.95	46238	9740.03	826306	79858.11
335692	14171.00	20117	8802.00	746024	64740.00
139428	12988.56	27320	6213.57	396529	37312.10
103709	7013.00	17877	16259.00	229260	37990.00
4632967	209960.67	833381	217341.50	11372783	1208283.24
5933452	277807.73	3168258	337071.56	17733931	1796708.12

IRREGULARITIES IN AIR INDIA's WASHINGTON OFFICE

1841. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether some irregularities in the office of the Air India in Washington have come to the notice of the Government as reported in 'The Observer of Business and Politics', New Delhi dated June 21, 1993;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken against the guilty officials; and

(d) the remedial measures taken to check recurrence of such cases in future ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (d) As per Industry practice, airlines entertain requests from passengers to down grade their tickets. The difference of fare is converted into Miscellaneous Charges Order (M.C.O.) which can be used for further transportation etc. The refund has to be made to the Indentor/Purchaser of the ticket.

In August, 1991, the World Bank advised airlines including Air India not to entertain any request for down-gradation of tickets by their staff. After issue of this advice, there was one instance where the first class tickets issued to a Senior Economist of the World Bank and his wife on Washington/New York/London/Saana/London/New York/Washington sector were down-graded to Club class and the M.C.O. representing the difference in fare was handed over by Air India to the passenger. This was a deviation from the normal practice of sending the M.C.O. to the authorised travel agent of the World Bank. While there is no evidence of any mis-appropriation, the concerned Area Sales Manager has been cautioned by Air India.

[*Translation*]

LOAN TO FARMERS

1842. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any suggestion/memorandum for providing loans to farmers from the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) for purchasing second hand tractors;

(b) if so, whether the Government have considered the proposal keeping in view the interests of small and marginal farmers; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (c) The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that there is a demand for providing refinance for financing purchase of old tractors especially in the States of Punjab and Haryana. The banks presently financing such investments out of their own resources. As regards availability of NABARD's refinance facility for purchase of second hand tractors, NABARD is consulting the banks and the Reserve Bank of India with a view to evolving a suitable package and support.

[*English*]

EXPORT OF INSTANT COFFEE

1843. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of instant Coffee exported during each of the last three years;

(b) the countries to which these exports were made and the foreign exchange earned therefrom; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to promote and encourage exports of instant Coffee ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN

AHMED) : (a) The total quantity of instant Coffee exported during each of the last three years is as under :

1990-91	— 5610 tonnes
1991-92	— 1858 tonnes
1992-93	— 5435 tonnes

(b) The exports were made to Singapore, Australia, Thailand, Dubai, Kuwait, Abudhabi, Maldives, Malaysia, Oman, Nepal, Saudi Arabia, U.S.S.R., U.K., Canada, U.S.A., Austria, Baharain, Jordan, Taiwan, Afghanistan, Poland, Portugal, France, Japan, Netherlands, Czechoslovakia, Italy, Finland, Bulgaria, Belorussia, Hungary, Morroco, Russia, Ukraine, South Korea, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Slovakia, Romania. The foreign exchange earned from these exports was as under :

1990-91	— Rs. 44.96 crores
1991-92	— Rs. 18.92 crores
1992-93	— Rs. 83.46 crores

(c) The Coffee Board has taken steps this year to introduce certain new grades of lower types of coffee into the export auction were not sold in export auction hitherto to enable soluble coffee manufacturers to compete in the international market as the value addition is higher in soluble coffee.

SEBI RULES ON MINIMUM CAPITAL REQUIREMENT OF SHARE BROKERS

1844. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) had prepared a draft of standard rules on minimum capital requirements of share brokers of Stock Exchanges and asked the Exchanges to introduce there norms preferably before the end of December, 1992;

(b) if so, the names of Stock Exchanges which have introduced these norms so far;

(c) the names of Stock Exchanges which have introduced these norms so far; and

(d) the action taken/proposed to be taken to ensure that all Stock Exchanges in the country adhere to the norms prescribed by SEBI ?

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

(b) and (c) Hithereto only the Coimbatore Stock Exchange has introduced these norms.

(d) After taking into account the responses received from the different Stock Exchanges to the draft rules, SEBI proposes issuing final rules which will be mandatory and hence will need to be observed by all the Exchanges. The responsibility for ensuring the implementation of these norms, as and when issued, vests with SEBI.

INSURANCE SCHEME FOR TEAKWOOD PLANTATION

1845. DR. VASANT NIASUTTI PAWAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that General Insurance Corporation of India has formulated an insurance scheme for teakwood plantations in the country;

(b) whether the Government propose to extend such insurance schemes for other types of plantations such as Eucalyptus, Coconut; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) The teakwood plantation insurance is already being provided by the four subsidiaries of the General Insurance Corporation of India for the last few years. The insurance is on input cost basis providing cover against fire, lightning, flood, inundation, storm, hailstorm, cyclone, riot, strike, malicious damage, attack by wild animals and acts of terrorism. The premium rate is 1.25% of the sum insured.

(b) and (c) The Scheme already covers plantations such as Eucalyptus, Poplar, Kadam, oil Palm besides teakwood. Coconut plantation is, however, not covered under this Scheme nor is there any proposal to cover it under the said scheme.

[*Translation*]

GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

1846. SHRI BARE LAL JATAV: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Unstarred Question No. 6561 on April 23, 1993 and state:

(a) whether the information regarding grants to voluntary organisations for the welfare of labour has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details have already been furnished on July 9, 1993 in fulfilment of the assurance.

(c) Does not arise.

[*English*]

DEVELOPMENT OF OAK TASAR IN GARHWAL REGION

1847. MAJ. GEN. (Retd.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3604 on December 13, 1991 and state:

(a) whether the survey undertaken by the U.P. State Government with assistance of Central Silk Board for identifying specific villages for development of Oak Tasar in Garhwal region has since been completed;

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

(c) the details of follow up action plan undertaken for development of Oak Tasar in Garhwal region;

(d) if the survey has not been completed, the reasons for the delay; and

(e) the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. According to the survey in the districts of Pauri, Tehri, Uttarkashi and Chamoli, there is a total area under Oak of 4325 hectares and there are 2365 families interested in adopting Oak culture. If all this area is used for Oak culture, the requirement of Disease Free Layings will be 5 lakhs. This would result in production of 1 crore Oak Tasar Cocoons at the rate of 20 cocoons per DFL.

(c) Central Silk Board's Regional Tasar Research Station at Bhimtal supplied 66,500 DFLs of Oak Tasar to Uttar Pradesh Department of Sericulture during 1989-90 to 1991-92. With these DFLs there was production of 2,82,000 Oak Tasar Cocoons in the State.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

COOPERATIVE BANKS RUNNING IN LOSSES

1848. SHRI VISHWESHWAR BHAGAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether several cooperative banks in Madhya Pradesh are running in losses due to their excessive administrative expenditure;

(b) if so, the details of these banks and the losses suffered by them during each of the last three years;

(c) the amount of administrative expenditure of such banks; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken by the Government to check these losses?

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

OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (d) The position regarding working results of the Co-operative banks in Madhya Pradesh (M.P.) as on 31st March, 92 (latest available) is that the M.P. State Cooperative Bank earned aggregate profit of Rs. 1100.93 lakhs and its cost of management is 0.8% of the working capital. Although there are some District Central Cooperative Banks (DCCBs) in M.P. running in losses, there is a good number of DCCBs (number differing from year to year) earning profit also. The details regarding losses and administrative expenditure (cost of management) in respect of loss making DCCBs in M.P. during the years 1989-90 to 1991-92 (latest available) are given in the *statement* attached.

The cost of management alone is not a factor for losses of DCCBs but there are other factors like low business turn-over, low operating margins, lack of diversification of loan portfolio, failure to manage funds prudently and low recovery. These aspects are studied during statutory inspection of the banks conducted by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and suitable remedial measures are suggestede. The DCCBs are also inspected by the State Governments which conduct statutory inspections and suggest remedial measures.

Siatement

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sr. No.	Name of the Banks	Losses			Cost of Management		
		1989-90	1990-91	1991-92	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92
1.	Ambikapur	P	P	5	P	P	NA
2.	Damoh	25	46	9	73	102	NA
3.	Datia	15	69	15	27	25	NA
4.	Rajgarh	9	45	—	64	31	NA
5.	Raisen	34	18	17	63	44	NA
6.	Shivpuri	17	14	16	53	169	NA
7.	Tikamgarh	P	7	17	P	62	NA
8.	Schore	P	2	16	P	97	NA
9.	Guna	8	17	P	53	49	NA
10.	Dewas	6	10	P	95	115	NA
11.	Durg	9	1	P	114	74	NA
12.	Panna	8	3	NA	34	34	NA
13.	Raigarh	P	P	18	2	146	NA
14.	Sagar	14	10	P	87	100	NA
15.	Ujjain	27	35	P	122	146	NA
16.	Dhar	4	P	P	125	120	NA
17.	Jabalpur	6	P	P	66	P	NA
18.	Satna	14	P	P	60	18	NA

NA—Not available.

P—Bank was in profit during the year.

HANDLOOM DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FOR U.P.

1849. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any welfare schemes for tribal dominated and backward districts of Uttar Pradesh under the handloom development programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which these welfare schemes are likely to be implemented; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) All the welfare schemes in operation in the handloom sector are also available for coverage of tribal dominated and backward districts.

(b) The welfare schemes available for handloom weavers include workshed-cum-housing scheme, Group Insurance Scheme, Health Package Scheme, and Thrift Fund Scheme. These schemes are being implemented during 1993-94 also.

(c) Does not arise.

MOBILE BRANCHES OF PUBLIC SECTOR BANKS

1850. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY :
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA :
SHRI KASHI RAM RANA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of mobile branches of public sector and other banks functioning in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government have received proposals to open more such branches in the country during the last and the current year;

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

(d) the number of the mobile branches opened/proposed to be opened by the banks during the current year; and

(e) the locations of each such branch?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) As per the information available with Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the number of villages/centres served by mobile branches of Public Sector and other banks is as follows :

Andhra Pradesh	40	Gujarat	65
Assam	15	Madhya Pradesh	1
Union Territory of Chandigarh	10	Punjab	6
New Delhi	9	Rajasthan	3
Goa	2	Uttar Pradesh	26
Union Territory of Dadra Nagar Havali	5		

(b) RBI have not received any proposal for opening of mobile branches so far under the current Branch Expansion Plan.

(c) to (e) Does not arise.

[English]

HELICOPTER SERVICE IN NORTH-EASTERN REGION

1851. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to connect some places in the North-Eastern region by helicopter service;

(b) if so, the names of these places; and

(c) the time-schedule in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) It has been decided to connect important and less accessible towns in North Eastern Region through helicopter service to be operated by Pawan Hans Limited, initially on a limited scale with two helicopters to serve interior areas of Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland States.

(c) The service will commence soon after arrangements for provision of infrastructure by State Governments and firming up of route structure are settled by Pawan Hans in consultation with State Governments and North Eastern Council.

IRREGULARITIES IN EXPORT CREDIT (INTEREST SUBSIDY) SCHEME

1852. SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General of India has pointed out some irregularities committed in the export credit (interest subsidy) scheme, 1968;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in the matter so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) and (b) The Comptroller and Auditor General of India in its report for the year ended 31st March 1992 (No. 1 of 1993) (Civil) has pointed out that while auditing the accounts of 2783 branches of 78 banks they have noted some irregularities resulting in irregular or excess payment of interest subsidy amounting to Rs. 7.68 crores between January 1987 and March 1991. Following the Audit, Rs. 2.66 crore has been refunded by the banks to RBI upto 30th September 1991. The balance amount Rs. 5.02 crore is yet to be refunded.

(c) The reports of Government auditors relating to individual branches of scheduled commercial banks are received by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and audit objections are taken up with the concerned branches of banks for settlement. Wherever interest subsidy has been wrongly claimed by banks, recoveries are effected and in case the objections raised by CAG auditors are not in conformity with procedures laid down by RBI, the position is duly explained to CAG's Office for dropping the objections. After abolition of the Export Credit (Interest Subsidy) Scheme, 1968 w.e.f. 6th August 1991, RBI have directed all scheduled commercial banks to expedite compliance reports on outstanding audit objections.

INCREASE IN EXPORT QUOTA OF POWERLOOM

1853. SHRI MAHENDRA KUMAR SINGH THAKUR :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to increase the export quota of Madhya Pradesh for export of powerloom cloth;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) Export quotas for textiles and garments are not fixed on a statewise basis.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

DAMAGE OF POPPY CROP

1854. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the poppy crop in Mandsaur and Ratlam in Madhya Pradesh and Jhalawar in Rajasthan had been heavily damaged due to hailstorm and cold waves during the year 1992-93;

(b) whether a special verification team deputed by the Narcotics Commissioner to obtain information about the damage occurred to the poppy crop in these areas have since submitted its report;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

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

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

(a) The poppy crop in Mandsaur and Ratlam in Madhya Pradesh and Jhalawar in Rajasthan was damaged by hailstorm and cold wave during the year 1992-93.

(b) and (c) Special verification teams deputed to inspect the poppy crop have reported varying degrees of damage to poppy crop at different places.

(d) Damage caused to the poppy crop due to inclement weather will be taken into consideration at the time of formulating conditions for grant of licences for opium poppy cultivation for the next crop year.

[*English*]

HAWALA RACKET

1855. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have detected a hawala racket recently as reported in the Indian Express dated May 5, 1993;

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

(c) the action being taken by the Government to check such cases ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b) Three premises in Madras were searched on 29-4-1993 resulting in the seizure of foreign currency, Indian currency and certain documents that revealed hawala payments amounting to about Rs. 55 crores during the last year.

(c) A person involved in the foreign exchange racket has been detained under COFEPOSA.

SICK NTC UNITS

1856. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a move for substantial retrenchment of NTC employees during the next 3 years from the chronically sick textiles units in the country;

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

(c) the reaction of trade unions to the proposed move ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) No, Sir

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

INCOME TAX RAIDS ON CINEMA ARTISTS

1857. DR. K. V. R. CHOWDARY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of raids conducted by the Income Tax department on the persons in the field of cinema during the year 1992-93; and

(b) the particulars of cine artists/producers in which unaccounted money and wealth amounting to over thirty lakhs was detected ?

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

(a) and (b) During the financial year 1992-93, 34 searches were conducted on the premises of persons in the field of cinema. In course of these searches unaccounted assets worth Rs. 97.85 lakhs were seized.

Only in one case the unaccounted assets seized was more than Rs. 30 lakhs. This was the case of M/s. Adlab Films of Bombay from whose premises cash worth Rs. 64 lakhs was seized in course of the search.

VALUE OF RUPEE

1858. SHRI SRI BALLAV PANIGRAHI :

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the value of rupee has lately suffered a decline and is facing prospects of further decline vis-a-vis dollar and sterling;

(b) the actual status of rupee value vis-a-vis dollar and sterling over the past four months along with the reasons for the decline, if any; and

(c) the steps taken to stabilise the rupee value ?

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

OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (c) Average exchange rates of the rupee vis-a-vis the US dollar and the pound sterling since March 1993 are given below :—

Average Exchange Rate of Rupee
(FEDAI Indicative Rates

	Rs/US $	Rs./£
March 1993	31.5256	45.9520
April 1993	31.3105	48.4066
May 1993	31.3283	48.5172
June 1993	31.4068	47.4174
July 1993 (upto 21st)	31.3690	46.9427

The data show that the rupee has remained broadly stable against the US dollar and the pound sterling over the past four months.

Under the unified exchange rate system instituted on 1st March 1993 the exchange rate of the rupee is determined in the market and the movements in the external value are the result of the interaction of forces demand and supply as generated by the country's trade flows. The RBI at its discretion may enter the market to purchase or sell foreign exchange and thus smoothen erratic fluctuations in the exchange rate. In the four months following the unification of exchange rate, there has been an overspill of foreign exchange in the market resulting in upward pressure on the exchange rate of the rupee. Under such conditions, passive purchases by the RBI from the market have prevented the rupee from appreciating and eroding the competitiveness of India's exports.

FOREIGN CURRENCY TO NON-RESIDENT DEPOSIT

1859. SHRI S. B. SIDNAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether major foreign banks in NRI business have stopped supplying foreign currency to non-resident deposit with a maturity of less than one year;

(b) if so, the reasons for the same;

(c) the foreign banks which have stopped the foreign currency to non-resident deposit;

(d) whether the Government of India has taken serious view on this; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (e) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has modified, with effect from 15th May 1993, the Foreign Currency Non-Resident (FCNR) Deposit Scheme by stipulating that the exchange risk on the deposits with a maturity of six months and above but less than a year is borne by the commercial banks accepting the deposits rather than by RBI. The objective of this modification is, inter-alia, to lower the contingent exchange risk liability of Reserve Bank of India and Government on short term capital flows into the country. As the Scheme has been modified from 15th May 1993 it is not possible at this stage to evaluate definitively the likely impact of the modifications on foreign exchage inflows under this Scheme. Further, as deposits under this scheme are given voluntarily by Non-Resident Indian depositors, the question of taking action against foreign banks does not arise.

AD-HOC ADVANCES FOR EXPORT OF TOBACCO TO RUSSIA

1860. DR. D. VENKATESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India has given ad-hoc advance to Russia for import of tobacco from India;

(b) whether the advance has been fully utilised by the Russian Government; and

(c) if so, to what extent this ad-hoc advance has been helpful to the tobacco growers in India ?

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

(b) The Tobacco Board has informed that as against Rs. 100 crores ad-hoc advance made available to Russia, contracts have been signed so far for Rs. 71.93 crores.

(c) The Tobacco Board has informed that the announcement of extension of ad-hoc credit instilled confidence in the minds of Indian exporters about Russian purchases of tobacco in an otherwise uncertain scenario. This generated buying fervour in an otherwise sagging market in the Andhra Auctions.

[Translation]

LOAN TO FARMERS

1861. SHRI RAM BADAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has directed banks to provide loans to the farmers on easy instalments for purchasing agriculture machinery, fertilizers and electrical equipment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the local banks sincerely follow these rules meant for the farmers; and

(d) if not, whether any action has been taken to make them comply with these rules ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) As per Reserve Bank of India's guidelines for advances to priority sector, banks provide finance to farmers for various purposes which includes advances for purchasing agricultural machinery and fertilisers. Banks do grant loans for electrical equipments like installation of electric motor and pump sets. If the loan proposal is technically feasible and economically viable, the banks provide investment loans repayable in suitable instalments.

(c) and (d) The banks are required to follow the guidelines of Reserve Bank of India. The compliance by the banks of the guidelines is watched by periodical inspection of bank branches. Any deficiencies noticed in the implementation of the guidelines and any complaints received are taken up with the concerned bank for corrective action.

[English]

RETROACTIVE FINANCE PROPOSAL FROM ORISSA

1862. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any retroactive finance proposal from Orissa Government under the World Bank projects for approval;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which approval is likely to be accorded

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

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

SILICOSIS DISEASE IN WORKERS

1863. SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) number of workers engaged in slate and pencil industries caught by silicosis disease in Mandsour district of Madhya

Pradesh and the number of workers died of this disease;

(b) whether it is due to silica dust on the workers; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government for the installation of dust-pollution controlling equipment in these factories ?

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

[*English*]

ELIMINATION OF CHILD LABOUR

1864. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have convened a meeting of employers in the beedi, glass and carpet industries, which employ child labour on largest scale;

(b) if so, the main purpose of this meeting;

(c) whether a similar meeting of State Government was also held recently;

(d) if so, the outcome of the talks held;

(e) whether any concrete proposals have been reached for eliminating the child labour in these sectors; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main purpose of the meeting was to seek the support of employers in eliminating the practice of child labour.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) to (f) The employers assured support to the govt. programmes for tackling the problem of child labour and endorsed the proposal for payment of uniform minimum wages to adults and children. Employers organisations further expressed their willingness to take up industry specific projects for the welfare of child labour.

NON-UTILISATION OF UNDP ASSISTANCE BY NCB

1865. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether UNDP has decided to withdraw $ 20 million fund provided to Narcotic Control Bureau for modernisation, including purchase of helicopters, latest communication equipment and computers, due to non-utilisation of the fund during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for non-utilisation of funds by the Narcotic Control Bureau ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) No, Sir. The total assistance of US $ 20 million under the UNDCP Project is not meant exclusively for the Narcotics Control Bureau. The Project does not also envisage purchase of helicopter(s). Substantial amount of the funds in the NCB related project have been utilised.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

COFFEE BOARD

1866. SHRI R. DHANUSKODI AHITHAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the maintenance of Coffee Board has become two expensive;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are aware of the steep hike in the prices of coffee in the recent months;

(d) if so, whether the small coffee growers have demanded higher price for their produce: and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The question does not arise.

(c) The Government is aware of increase in Coffee prices in recent months.

(d) Under the present system the Board is required to market the surplus Coffee pooled by the growers and distribute the realisation to the growers after deducting the marketing expenses, taxes etc. The payment to the Growers depends mainly on the realisation in the export market.

(e) The question does not arise.

[*Translation*]

CONVERSION OF IFCI INTO LIMITED COMPANY

1867. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whther the Government propose to convert the Industrial Finance Corporation of India into a Public Limited Company soon;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whteher the proposed company is likely to get the right to enter the capital market; and

(d) the impact of this conversion on the service conditions of its employees ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) The Industrial Finance Corporation of India Ltd., has started functioning as a public limited company from July 1, 1993.

(b) and (c) The conversion of IFCI into a public limited company would enable it to enter the capital market to raise resources on competitive terms and widen its shareholder's base. It would also provide for greater operational flexibility and financial autonomy, and create a more level playing field across broadly similar financial institutions.

(d) In terms of Section 8(1) of the Industrial Finance Corporation (Transfer of Undertaking and Repeal) Bill, 1993, there is no change in the service conditions of the employees who were employed immediately before the institution became a company.

[*English*]

ALLOCATION UNDER INTEGRATED RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

1868. SHRI RAM SINGH KASHWAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount allocated to the Government of Uttar Pradesh under the Integrated Rural Development Programme during 1992-93;

(b) whether the role and performance of the banks under the said scheme in Uttar Pradesh have been reviewed; and

(c) The amount released and utilised far and the number of families benefited ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) Government of India had allocated an amount of Rs. 13,062 lakhs to the State Government of Uttar Pradesh under Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) for the year 1992-93

(b) The implementation of IRDP is reviewed periodically at the State Level Bankers Committee (SLBC)/and District Credit Committee (DCC). As per the data recorded by the State Government authorities, the percentage achievement in terms of physical and financial targets works out to 105% and 92% respectively of the targets fixed.

(c) The amount released and utilised and the number of families benefited under IRDP during 1992-93 in the State of Uttar Pradesh (as on 31-3-1993) is as under :

		(Amount in Rs. Crores)
(i) No. of families to be assisted	:	3,69,354
(ii) No. of families assisted	:	3,87,413
(iii) Subsidy released		
By Central Government	:	68·44
By State Government	:	59·00
(iv) Credit Disbursed	:	289·57
(v) Subsidy Utilised	:	143·83

[*Translation*]

SECURITY FORCE TO CHECK HIJACKING OF PLANES.

1869. SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA) :
SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN :
SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV :

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

(a) the number of security personnel at airports against whom action has been taken for lapses on their part in the incidents of hijacking of planes during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government propose to constitute a security force to check hijacking of planes; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) A Sub Inspector and an Inspector of Delhi Police have been suspended. Suitable action against an Assistant Commissioner and a Deputy Commissioner of Delhi Police is also contemplated.

(b) and (c) An expert Group has been set up to review the existing security system comprehensively with a view to making it more efficient and effective. The Group would also examine in this connection setting up of a dedicated Force for aviation security and make suitable recommendation.

[*English*]

DARK AREAS IN GUJARAT

1870. SHRI DILEEPBHAI SANGHANI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the areas in Gujarat which have been included in dark areas by "NABARD";

(b) whether the Government propse to conduct the survey again in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (c) The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that a groundwater assessment had been carried out by the State Government of Gujarat. The list of districts/talukas in Gujarat which are included in Dark and Grey areas as a result thereof as on December 1990 is furnished in the attached Statement. NABARD has still no information about any proposal of a fresh assessment in this regard.

Statement

List of Dark and Grey talukas in the State of Gujarat
(As per groundwater assessment carried out by the State Govt.)
(Position as of December, 1990)

S. No.	District	Name and Category of Taluka	
		Dark	Grey
1.	Amreli	(i) Kodinar	(i) Rajaula
2.	Banaskantha	Nil	(i) Vadgam
3.	Jamnagar	(i) Bhanvad	
4.	Junagadh	(i) Maliya (ii) Mangrol (iii) Porbandar (iv) Veraval	(i) Ranavan (ii) Vinavadar
5.	Kutch	Nil	(i) Bhachau
6.	Mehsana	(i) Chanasma (ii) Kadi (iii) Kalol (iv) Mehsana (v) Vijapur (vi) Visnagar	(i) Hariz (ii) Patan (iii) Sidhpur
7.	Rajkot	(i) Lodhika (ii) Morvi (iii) Paddhari (iv) Rajkot	(i) Jasdan (ii) Upleta (iii) Wankaner
8.	Sabarkantha	Nil	(i) Idar
9.	Surendranagar	Nil	(i) Dharangdhra (ii) Mali

[English]

TEXTILE MANUFACTURING TRAINING CENTRES

1871. DR. AMRIT LAL KALIDAS PATEL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of textile manufacturing training centres in Gujarat;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up some more such centres in the State;

(c) if so, the number thereof and the places selected for this purpose; and

(d) the time by which these centres are likely to be set up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) There are three Service Centres in Gujarat.

(b) to (d) It is proposed to set up four Powerloom Service Centres in 1993-94. Location of the centres will be decided after the proposals are received from State Govts.

[Translation]

PROMOTION OF TOURISM

1872. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI :

SHRI RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :

SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA) :

SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHALIA :

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

(a) whether the Union Government have taken or proposed to take steps to promote tourism and monitor the activities relating to tourism;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Promotion of tourism is a continuous process. The Department of Tourism makes concerted efforts in association with State Governments and various segments of the travel industry to promote tourism. These include, development of infrastructure identification and promotion of new destinations providing wayside amenities, construction of hotels and restaurants, augmentation of coaches and cars, improvement of tourist facilities and services, and publicity through press, television, seminars, conferences, publicity literature, posters, films, audio/visuals, etc. The activities are monitored through reports received periodically from our field offices and by means of committees on specific subjects set up for the purpose.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

NATIONAL POLICY ON CHILD LABOUR

1873. SHRI LOKNATH CHOUDHURY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Orissa does not figure among the ten project areas as idtntified for the projects based action plan under the National Policy on Child Labour, 1987;

(b) if so, whether the State Government has pleaded for its inclusion in the action plan;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A SANGMA) : (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) to (d) The need for taking up Projects in Orissa was highlighted by the State Government during the 42nd Labour Ministers' Conference held in July, 1993. Detailed proposals from the State Government are awaited.

[Translation]

APPOINTMENT OF LIQUIDATOR

1874. SHRI SURAJBHANU SOLANKI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the High Court is required appoint a Liquidator after issue of liquidation order by the BIFR/AAIFR as per the provision of Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985; and

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to provide to the workers an amount equal to arrears payable to them from the National Renewal Fund and recover the same from the liquidator afterwards keeping in view the delay being caused in it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has reported that it does not issue liquidation orders and that it only records its opinion that it is just and equitable that the particular sick industrial company be wound up This reommendation is forwarded to the concern High Court which orders winding up of the sick industrial company in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956. Appointment of an Official Liquidator by the Court is also done as per the provisions of the Company Act, 1956. The Official Liquidator functions under the directions of the concerned High Courts including for disbursement of the proceeds of liquidation. Section 529(A) of the Companies Act, 1956 provides for over-riding preferential treatment to workmen & secured creditors dues.

[English]

LOAN FACILITIES FOR TEXTILE MILLS

1875. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be peased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any suggestions in regard to ensure

better loan facilities for cotton mills and for more workng capital arrangements;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon ?

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

(b) As per the memorandum given by Indian Cotton Mills Federation (ICMF), statutory stock limits on cotton should be removed, cotton prices should be stabilised at a reasonable level and selective credit control on cotton/kapas should be relaxed/removed.

(c) The Government has already removed the statutory limit on cotton stocks and has stabilised the cotton prices at a reasonable level by timely announcement of cotton exports and market interventions by Cotton Corporation of India (CCI). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has also been requested to relax/remove the selective credit control on cotton/kapas.

[*Translation*]

NEW AIR ROUTES

1876. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH

SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:

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

(a) whether the Government have introduced new air routes in view of congestion of air traffic and to reduce the consumption of fuel;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the new routes have been introduced for both domestic and international flights; and

(d) the estimated annual savings as a result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c) Detail's of domestic and international routes realigned are given in the attached *Statement*.

(d) Saving of about 2.8 lakhs Nautical Miles annually has been achieved.

Statement

S. No.		Route	Effective from
1		2	3
Domestic			
1.	W 39	Delhi-Saharanpur-Kanzam-Leh	May 1991
2.	W 45	Lucknow-Patna-Kishanganj-Bagdogra-Guwahati	Do.
3.	W 54	Agartala-Imphal	Do.
4.	W 40	Lucknow-Kanpur-Khajuraho-Pratapgarh-Ahmedabad	Do.
5.	W 43	Bangalore-Coimbatore-Trivandrum	Do.
6.	W 46	Madurai-Cochin	Do.
7.	W 47	Bangalore-Vijaywada-Vishakhapatnam	Do.
8.	W 67	Pune-Goa	Do.
9.	W 48	Bidar-Bangalore	Do.
10.	W 66	Khajuraho-Jabalpur-Raipur	Do.
11.	W 49	Bhubaneshwar-Khajuraho	Do.
12.	W 52	Calcutta-Patna	Do.
13.	W 60	Songarh-Ozar-Pune	Do.
14.	W 65	Delhi-Jodhpur	November 1991
15.	W 68	Khajuraho-Bhopal	January 1992
16.	W 19	Bhopal-Bidar	July 1992
17.	W 57	Bangalore-Hyderabad	Do.
18.	W 48	Bangalore-Bidar	Do.
19.	W 47	Bangalore-Vishakhapatam	Do.
20.	W 69	Calcutta-Bagdogra	Do.

1		2	3
International			
1.	A 1	Pratapgarh-Bhopal-Jaipur-Calcutta . . .	May 1991
2.	B 210	Bhubaneshwar-Bhopal-Pratapgarh . . .	October 1991
3.	B 209	Jamshedpur-Khajuraho-Jaipur-Tiger . .	Do.
4.	A 201	Agartala-Rajasahi-Gaya	Do.
5.	A 466	Delhi-Lahore-Tarmaz	November 1991
6.	A 463	Colombo-Madurai	April 1992
7.	B340	Colombo-Trivandrum	January 1992
8.	A 467	Calcutta-Viratnagar	July 1992

[English]

LOAN TO FARMERS BY NATIONALISED BANKS

1877. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVISINGH PATIL :

SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of loan provided to the farmers by different nationalised banks in Maharashtra during the last financial year;

(b) the number of the farmers whom the loan has been provided during the above period;

(c) the number of the farmers whom loan has been provided within one month, two months and three months after they submitted their applications for the same;

(d) whether the farmers have to face a lot of difficulties for getting the loan in time; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (e) The data reporting system of the Reserve Bank of India does not generate information in the manner asked for. However, the amount of loans disbursed by nationalised banks in the State of Maharashtra during the year ended June 1991 (latest available) for agriculture and allied activities (short term & term loans and allied activities) was of the order of Rs. 259.15 crores. The number of accounts against which the above amount was disbursed was 2,03,622.

Banks have been given standing instructions that all loan applications upto a credit limit of Rs. 25,000 are to be disposed off within a fortnight and those over Rs 25,000 within 8 to 9 weeks. To facilitate speedy disposal of applications a simplified lending procedure for loans to agriculture and allied activities are adopted. Application forms are also made available in regional languages. Further, the terms and conditions regarding margin and security are printed on the reverse of the application form itself. All branch managers of banks are vested with discretionary powers to sanction loan proposals received from weaker sections without reference to any higher authority. If there are any complaints regarding delay in disbursements of loan the same are taken up with the concerned banks for corrective measures.

NARCOTICS SEIZED

1878. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT :
SHRI DAU DAYLL JOSHI :
SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity and value of narcotic drugs seized in the country during each of the last three years;

(b) the number of persons arrested during the said period, State and Union Territory-wise, and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to check the smuggling of narcotics ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) As per the available information the quantity of narcotic drugs seized (in Kgs) in the country during the each of the last three years, is as under :—

	1990	1991	1992
Opium	2114	2145	1918
Morphine	6	6	35
Heroin	2193	622	1153
Ganja	39090	52633	64341
Hashish	6388	4413	6621
Cocaine	1	0.008	0.420
Methaqualone	2141	4415	7475
Phenobarbital	—	—	118020 tabs.
L.S.D.	—	—	50 Sq. paper

No precise valuation of narcotic drugs, which are often of indeterminate chemical strength and composition and are liable for destruction is feasible.

(b) The number of persons arrested State and Union Territory-wise are given in the *Statement* annexed.

(c) Instructions have been issued to all enforcement agencies to maintain the utmost vigil and step up enforcement efforts under the stringent provisions contained in the NDPS Act. Training is being imparted to officers. Vehicles and communication equipment has been provided.

Statement

Number of persons arrested during 1990, 1991 and 1992 State and Union Territory–wise

S. No.	State/U.T.	1990	1991	1992
1.	Andhra Pradesh	37	25	20
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3	5	4
3.	Assam	34	37	127
4.	Bihar	12	17	110
5.	Goa	41	12	32
6.	Gujarat	15	42	32
7.	Haryana	181	160	135
8.	Himachal Pradesh	58	6	46
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	10	25	44
10.	Karnataka	5	2	53
11.	Kerala	53	41	159
12.	Madhya Pradesh	47	66	112
13.	Maharashtra	562	553	1022
14.	Manipur	72	45	290
15.	Meghalaya	—	2	14
16.	Mizoram	37	73	203
17.	Nagaland	62	33	159
18.	Orissa	1	2	16
19.	Punjab	76	98	211
20.	Rajasthan	74	93	113
21.	Sikkim	—	—	—
22.	Tamil Nadu	1466	1560	2929
23.	Tripura	2	—	1
24.	Uttar Pradesh	876	1571	6284
25.	West Bengal	178	66	77
26.	Delhi	400	691	612
27.	Daman & Diu	—	—	—
28.	Pondicherry	—	71	—
29.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	—	4	3
30.	Lakshdweep	—	—	—
31.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	—	—	—
32.	Chandigarh	—	—	—

IMPORT OF MULBERRY SILK

1879. PROF. MALINI BHATTACHARYA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been increase in the import of mulberry silk during the last three years; and

(b) if so, its likely effect on domestic sericultune of the country ?

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

(b) The imports of raw silk are basically allowed under the export promotion schemes of the Export-Import Policy. Besides, in the exigencies of short supplies and consequential increase in the price of raw silk in the local markets, Government allows import of limited quantities of raw silk for price stabilisation purposes.

The import of mulberry raw silk allowed during the last three years have not had any adverse impact on silk production in the country which has substantially increased from 10905 metric tonnes in 1989-90 to 13007 metric tonnes in 1992-93. However, commencing from September, 1992, there has been a downward trend in the prices of silk in the country and this is partly attributed to the increased availability of raw silk on account of increase in indigenous production and partly due to availability of imported silk in the country.

[*Translation*]

PROFIT/LOSS OF INDIAN AIRLINES AND AIR INDIA

1880. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of profit/loss earned/suffered by the Air India and the Indian Airlines during 1992-93 as compared to profit/loss during the last year;

(b) the steps taken to further improve the performance of the Air India and the Indian Airlines;

(c) the number of flights operated by the Air India and the Indian Airlines during the above period, year-wise and region-wise;

(d) whether the Government have taken concrete steps to further improve the air-services in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) During 1992-93, Air India has shown a profit of Rs. 333.14 crores, whereas Indian Airlines has shown a loss of Rs. 195.11 crores. The corresponding figures for the year 1991-92 in the case of Air India are Rs. 145.89 crores profit and Rs. 198.6 crores loss for Indian Airlines.

(b) Air India is making efforts to improve passenger facilities both on ground and on board. The steps proposed include renovation of booking offices, computerised reservation systems, automatic boarding control, real time flight information system, better on board meals services and passenger amenities and improvement in flight entertainment systems. Indian Airlines has taken several steps like improvement in "on-time" performance, introduction of business class in airbus A-320 flights, better ground handling and in-flight services so as to enhance its appeal to passengers.

(c) Indian Airlines operated a total of 86,154 flights in 1991-92 and 75,361 flights in 1992-93. The break up is given below :—

Region	1991/92	1992/93
Western Region	20219	18360
Eastern Region	13705	12155
Northern Region	35473	29538
Southern Region	16757	15308
Total	86154	75361

Information regarding Air India is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

(d) and (e) Improvement in services of Air India and Indian Airlines is a continuous process.

[*English*]

AGREEMENT WITH ISRAEL ON TOURISM

1881. SHRI RAM TAPSE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have signed a five year agreement on tourism with Israel during the visit of the Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Israel; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The salient features of the agreement are as follows :

(i) To encourage and promote tourist flow between the two countries;

(ii) To exchange publicity material and tourist literature;

(iii) To encourage travel trade and hoteliers of both the countries to promote tourism; and

(iv) To encourage investment in tourism sector.

DEPOSIT CREDIT RATIO

1882. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the deposit credit ratio of the nationalised banks of the country during the last two years, State-wise, and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to accelerate the credit facilities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) Statement showing State-wise data on Credit Deposit Ratio of public sector banks as at the end of December 1991 and 1992 is attached.

(b) The Credit Deposit Ratio cannot be the sole indicator of economic development of a particular State/Region. The actual level of credit in relation to locally mobilised deposits in a particular state or region depends upon the credit absorption capacity of the state/region which in turn is determined and influenced by factors such as development of infrastructural facilities and availability of required inputs and marketing for agricultural, industrial production etc. With a view to ascertaining the reasons for low credit deposit ratio for certain States/Union Territories and to suggest measures for improving the same, six Task Forces, were set up by Reserve Bank of India in Bihar, U.P., West Bengal, Rajasthan, Kerala and Pondicherry. Such issues are also monitored in the meetings of Regional Consultative Committee, State Level Bankers' Committee by State Governments and by RBI on regular basis.

Statement

S. No.	State/Union Territory	December 1991	December 1992
1	2	3	4
I.	**Northern Region**	**58 9**	**58·8**
1.	Haryana	55 8	55 3
2.	Himachal Pradesh	33.7	32·0
3.	Jammu & Kashmir	31.0	29 9
4.	Punjab	41.8	39.9
5.	Rajasthan	56 3	54.6
6.	Chandigarh	102 4	70 8
7.	Delhi	70.9	74 6
II.	**North-Eastern Region**	**43 5**	**42 9**
8	Arunachal Pradesh	16.3	15.3
9.	Assam	48 6	48.1
10.	Manipur	69 9	82 0
11.	Meghalaya	19.7	16.7
12.	Mizoram	23.4	21.2
13.	Nagaland	41 5	45 1
14.	Tripura	43 5	45 7
III.	**Eastern Region**	**47 2**	**48 2**
15.	Bihar	38 6	37 8
16.	Orissa	72 4	67.4
17.	Sikkim	27.1	28 9
18.	West Bengal	48.0	50.6
19.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	31 0	31.1
IV.	**Central Region**	**49.0**	**48.4**
20.	Madhya Pradesh	64 2	63 8
21.	Uttar Pradesh	43 1	42.3
V.	**Western Region**	**60 2**	**60.5**
22.	Goa	31 2	30·1
23.	Gujarat	54.7	54.2
24.	Maharashtra	63.3	64.1
25.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	47.2	34.7
26.	Daman & Diu	17.6	17.7
VI.	**Southern Region**	**79.3**	**75 3**
27.	Andhra Pradesh	81.9	80.6
28.	Karnataka	79.7	76.2
29.	Kerala		
30.	Tamil Nadu	93.1	86.2
31.	Lakshadweep	13.9	10.9
32.	Pondicherry	48.9	44.9
	All-India	60.0	59.5

[*Translation*]

FACILITIES TO SICK PUBLIC SECTOR INDUSTRIES BY PUBLIC SECTOR BANKS

1883. DR. P. R. GANGWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the public sector banks have stopped providing facilities to the sick industries in public sector;

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

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

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

PAYMENT TO POLICY HOLDERS

1884. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be Pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to make the payment to those policy holders within the minimum time whose policies were closed before three years ;

(b) if so, the minimum duration after which the deposited amount will be paid to the policy holders ; and

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

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) If the premiums are not paid for a minimum period of 3 years, an insurance policy lapses without acquiring a paid-up value. No payment is made towards a lapsed policy.

SETTING UP OF STATE LEVEL COMMITTEES BY RBI

1885. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU :

SHRI S. B. SIDNAL :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has set up State-level committees to promore exports and resolve the problems relating thereto ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the total increase in exports likely to take place as a result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) with a view to sorting out expeditiously the infrastructural and operational problems which impede the growth of exports, has decided to set up with the help of the State Governments and other organisations, State Level Export Promotion Committees (SLEPC) to exclusively deal with all matters relating to exports. The lead bank of the State would be the convenor of the SLEPC meetings. The Chief Executive of the bank who acts as Chairman of the State level Bankers Committee willl also act as the Chairman of SLEPC.

(c) The quantum of increase in export credit as a result of the Constitution of SLEPC is difficult to assess. However, it is expected that by removal of infrastructural & operational problems, SLEPC will certainly give a boost to the growth of exports of the country.

[*English*]

RURAL WELFARE BOARD

1886. SHRI RAM NIHORE RAI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Gujarat State has appointed a separate Commissioner for rural labour and has also created Rural Welfare Board ;

(b) whether similar set ups are also proposed to be created in other States and Union Territories ; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to ensure that these are manned by suitably qualified and motivated persons ?

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

ENQUIRY INTO AIRCRAFT ACCIDENTS

1887. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA :

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (FEROZEPUR) :

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI :

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

(a) the details of the accidents to Indian registered aircraft during the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether the Government have enquired into all these accidents;

(c) if so, the main findings/recommendations of each such enquiries/investigations;

(d) whether the Government have implemented all these recommendations;

(e) if not, the details of the recommendations which have not been implemented; and

(f) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The details of accidents to Indian-registered aircraft from 1-1-90 are as follows:—

Air India aircraft	1
Indian Airlines aircraft	4
Non Scheduled operators' aircraft	34
Total	39

(b) Investigations have been conducted/ordered into all the above accidents.

(c) Of the above accidents, only the following 3 were major ones in terms of casualties.

(i) Accident to Indian Airlines A-320 aircraft at Bangalore on 14-2-90.

(ii) Accident to Indian Airlines B-737 aircraft near Imphal on 16-8-91.

(iii) Accident to Indian Airlines B-737 aircraft near Aurangabad on 26-4-93.

The reports of the Courts which inquired into the accidents at Bangalore and Imphal alongwith Government's decisions on the findings and recommendations have respectively been laid on the table of Parliament on 10-1-91 and laid in the Parliament House Library, vide index No. 363. 12465R N-1, on 2-9-92. The accident which took place near Aurangabad on 26-4-93 is under investigation.

(d) to (f) Of a total of 191 recommendations made by Courts of inquiry/Committees of inquiry Inspectors of Accidents during the period 127 have been implemented. 21 recommendations have not been accepted by the Government. 5 of the accepted recommendations were not found feasible subsequently. The remaining 38 recommendations, which are either recent or involve longterm measures, are in the process of implementation.

STREAMLINING OF INCOME TAX DEPARTMENT

1888. SHRI SRIKANTA JENA:
SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA:
SHRI S. B. SIDNAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn towards growing perception of malpractices in the Income-tax Department as reported in the Hindustan Times dated April 30, 1993;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to take some steps to simplify and streamline the procedure and to check the malpractices prevailing in the department;

(c) if so, the details of the revamping programme in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Simplification and streamlining of procedures is a continuous process in the Department. A number of steps have already been taken in this respect. These include processing of returns under Section 143(1)(a) of the Income Tax Act, without calling the assessees, ensuring that the returns filed by the taxpayers are assessed quickly and refunds are issued with minimum delays, wherever required. Additional posts have also been sanctioned in different grades to reduce the workload with the Assessing Officers. A number of administrative

arrangements have also been made to provide better facilities for filing of returns, re-organisation of the Income Tax Offices to provide a cleaner and better working environment for efficient functioning.

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

[*Translation*]

IMF LOAN

1889. DR. CHATTRAPAL SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the amount of loan received from I.M.F. during 1990-91, 1991-92, 1992-93 and the first three months of 1993-94 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : For the period for which information has been sought, following amount of loans was received from IMF under different facilities : —

Year	*Amount* (in SDR millions)
1990-91	1268.825
1991-92	905.080
1992-93	1155.000
1993-94	231.000

(upto June 93)

(Current SDR—rupees representative rate :

1 SDR=Rs. 44.566258)

PRIVATE AIRLINES SERVICES TO NEW PLACES

1890. SHRI KESHRI LAL :

SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM :

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

(a) whether the Government propose to encourage/direct the private airlines operating in the country to start their flights for the places for which no air service is available ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c) Under the existing guidelines, air taxi operators are free to operate to any airport to which scheduled services operate. Air tax operators are encouraged to operate flights to destinations where no air services are available.

DEVELOPMENT OF HANDLOOM IN MAHARASHTRA

1891. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Government has received any proposal from the Maharashtra Government regarding development of handlooms ;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon so far ?

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

(b) and (c) During the year 1992-93, on the basis of proposals received from the State Government releases were made to the State Government of Maharashtra under the following schemes :

(Rs. in Lakhs)

SCHEME	*AMOUNT*
1. Modernisation of Looms.	20.00
2. Janata Subsidy.	852.56
TOTAL	872.56

For the year 1993-94 a sum of Rs. 8.70 Lakhs has been released upto 27-7-1993 to the State Government of Maharashtra, based on their proposal under Integrated handloom village development scheme.

[English]

UNEMPLOYED HANDICAPPED PERSONS

1892. MAJOR D. D. KHANGRIA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of handicapped persons registered in various employment exchanges in Himachal Pradesh ;

(b) the number of such persons provided with employment during the last two years ;

(c) the number of reserved posts for handicapped likely to be filled by those employment exchanges ; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to fill up these reserved vacancies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) The number of handicapped persons registered with various employment exchanges in Himachal Pradesh as on 31-12-1992 not all of whom are necessarily unemployed, as per the available information was 3,736.

(b) The number of handicapped persons placed in jobs by the employment exchanges in Himachal Pradesh during the years 1991 and 1992 was 28 and 31 respectively.

(c) and (d) 3% of the civil posts in Group 'C' and 'D' under the Central Government and in Public Sector Undertakings are reserved for the handicapped. A Special Employment Exchange at Shimla has been functioning to cater to the needs of the handicapped and assist them in getting suitable employment. A Special Cell for the handicapped has also been opened at Employment Exchange Dharamsala. Three Special Recruitment Drives have been conducted to fill up the backlog of Group 'C' & 'D' vacancies reserved for handicapped in respect of Central Ministries, Central Public Sector Undertakings, and Banks, etc. The State Government has also been requested to fill up the reserved vacancies for handicapped by conducting Special Recruitment Drives in the State.

FINANCIAL AID TO HIMACHAL PRADESH

1893. SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of loans and financial aid provided to Himachal Pradesh by the Government during the last one year; and

(b) the purpose for which these grants/loans have been utilized;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY) : (a) & (b) The details of grants and loans provided to the State of Himachal Pradesh during 1992-93 and purpose for utilisation of funds thereof, are as under :—

(Rs. in crores)

	Item	Funds released	Purpose of utilisation of fund as reported by the State Government
1.	Non-Plan Grants	118 41	For Non-Plan Schemes.
2.	Grants for State Plan Schemes	290.73	For financing of developmental schemes under annual plan.
3.	Loans for State Plan Schemes	109.11	Do.
4.	Grants for Centrally sponsored/ Central Sector Schemes	81.89.*	For implementation of various Central Sector Centrally sponsored schemes.
5.	Loans for Centrally sponsored schemes	4.23.*	For implementation of various Centrally sponsored schemes.

* Figures as indicated by the State Government.

REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE FACILITIES FOR AIR CRAFT

1894. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN:

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

(a) whether there has been any expansion of repair and maintenance facilities for aircraft in India during the last one year consequent upon the acquisition of several additional aircraft by private carriers for domestic passenger/cargo services:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the manner in which the Government propose to ensure the safety of the aircraft and passengers;

(d) whether the private carriers have approached the Indian Airlines in this regard; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. These operators have facilities for carrying out routine maintenance. They have arrangements with the lessors abroad for major maintenance works. A few aircraft maintenance companies in India have also upgraded their facilities to cater to additional work involved in the maintenance of aircraft of air taxi operators. HAL, Bangalore has also started undertaking major maintenance of civil aircraft.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) While some of the air taxi operators have approached Indian Airlines, it is not possible for the latter to render this assistance to private operators in view of the fact that its maintenance capacity is fully stretched for maintenance of its own fleet and maintenance commitments made to Air India, IAF, BSF, Coast Guard, Vayudoot, etc.

ASSISTANCE TO SUGAR FACTORIES BY CENTRAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

1895. PROF. ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are some restrictions to provide loan to the Cooperative Sugar factories by the Central Financial Institutions;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government of Maharashtra had requested the Union Government to relax the restrictions; and

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

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

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[*Translation*]

COMMITTEE ON EXPORTS ENCOURAGEMENT

1896. SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up any committee on exports encouragement;

(b) if so, the details of its composition; and

(c) the time by which the recommendations of this committee are likely to be received?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

AGREEMENTS BETWEEN INDIA AND ERSTWHILE RUSSIA

1897. SHRI CHETAN P. S. CHAUHAN:

SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have signed a number of bilateral trade agreements with the Common-wealth of Independent States and erstwhile eastern bloc countries;

(b) if so, the details of areas and the terms and condition in which the agreements have been signed, country-wise;

(c) whether any achievement has been made so far; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Yes, Sir. Such agreemnts, which are in the nature of framework bilateral agreements on trade and economic cooperation, have been signed, since 1992, with the Russian Federation, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Kyrghyzstan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Armenia, Ukraine, Belarus, Luthuania, Moldova, Romania, the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic.

(b) to (d) The principal features of these agreements are trade in hard currency on internationally competitive terms and prices, mutual Most-Favoured-Nation treatment, counter-trade and similar international practices, promotion of economic cooperation in sectors of mutual interest, promotion of joint ventures, and encouragement to more extensive direct business contacts. The agreements and intended to serve as a broad framework for bilateral trade and economic cooperation, with a view to facilitating text, in consonance with current economic and trade policies prevalent on both sides.

[*English*]

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RESERVES

1898. SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total foreign exchange reserves of the country at present and six months before; and

(b) the total borrowings external as well as internal during the corresponding periods?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) Total foreign exchange reserves (including Gold and Special Drawing Rights) at end June, 1993 were Rs. 33015 crores (US $ 10547 million), and at end December 1992 were Rs. 23244 crores (US $ 8885 million).

(b) Estimates of borrowings, external as well as internal, are not available for the correspond.ng periods. Total external borrowings (non-defence) outstanding at end March 1993 were Rs. 219169 crores (US $ 70354 million) and internal borrowings and other liabilities outstanding (at end March 1993) were Rs. 355264 crores.

[*Translation*]

TRIPARTITE COMMITTEE ON NTC MILLS

1899. SHRI GAYA PRASAD KORI:
SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA:
DR. CHATTRAPAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of employees of N.T.C. who have taken voluntary retirement so far:

(b) whether the Government have implemented the suggestions made by the Tripartite Committee in toto:

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the time by which these are proposed to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) 45,582 employees of NTC have availed of the Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) upto June' 1993, since its inception.

(b) to (d) The Tripartite Industrial Committee on Cotton Textile Industry had recommended, inter-alia, that budgetary support to NTC should not be stopped suddenly but phased out over a period of time in a planned manner ; efforts should be made to provide funds for VRS from the National Renewal Fund (NRF); data should be furnished regarding the chronically sick mills of NTC to the trade unions to enable them to submit specific proposals for revival. The budgetary support to NTC has not been stopped; funds for VRS are already being provided from NRF ; and data on the chronically silk mills of NTC has been furnished to the trade unions.

IMPORT OF AIR-CONDITIONED BUSES

1900. SHRI ASHT BHUJA PRASAD SHUKLA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have taken a decision to import five hundred air-conditioned buses ;

(b) if so. the details thereof : and

(c) the reasons for not purchasing these buses from indigenous bus builders ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c) Government of India by a notification dated 1st October, 1992 had allowed import of 350 air-conditioned cars and 500 air-conditioned coaches at reduced customs duty of 50 per cent by specified importers namely, State Tourism Development Corporations, classified hotels, travel agents/tour operators and transport operators recognised by the Department of Tourism. The last date for import was 31-3-1993 which has since expired. No imports have taken place under this notification, the revalidation/ modification of which is under consideration.

REDUCTION IN RATE OF INTEREST ON BANK DEPOSITS AND ADVANCES

1901. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :

DR. CHATTARPAL SINGH :

SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have reduced the rate of interest on the deposits in the public sector and other banks and on the advances taken from these banks ;

(b) if so, since when and the details thereof ;

(c) whether it has adversely affected income, savings and investments;

(d) if so, the percentage of this adverse affects on income, savings and investments-wise; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) As per the directives issued by Reserve Bank of

India (RBI) to all scheduled commercial banks, interest rates on term deposits/ savings deposits as also on advances have been reduced recently as under :

Term Deposits : Interest Rate for maturity of 46 days to 3 years and above was reduced by one percentage point from 'not exceeding 12.0% p.a.' to 'not exceeding 11.0% p.a.' with effect from 1st March 1993.

Saving Deposits : Interest Rate was reduced by one percentage point from 6.0% p.a to 5.0% p.a. with effect from 1st July 1993.

Advances :

Size of Limit	Rate of Interest (% p.a.)	
	Upto 23-6-93	Revised rate effective 24-6-1993
(i) for over Rs. 25000 and upto Rs. 2 lakhs .	16.5	16.0 (fixed)
(ii) Over Rs. 2 lakhs	17.0 (minimum)	16.0 (minimum)

(c) to (e) The structure of lending rate is determined by RBI taking with account a number of factors like the growth of the economy, the rate of inflation, the pace of monetary expansion, the cost of raisng resources by banks, the profitability of banks, etc. RBI feels that the current structure of rates for deposits and lending is appropriate. The data given in the Table below show a steady growth in aggregate deposits and bank credit by all scheduled commercial banks.

TABLE

(Rs. in crores)

Year	*Deposits*	*Credit*
December 1990	184961	121984
December 1991	219542	133745
December 1992	261588	153256

[*English*]

AMOUNT RELEASED TO STATES UNDER ARDRS

1902. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE :

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE :

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN :

SHRI RAMLAKHAN SINGH YADAV :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether State Cooperative Banks, State Land Development Banks and Regional Rural Banks have submitted the final claims under the Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief Scheme, 1990 ;

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

(c) the amount released to each State under the above scheme as on June 30, 1993 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (c) The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that the State Cooperative Banks (SCBs), State Land Development Banks (SLDBs) and Regional Rural Banks ((RRBs) are yet to submit their final/revised claim statements after complying with the instructions issued by NABARD. The State-wise details of claims received by NABARD and the amounts sanctioned to banks are given in the *Statement* attached.

Statement

(Rs. in crores)

S. No.	Name of the States/U.T.	State Co-operative Banks (S.C.Bs.)		State Land Development Banks (S.L.D.Bs.)		Regional Rural Banks (R.R.Bs.)	
		Claims lodged	Amount sanctioned	Claims lodged	Amount sanctioned	Claims lodged	Amount sanctioned
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1.	Gujarat	302.63	255.47	48.90	41.64	8.57	6.68
2.	Karnataka	94.89	80.10	39.15	33.35	77.45	60.42
3.	Madhya Pradesh	225 44	190.31	45.68	38.90	41.49	32.58
4.	Orissa	149 62	108.46	36.88	31.41	76.09	59.27
5.	West Bengal	112 90	95.31	25.46	21.69	65.83	51.28
6.	Andaman & Nicobar	0.20	0.08	—	—	—	—
7.	Punjab	102.19	100.00	9.25	7.87	2.15	0 90
8.	Haryana	96.36	82.00	34.52	29.41	20.43	15.94
9.	Himachal Pradesh	28.52	22.37	2.57	2.05	3.83	2.98
10.	Assam	32.17	17.90	2.43	1.29	26.79	8.93
11.	Meghalaya	9.80	6.17	—	—	0.51	0 40
12.	Tripura	11.28	5.53	1.69	0.89	14.81	5.53
13.	Manipur	8.07	2.98	—	—	0.52	0.09
14.	Mizoram	0.18	—	—	—	1.52	0.32
15.	Nagaland	3.81	2.33	—	—	0.33	0.06
16.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.29	1.00	—	—	0.54	0 05
17.	Andhra Pradesh	235.75	199.04	118.14	100.66	111.19	86.68
18.	Rajasthan	293.52	247.78	32.62	27.78	77.00	60 46
19.	Uttar Pradesh	543.17	458.53	100.27	85.40	110.84	86 65
20.	Tamil Nadu	211.21	190.71	73.60	62.69	12.84	10.00
21.	Pondicherry (Grant)	3.59	1.51	0.18	0.76	—	—
22.	Bihar	400.91	186.74	148.15	88.00	106.30	75 01
23.	Maharashtra	378.88	319.84	111.38	94.86	18.48	14.66
24.	Goa	1.51	1.21	—	—	—	—
25.	Jammu & Kashmir	33.80	28.11	1.78	0.89	7.63	4.74
26.	Kerala	69.71	58.85	11.70	10.00	10.43	8.24
27.	New Delhi	—	0.10	—	—	—	—
28.	Chandigarh	0.36	0.29	—	—	—	—

LOAN FOR BUYING VEHICLES

1903. SHRI C. P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount being given by the Government to Central Government employees as loan to purchase the vehicles and the rates of interest being charged thereon;

(b) whether in view of hike in prices of vehicles the Government propose to enhance the limit of conveyance advance;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) The maximum amount of advance admissible to the Central Government employees for purchase of a conveyance is as follows :—

(i) *Motor Car Advance* : Employees drawing a basic pay of Rs. 3500 per month or above are eligible for an advance of upto Rs. 80,000/- or 16 months' basic pay of the Government servant or the anticipated price of the motor car, whichever is the least.

On second or subsequent occasions, the advance is restricted to Rs. 75,000/- or 16 months' basic pay of the Government servant or the anticipated price of the motor car, whichever is the least.

(ii) *Motor cycle/scooter/moped advance* : Central Government employees drawing basic pay of Rs. 1500 - per month and above are eligible for an advance of upto Rs. 13,000/- or 8 months' basic pay or the anticipated price of the conveyance, whichever is the least.

On second or subsequent occasions, the advance is restricted to Rs. 10,000/- or 6 months' basic pay or the anticipated price of the vehicle, whichever is the least.

Simple interest, as fixed by the government from time to time, is charged on these advances. Rate of interest for the year 1993-94 is 15% for motor car advance and 11.5% on advance for buying motor cycle/scooter/moped.

(b) to (d) Due to resource constraints, it is not proposed to enhance the limit of conveyance advance

EXPORT OF COFFEE FROM KARNATAKA

1904. SHRI KODAKANI GOWDANA SHIVAPPA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is no substantial increase in the export of coffee from Karnataka during the last three years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps contemplated by the Government to improve the export of coffee from Karnataka ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES CONSUMERS AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) and (b) The Coffee Board does not generally maintain separate statistics in regard to export of coffee statewise since under the existing practice coffee is pooled from various areas and while the combined auction takes place, its identity is lost. However, exports in the last three fiscal years have improved both in terms of quantity as well as value. Since nearly 70% of the total coffee production is in the State of Karnataka, it is expected that the export of coffee produced in Karnataka has proportionately gone up.

(c) The steps taken by the government in regard to promoting coffee export are overall measures and does not exclusively apply to any specific coffee producing state. However, after the collapse of erstwhile U. S. S. R. there has been substantial loss of market. The Coffee Board has taken measures including printing of brochures, literature and other publicity materials including video films for wider publicity amongst overseas buyers, participation in overseas fairs and exhibitions to create an

awareness of Indian Coffee. Steps have also been taken to minimise bottlenecks in export procedures within the Board and simplify them, wherever possible.

TEXTILE POLICY

1905. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have worked out a new textile policy in the wake of liberalisation and globalisation of industries; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKATSWAMY) : (a) and (b) While no new Textile policy has been worked out by the Government, the government have issued the Textile (Development & Regulation) order, 1993 in price of Textile (Control Order) '86 wherein the Provisions regarding licensing etc. have been amended in line with the liberalised industrial policy.

PRIVATISATION OF SPINNING MILLS

1906. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the break-up of spinning mills owned by Union Government, State Government and private companies in Orissa;

(b) whether the Government propose to hand over public sector mills to private parties; and

(c) if so, the reasons therfor;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) . (a) The break-up of the spinning mills in Orissa is as under:

Central Government (NTC)	—1
Cooperative Sector	—6(Two other co-op mills under execution)
State Govt./STC	—3
Private Management	—3

(b) and (c) There is no proposal at present with the Central Government. However, the State Government of Orissa has handed-over the possession of one cooperative spinning mill to a private company and also proposes to handover some other heavily loss-making cooperative spinning mills to pirvate parties.

NEW GARMENT EXPORT POLICY

1907. SHRI K. THULASIAH VANDAYAR : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have prepared a new garment export policy for the newly formed European Community;

(b) if so, the special features of this policy; and

(c) the total expected earnings of foreign exchange under the new policy ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (c) While entering into a new Indo-EEC Bilateral Textile Agreement for 1993 and 1994 the fact that European Community was becoming a single market with effect from 1-1-1993 was taken note of and necessary provisions were incorporated in the Agreement which inter alia include removal of member—statewise quotas. As regards Garment Export Entitlement Distribution Policy (Quota Policy for Garments), the general Policy applies for exports to European Community also.

HANDLOOM/POWERLOOM DEVELOPMENT IN GUJARAT

1908. SHRI GABHAJI MANGAJI THAKORE : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any financial assistance has been provided to Gujarat State Handloom and Powerloom Development Corporations, and its cooperative societies for setting up Pre-loom & Post-loom processing facilities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the criteria being followed for extending such assistance ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The scheme of Pre-loom and Post-loom Processing facilities has since been transferred to State Sector from the current financial year.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR CONSTRUCTION OF MOTELS AND YATRI NIWASES

1909. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL :
SHRI G. MADE GOWDA :

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

(a) a total financial assistance provided to each State/Union Territory Government for construction of motels and yatri niwases during each of the last three years;

(b) the locations where motels and yatri niwases are being constructed and the progress made in construction of each of these motels and yatri niwases as on June 30, 1993;

(c) the time by which construction of each of these motels and yatri niwases is likely to be completed;

(d) whether some State Governments have sent proposals for setting up of motels and yatri niwases during 1992-93 and 1993-94;

(e) if so, the details including the locations thereof;

(f) the steps taken or proposed for clearance of these proposals at the earliest; and

(g) the financial assistance proposed to be provided to each State/Union Territory for construction of motels and yatri niwases during 1993-94 and 1994-95 ?

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

(c) 12 projects of Motel and 15 projects of Yatri Niwases are at various stages of construction.

(d) to (f) The Central Government in 1992-93 has received 6 proposal for construction of Yatri Niwases as listed below :—

Puri (Orissa), Shivanbelgola (Karnataka), Gulbarga (Karnataka), Bhawain (J&K), Rameshwaram (Tamil Nadu).

Out of these, five projects have been sanctioned. The project for Yatri Niwas at Gulbarga could not be sanctioned for non-availability of suitable land. No complete proposal has been received for 1993-94.

(g) Central financial assistance has not been specifically earmarked for projects of Motels and Yatri Niwases during 1993-94 and 1994-95.

Statement

During the last three years the Central Department of Tourism has sanctioned 12 projects of Motels and 15 projects of Yatri Niwases Year-wise details of which are given below :—

(Rs. in lakhs)

S. No.	Name of the Project	Amount sanctioned
1	2	3
	Motels	
	1990-91	
1.	Construction of Motel at Bhaniawala, U.P.	5.66
2.	Construction of Motel at Agrakhal, U.P.	5.45
3.	Construction of Motel at Bhatta, U.P.	5.89
4.	Construction of Motel at Chiniyali, U.P.	6.77
5.	Construction of Motel at Damta, U.P.	6.77
6.	Construction of Motel at Kaladungi, U.P.	8.88

1	2	3
7.	Construction of Motel at Morarkhan, Pithoragarh, U.P.	8.88
8.	Construction of Motel at Shikohabad, U.P.	10.09
9.	Construction of Motel at Devsthal, U.P.	8.87
10.	Construction of Motel at Saknidhar, U.P.	6.10
11.	Construction of Motel at Khethikhan, U.P.	8.87
12.	Construction of Motel at Daula Devi, U.P.	8.87
	Yatri Niwases	
	1990-91	
1.	Yatri Niwas at Katur, Maharashtra	19.71
2.	Yatri Niwas at Ujjain, M.P.	45.08
3.	Yatri Niwas at Jabalpur, M.P.	44.62
4.	Yatri Niwas at Cooch Bihar, West Bengal	40.32
	1991-92	
5.	Yatri Niwas at Chitrakut, U.P.	35.74
6.	Yatri Niwas at Ayodhya, U.P.	27.47
7.	Yatri Niwas at Chandipur, Orissa	44.85
8.	Yatri Niwas at Shillong, Meghalaya	49.57
9.	Yatri Niwas at Guwahati, Assam	49.32
10.	Yatri Niwas at Udaipur, Tripura	44.82
	1992-93	
11.	Yatri Niwas at Puri, Orissa	44.85
12.	Yatri Niwas at Shravanbelgola, Karnataka	39.94
13.	Yatri Niwas at Sringeri, Karnataka	46.05
14.	Yatri Niwas at Bhawan, J.&K.	45.00
15.	Yatri Niwas at Rameshwaram, Tamil Nadu	44.78

[*Translation*]

PROFITS/LOSSES OF PUBLIC SECTOR BANKS

1910. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY :
SHRI ANAND AHIRWAR :
SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN :
SHRI MOHAN SINGH (FEROZEPUR) :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the gross and net profits/losses of the public sector banks for the year 1992-93 and for the first quarter of the current year, bank-wise:

(b) the reasons for incurring losses by some of the above banks: and

(c) the steps taken to improve their profitability ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) The profits/losses incurred by public sector banks from whom

balance-sheets as on 31-3-1993 have been received so far by RBI are given below :—

(Rs. in crores)

	Name of the Bank	Net Profit/Loss
1.	State Bank of India	212.04
2.	State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur	10.50
3.	State Bank of Hyderabad	17.02
4.	State Bank of Indore	3.23
5.	State Bank of Mysore	4.02
6.	State Bank of Saurashtra	5.00
7.	State Bank of Travancore	8.10
8.	Canara Bank	26.07
9.	Corporation Bank	4.12
10.	Indian Bank	6.51
11.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	20.50
12.	Union Bank of India	11.26
13.	Bank of Baroda	8.23
14.	UCO Bank	(—) 444.19 (Loss)
15.	Andhra Bank	(—) 141.09 (Loss)
16.	Bank of India	(—) 331.12 (Loss)
17.	Central Bank of India	(—) 383.31 (Loss)
18.	Dena Bank	(—) 90.46 (Loss)
19.	Syndicate Bank	(—) 670.08 (Loss)

(b) The losses are due mainly to the high level of non-performing assets in some of the banks and the large provisioning requirements arising therefrom.

(c) RBI have been impressing upon the banks to strengthen their credit appraisal machinery and exercise close supervision and control over advances, to contain growth in establishment expenses and improve staff productivity, ensure better yield on investments and improve cash management. The banks have also been advised by RBI to prepare action plans for improving their functioning in key areas.

SETTING UP OF NATIONAL CENTRE FOR TRADE AND INFORMATION

1911. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI :

SHRI VISHWESHWAR BHAGAT :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a National Centre for Trade and Information;

(b) if so, the details of the status constitution and financial structure of the centre; and

(c) the time by which this centre is likely to be started ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The proposal for setting up of a National Centre for Trade and Information is under the consideration of the Ministry of Commerce. The Committee constituted to finalise the organisational structure, the objectives and funding pattern has since submitted its report which is under examination. The Centre is expected to be established soon.

TAX COLLECTION FROM LOTTERY PRIZE WINNERS

1912. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN :
SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE :
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :
SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of income-tax cases pending due to non-entry of assets of lottery prize winners in General Index Register and non-submission of Annual Return of Tax deduction ;

(b) if so, the year-wise details for last three years; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to make improvement in Income-tax Collection from lottery prize winners and to stop tax evasion in this regad ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) As there is no system of entry of assets of lottery prize winners in any General Index Register, the question of pendency of income-tax cases due to such non-entry of assets does not arise. Moreover no case is pending on account of non-entry of assessments of lottery prize winners or due to non-submission of annual return of tax deduction, since, the tax itself is deducted at source in full;

(b) does not arise; and

(c) in order to improve the income-tax collection from lottery prize winners a provision has been enacted in the Income-tax Act, 1961 requiring deduction of tax at source from the lottery winnings. Further no deduction towards any expenditure is permissible from the lottery winnings and such winnings are taxable at a flat rate of 40% which is also the rate of tax applicable to this source of income. Also steps have already been taken to ensure that tax is properly deducted at source and the annual returns are duly filed.

[*English*]

EXPORT OF COTTON

1913. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether carry over stock of the cotton is likely to be more than 40 lakh bales of cotton at the end of the year;

(b) whether the Government propose to ask institutional buyers to purchase about 40 per cent of the current year production to prevent slump in the market and protect farmers' interests; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (c) The carry over stock of cotton during the Cotton season 1992-93 (September, 1992 and August 1993) has been estimated by Cotton Advisory Board at 25.655 lakh bales. Due to release of nearly 18 lakh bales for export and timely market interventions by Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) and other State Cooperative Federations, the price of the main varieties of cotton have been ruling well above the MS level i.e. in the range of 25 to 50%.

[*Translation*]

CULTIVATION OF OPIUM

1914. SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the opium production during each of the last three years, State-wise ;

(b) the countries to which opium is exported and the country-wise and quantity-wise export of opium during the last three years;

(c) whether due to a great competition among the opium producing countries the heavy stocks of opium is lying in our country; and

(d) if so, the manner in which it is likely to be utilised ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) State-wise production of opium during last three years was as follows :—

	(Quantity in MTs. at 70° C)		
	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93 (Provisional)
Madhya Pradesh	258.617	310.931	211.138
Rajasthan	166.467	212.125	143.360
Uttar Pradesh	79.231	111·931	70.209
Total	504.315	634.987	424.707

(b) Country-wise and quantity-wise export of opium during last three years were as indicated below :—

	1990-91 (MTs.)		1991-92 (MTs.)		1992-93 (MTs.)	
	Cash	Barter	Cash	Barter	Cash	Barter
USA . .	370.00	70	360.36	45	299.64	103.68
U.K. . . .	140.00	9	75.00	36	20.00	—
Japan . . .	62.00	—	85.00	—	107.00	—
France . . .	43.84	—	13.92	—	6.96	—
Germany . . .	—	—	2.10	—	—	—
U.S.S.R. . . .	150.00	—	—	—	50.00	—
Tasmania . . .	5.00	—	—	—	—	—
	770.84	79	536.38	81	483.60	103.68

(c) and (d) Over production of opiate raw material by certain countries coupled with emergence of alternative opiate raw material, i.e. Concentrate of poppy straw had resulted in accumulation of stocks of opium in India. To reduce these stocks of opium and to stop further accretion to it, India had to reduce licensed area under poppy cultivation in the country progressively over the years. Efforts are also being made to increase exports of opium and its domestic use.

[*English*]

FINANCIAL SECTOR REFORMS

1915. SHRI SANDIPAN BHAGWAN THORAT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether as a result of security scam, the Government have formulated radical and pragmatic reforms in the infrastructure of financial sector/Institutions ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the major decisions taken in this regard during the last one year/proposed to be taken during the current year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that the Janakiraman Committee set up to enquire into the securities transactions of the Banks and financial institutions brought out of number of irregularities in securities transactions. To prevent recurrence of such irregularities, RBI have taken various important steps as set out below :

(1) Detailed guidelines on investment portfolio of banks were issued by RBI in June, 1992 advising all banks to set up a sound accounting system and strong internal control mechanism to guard against such irregularities. Any violation of guidelines of the RBI in this regard would invite penal action against defaulting banks.

(2) Instructions were also issued by RBI on the subject of discounting/rediscounting of bills and also portfolio management on behalf of clients.

(3) In order to have close monitoring of treasury operations of the banks, a Bonds Management Cell and a Market Intelligence Cell have been set up in the RBI.

(4) Computerised system has been introduced in the major Public Debt Offices of the RBI.

(5) Inspection procedure have been modified with more focus on treasury operations of the Banks.

(6) It has also been decided to set up a Supervisory Board for overhauling and strengthening the supervisory system for banking and financial institutions.

DEBT SERVICING OF IMF LOANS

1916. SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAO-SAHEB TOPE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated debt servicing liability on loans taken from International Financial agencies during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96;

(b) the estimated percentage of total debt constituted by the debt servicing during the above years ;

(c) the account deficit during the above years ; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to solve balance of payments problem ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (c) The estimation of debt service payments, its percentage to total debt and the account deficit during the period 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 will depend on a number of factors such as our own loan requirement, nature of external assistance to be received, international climate, the debt service payments to be made, imports, exports to be undertaken and invisible receipts to be earned during future years etc. It is therefore not possible to estimate precisely the likely debt service payments, its percentage to total debt and the account deficit during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96.

(d) The steps taken to improve the balance of payments position and reduce the current account deficit include effective implementation of the new system of liberalised exchange rate management, liberalised trade policy regime, increased capital in-flows both from bilateral and multilateral sources consistent with financial prudence and attracting direct foreign investment.

QUALITY FOR EXPORTS

1917. SHRI SHIBU SOREN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have fixed any standard for exportable rice and other commodities so that quality is maintained ; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government for the augmentation of export ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. However, with a view to simplifying export procedures and for augmenting exports without diluting quality standards, the existing machinery for enforcement of compulsory quality control and preshipment inspection has been streamlined as indicated below :—

(i) Star Trading Houses, Trading Houses and Export Houses have been exempted from the purview of compulsory pre-shipment inspection of all products, notified under the Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Act, 1963.

(ii) Units approved by EIAs under the system of IPQC have been authorised to issue statutory certificates by themselves instead of EIAs.

(iii) Industrial Units set up in EPZ, FTZ and 100% EOU have been exempted from the purview of compulsory preshipment inspection.

(iv) Items notified under the Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Act,

1963 have also been exempted from compulsory pre-shipment inspection provided the exporters have a firm letter from the over-seas buyers stating that the overseas buyers do not want pre-shipment inspection from any Official Indian Inspection Agency.

CONSTRUCTION AND MANAGEMENT OF AIRPORTS BY NRIs AND PRIVATE ENTREPRENEURS

1918. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS :

SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN :

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

(a) whether the Government have permitted the Non-Resident Indians and the private entrepreneurs to construct and manage ultra-modern airports in the country ;

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

(c) the details of such proposals pending with the Government ; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken for clearance of all these proposals at the earliest ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (d) There is no proposal with the Government to permit Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) and private Entrepreneurs to construct and manage airports in the country. However, to finance construction of a new airport at Cochin and upgradation of the airport at Calicut, the Government of Kerala have taken the initiative of setting up Societies to mobilise funds from the public including Non-Resident Indians.

SEEUY IN GUJARAT

1919. SHRI KANSHIRAM RANA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the amount sanctioned to unemployed youths by the banks in Gujarat under the "Self Employment for Educated Unemployed Youth" Scheme during the last year and the current financial year so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : Under the scheme for providing Self Employment to the Educated Unemployed Youth (SEEUY), loans amounting to Rs. 59.59 lakhs were sanctioned by banks in Gujarat State during the year 1992-93. During the current year the scheme is in progress and the final position would be known only after completion of the financial year 1993-94.

BUDGET PROPOSALS AFFECTING INDIGENOUS INDUSTRIES

1920. DR. K. D. JESWANI :

SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :

SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL :

SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI :

SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the budget proposals put the Indian capital goods manufactures at a difficult stage as the reduction in excise and customs duty and other allowances has an adverse effect on indigenous industries ;

(b) if so, whether the Government have any such programme to help the indigenous industries in this regard ;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : (a) The changes in the excise and customs duty rates introduced through the budget proposals for the year 1993-94 contain various measures to safeguard the interests of the indigenous capital goods industry.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

BANK CHARGES FOR EXPORT SERVICES

1921. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether bank charges for export services have been increased ;

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

(c) whether the small and middle exporters have been adversely affected as a result thereof ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to remedy the situaiton ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that bank charges relating to :

(i) advising Letters of Credit and amendments thereof ;

(ii) transferring Letters of Credit ;

(iii) processing charges for export bills ;

(iv) forwarding charges on bills on which no commission or exchange accrues to the bank; and

(v) registration of export contracts, have been increased. Since the levels of these charges (ranging from Rs. 25 to Rs. 100) were earlier fixed quite some time back, they have been raised to levels ranging from Rs. 50 to Rs. 500 due to the increase in operating and other costs of providing services.

(c) and (d) RBI has reported that exporters have been only marginally affected and the revised charges are reasonable since they marely cover the costs incurred by the banks in offering these services.

EXPORT ORIENTED UNITS IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES

1922. SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of foreign countries have invited India to establish export oriented small and medium scale units in the free trade zones of that countries ;

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

(c) whether the Government have since be taken any decision in that direction;

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) and (b) Several countries seek to encourage foreign investment including that from India as a part of their general economic policy. Prospects of such investment are also regularly discussed in bilateral meetings at business level.

(c) and (d) Government has framed Guidelines on Indian Direct Investment Abroad for the guidance of the businessmen or industrialists who are interested in setting up joint ventures abroad.

REVENUE LOSS TO KERALA GOVERNMENT

1923. SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Kerala is losing huge amount every year from sales tax revenue due to the exemption provided to the penultimate purchase or sale in the course of export or import ;

(b) if so, whether the Government are compensating the loss with any special assistance ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (d) Kerala Government had made references pointing out loss in the sales tax

revenue due to the exemption provided in respect of one sale preceding export. This exemption was done in national interest to boost exports and, therefore, was applicable to whole of India and not to Kerala alone. In view of this, Kerala can not be looked at in isolation in compensating for their loss nor such a proposal can be accepted in principle.

SSI UNITS IN KERALA

1924. SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has brought to the notice of his Ministry the difficulties faced by SSI units entrepreneurs to get finance from the banks due to the Service Area Approach;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to overcome these difficulties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (c) The Government of Kerala have brought to the notice of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) certain operational difficulties in the lending to priority sectors by banks on account of service area approach. RBI is taking necessary steps to resolve this problem.

CHILD LABOUR

1925. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been made to ascertain the number of child labour in different types of industries; and

(b) if so, the result of the survey?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) Authenticated data on child labour is available through the decennial census. The sectoral data of child labour as per 1971 & 1981 census is given in the Statement attached.

STATEMENT

Sl. No. Nature of Activity	1971 Census		1981 Census	
	No. of child workers in age-group 0-14 years (in thousands)	Percentage	No. of child workers in age-group 0—14 years (in thousands)	Percentage
1 2	3	4	5	6
1. Cultivators	3,870	36.05	4,013	35.93
2. Agricultural labourers	4,586	42.72	4,774	42.75
3. Livestock, forestary fishing, hunting plantations, etc.	885	8.25	704	6.30
4. Mining and quarrying	24	0.22	27	0.24
5. Manufacturing porcessing, serving, repairs, etc.	653	6.08	965	8.64
(a) Housing lindustry	338	3.15	425	3.80
(b) Others	315	2.93	540	4.84
6. Construction	59	0.55	79	0.71
7. Transport, storage & Communication	42	0.39	34	0.31
8. Trade and commerce	211	1.97	246	2.20
9. Other services	408	3.77	326	2.92
TOTAL	10,735	100.00	11,168	100.00

In the 1971 Census, no distinction is made between 'main' worker and 'marginal' worker. In the 1981 Census, 'main' workers have been defined as those who have worked for more than six months. The 1981 Census figures given above relate to 'main' workers only.

DEVELOPMENT OF DESERT TOURISM IN RAJASTHAN

1926. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the amount earmarked for the development of desert tourism in Rajasthan during the Eighth Five Year Plan ;

(b) the amount, out of the same, allocated to that state so far ; and

(c) the various steps taken for the development of tourism in the desert districts of the State ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) No specific allocation of funds has been earmarked for development of desert tourism in Rajasthan during the Eighth Five Year Plan. However, the Centre has sanctioned following projects for places falling in desert area of Rajasthan :—

(Rs. in lakhs)

1. Tourist Complex, Barmer	12.90
2. Camping site at Gajner	10.55
3. Fast Food Centre, Bikaner	6.00
4. Tourist Reception Centre, Jodhpur	10.70
5. Tourist Reception Centre, Bikaner	7.18
6. Tourist Reception Centre, Jaisalmer	8.46
7. Public convenience at 2 Places at Jaisalmer.	7.36

[Translation]

EXPORT OF READYMADE GARMENTS

1927. SHRI S. N. VEKARIA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the export of readymade garments and other art pieces during each of the last three years ;

(b) the targets fixed for the export of these items during the year 1993-94 ; and

(c) the future scheme of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) Export of readymade garments and Handicrafts during the last three years were as follows :

(Value in Rs. Crores)

	Readymade Garments	Handicrafts
1990-91	4140	1220
1991-92	6327	1810
1992-93	8841	2404

Source : Apparel Export Promotion Council, Office of Development Commissioner (Handicrafts)

(b) For 1993-94, a target of US $ 3510.51 million has been fixed for export of readymade garments. For export of Handicrafts, a target of US $ 946.83 million has been fixed.

(c) Government are constantly reviewing the Policy framework relating to exports. In respect of garments, Government are considering possible further measures to encourage investments so that it may modernise itself and become highly competitive in the international markets. As regards Handicrafts items future plan envisages boosting exports of such items by participating in fairs and festivals in major markets and in buyer-seller meets, sponsoring sales-cum-study teams etc.

[English]

PARISHAD COOPERATIVE BANK DELHI

1928. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has imposed moratorium on the Parishad Cooperative Bank, Delhi ;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the corrective measures being taken by the Reserve Bank of India ;

(c) whether the provisions of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 and the other instructions issued by the Reserve Bank of India regarding bank management are also applicable to the cooperative banks ; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Reserve Bank of India to make the payments against the pay orders issued by the aforesaid bank ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Parishad Cooperative Banks Ltd. is a primary urban cooperative bank and is therefore governed by the provisions of Banking Regulation Act, 1949 (as applicable to cooperative societies). Reserve Bank of India can issue instructions under the said Act to the primary cooperative banks as far as banking operations of the bank are concerned. The bank is a cooperative institution and is registered under the Delhi Cooperative Societies Act and is also subject to supervision and control by the Registrar of Cooperative Societies, New Delhi.

(d) Pay orders issued by the bank are its liability and the bank has to ensure that it is in a position to meet its liabilities.

RE-EMPLOYMENT OF SURPLUS WORKERS OF NTC

1929. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be peased to state :

(a) whether the Government have started certain schemes for the re-employment and training of surplus workers of the National Textile Corporation, who were offered the Voluntary Retirement Scheme ;

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

(c) the number of workers covered under the scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (c) A Rehabilitation Fund with a corpus of Rs. 50 crores has been created for the purpose of training and redeployment of the workers of NTC who have availed of voluntary retirement. The schemes envisage training of workers and setting up of powerloom/reeling units. A production incentive of 25% for new plain loom/reeling project and 33% for existing NTC plain loom of the capital cost of the schemes shall be provided after six months of their commissioning to make the venture more profitable. 265 rationalised workers of NTC had already availed of the benefits of these schemes till 30th June, 1993.

RISK INSURANCE SCHEME

1930. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Risk Insurance Scheme offered by the Oriental Insurance Com-

pany, has been launched in Tihar Jail, Delhi in July, 1993 ;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the rate of contribution per month, age limit and risk insurance cover and the main purpose behind the scheme ;

(c) wherther all categories of Officers and staff of various agencies working in the Jail are proposed to be covered under this Scheme ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (c) A Group Personal Accident Policy covering Staff working in Thiar Jail, Central Jail Hospital, Training School as well as Staff of PWD working in the Central Jail complex, was issued by the Oriental Insurance Company Limited in July, 1993. The policy covers death as well as Permanent Disablement arising out of bodily injury resulting directly from accident. The maximum insurance cover is Rs. 1 lakh. The rate of contribution is Rs. 6.93 per month per individual. The upper age limit for coverage under the Scheme is 60 years. The cover is voluntary and available to the entire staff working in the Tihar Jail complex who opted for inclusion.

(d) Does not arise.

IMPORT OF POPPY SEEDS FROM PAKISTAN AND AFGHANISTAN

1931. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VERMA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total area under cultivation of poppy, the total quantity of poppy seeds produced and domestic requirement of poppy seeds in the country during each of the last three years ;

(b) the total quantity of poppy seeds imported from Pakistan and Afghanistan during each of the last three years ;

(c) whether the Government are aware that growing of poppy is totally banned in these countries ;

(d) if so, the reasons for importing poppy seeds from these countries ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) The total licensed area under poppy cultivation during the last three years has been as under :—

Year	*Area (in hectares)*
1990-91	14,760
1991-92	14,214
1992-93	13,745

The estimated quantity of Poppy Seeds produced per hectare varies from 600 kgs. to 800 kgs. depending upon environmental conditions and location of the land. Data about domestic requirement of poppy seeds is not available.

(b) Total quantity of poppy seeds imported from Pakistan and Afghanistan during the last three years is as under :—

Quantity in Tonnes

Year	*Quantity imported from*	
	Pakistan	*Afghanistan*
1990-91	1897	187
1991-92	99	31
1992-93 (upto June, 92)	200	--

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

[*Translation*]

INTERESTS RATES ON AGRICULTURAL LOANS

1932. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the interest rates on agricultural loans given by the nationalised banks is being increased every year ;

(b) if so, the interest on agricultural loans during each of the last three years ;

(c) whether the number of farmers opting for loans have declined as a result of this increase ;

(d) if so, whether Government propose to reduce the date of interest ;

(e) if so, the time by which a decision is likely to be taken in this regard ; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. The interest rates are linked to the size of loans, and not to any sectorial activity. Lending rate structure is determined taking into consideration all relevant factors like rate of growth of the economy, the rate of inflation, the pace of monetary expansion, the cost of raising resources by banks, reserve requirements, the need for banks to maintain their profitability. The table given below set out the lending rate structure over the last three years :—

Size of Limit	Percent Per annum Effective from		
	9-10-1991	22-4-1992	24-6-1993
(i) Upto Rs. 7,5000 . . .	11.5	11.5	12.0
(ii) Over Rs. 7500 & upto Rs. 15000	13.0	13.5	12.0
(iii) Over Rs. 15000 & upto Rs. 25000	13.5	13.5	12.0
(iv) Over Rs. 25000 & upto Rs. 50000	14.0	15.0	15.0
(v) Over Rs. 50000 & upto Rs. 2 lacs	15.0	15.0	15.0
(vi) Over Rs. 2 lacs . . .	15.0	15.0	15.0 (Minimum)
DRI advances . . .	4.0	4.0	4.0

(d) to (f) Taking into account the cost of funds and the reserve requirements the current lending rate structure prescribed to scheduled commercial banks is considered appropriate.

[*English*]

LOANS TO STATES

1933. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of loans the states owed to the Centre as on March 31, 1993, State-wise and the estimated burden of servicing the outstanding loans during 1993-94 ;

(b) the additional loan likely to be received by the States from the centre during the current year, State-wise ; and

(c) the estimated income of the States for 1993-94 excluding the flow of central loans but including the central grants ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (c) A *statement is enclosed.*

Central assistance is released in the shape of 70% loan and 30% grant in case of non-special category States and 10% loan and 90% grant in case of Special Category States. For Assam and J&K, Central assistance used to be released in the shape of 70% loan and 30% grant till 1989-90. From 1990-91, Central assistance in these cases also is being released in the shape of 10% loan and 90% grant. Amounts of principal and interest payable by the States to the Ministry of Finance is, therefore, likely to be less than the total amounts of loans and grants to be received by the States during 1993-94.

Statement

(Rs. in crores)

States	Amounts of loans owed by the States to the Min. of Finance as on 31-3-93	Amounts of principal and interest payable by the States to the Ministry of Finance during 1993-94	Estimated amount of loan likely to be received by the States through Min. of Finance during 1993-94*	Estimated receipts of the States comprising Revenue Receipts, Capital Receipts (excluding loans from the Centre) and Public Account (net) 1993-94 BE**
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1. Andhra Pradesh	5729.29	800.26	849.11	8611.58
2. Arunachal Pradesh	123.42	21.57	28.65	534.91
3. Assam	3156.77	517.34	222.72	3730.10
4. Bihar	6611.51	948.00	962.78	8379.23
5. Goa	422.80	63.69	54.31	481.17
6. Gujarat	6406.76	921.11	771.21	7462.03
7. Haryana	1971.12	288.01	342.46	3375.16
8. Himachal Pradesh	895.11	152.49	136.58	1582.61
9. J. & K.	2383.39	363.66	124.51	1961.38
10. Karnataka	3788.97	576.94	795.18	8241.71
11. Kerala	2665.15	389.71	393.60	5278.88
12. Madhya Pradesh	4275.35	623.25	716.06	8807.71
13. Maharashtra	9824.18	1441.33	1048.02	14594.10
14. Manipur	163.43	37.74	24.67	514.61
15. Meghalaya	160.93	24.89	36.05	612.39
16. Mizoram	81.14	14.83	19.95	461.77
17. Nagaland	183.05	36.33	19.42	670.20

18.	Orissa	2994.87	444.22	657.12	4845.71
19.	Punjab	7400.94	1196.96	1350.11	4620.57
20.	Rajasthan	4145.16	581.65	626.21	6362.30
21.	Sikkim	86.41	12.36	12.01	247.56
22.	Tamil Nadu	4596.70	716.42	925.49	9466.45
23.	Tripura	270.75	47.58	46.14	734.59
24.	Uttar Pradesh	13123.49	1872.90	2519.04	15049.93
25.	West Bengal	6979 87	1037.73	961.54	9142.31
	TOTAL	88420 56	13100.97	13842.94	125768.96

*Represents loan portion of the normal Central Assistance and Special Central Assistance for Hill Areas as allocatde by the Planning Commission and likely additional Central Assistance for externally aided projects and also the small savings loans as assessed by the Planning Commission for the year 1993-94.

**Figures are based on State Budget Documents.

REHABILITATION FUND FOR CHILD LABOUR

1934. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to establish rehabilitation fund for the benefit of working children;

(b) whether the Government propose to make it mandatory for the employer to insure working children against accidents and diseases;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) A separate rehabilitation fund for working children is not considered necessary as of now, because funds are being provided through budget appropriations as well as through external assistance for the benefit of children.

Compensation is, payable to workers regardless of their age in case of employment related injuries or diseases under the Workman's Compensation Act, 1923 and The Employees State Insurance Act, 1948 where ever applicable. Moreover, provisions exists in various laws prohibiting employment of children in different establishments and especially on hazardous jobs. Hence provision of mandatory insurance for working children against accidents and diseases is also not considered necessary.

COMPENSATION TO INJURED INDUSTRIAL WORKERS

1935. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Unstarred Question No. 2471 on March 12, 1993 and state :

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision on the proposal to enhance the quantum of compensation payable to injured industrial workers; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The proposals involve amendment of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923. Therefore, it is difficult to indicate the time by which it is likely to be implemented.

BANK BRANCHES IN HILL DISTRICT OF UTTAR PRADESH

1936. MAJ. GEN. (Retd.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 6019 on September 6, 1991 and state :

(a) whether all the bank branches have since been opened in the hill districts of Uttar Pradesh:

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which the above bank branches are proposed to be opened ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) Out of 19 centres listed in the reply to Unstarred Question No. 6019 for 6th September, 1991, 8 bank branches have since been opened at the following centres :—

Name of District	Name of Centre
1. Pauri Garhwal	1. Gainkhal 2. Gumkhal 3. Chailusain 4. Debiokhal 5. Khand Sain.
2. Chamoli	1. Kul Sari 2. Kedarnath Shrine
3. Tehri Garhwal	1. Pratapnagar

Branches at the remaining 11 centres have not been opened due to non-availability of premises and infrastructural facilities.

(c) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have advised the banks that all the pending licenses issued under Branch Expansion Programme 1985-90 be treated as cancelled/lapsed with effect from 1-4-93. The banks were further advised that if they have already made commitments for taking premises etc. for certain centres, they may approach RBI for issue of necessary licence for opening of branches at these centres.

[*Translation*]

CARPET TRAINING CENTRES

1937. SHRI N. J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government are aware of the miserable condition of the Centres being run under the Carpet Training Scheme in Gujarat; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the steps taken so far by the Government to improve the condition of training centres ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) No Carpet Training Centre, is being run directly by the Government in the State of Gujarat under the Carpet Training Scheme of the Office of the Development Commission (Handicrafts). However, 16 Carpet Training Centres are functioning in the State of Gujarat through financial assistance provided by the Government to other organisation. No instance of adverse working condition in these Centres has come to the notice of Government.

(b) Does not arise.

[*English*]

NEGATIVE LIST OF EXPORTS

1938. SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have removed Sesame and Safflower seeds from the Negative List of Exports in the revised export and import policy;

(b) if so, the reasons for not accepting the above by the customs officials;

(c) whethher the Government have received any complaint in this regard and the loss suffered due to that; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to check the recurrence of such incidents ?

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

(b) to (d) The customs officials sought a clarification as to whether oilseeds which are not meant for seeding and planting purposes are covered under the item 'Seeds and Oilseeds' and whether such export would require a licence or not.

Meanwhile, complaints were received to the effect that the customs officials at Bombay and Calcutta were not allowing export of Sesame and Safflower seeds and were demanding production of export licences. The loss, if any, has not been ascertained.

Vide Export Clarification Circular dated 9-7-93, it has been clarified that the item 'Seeds of all oilseeds and pulses' includes only 'Seeds and Planting Material' of oilseeds and pulses, and not all oilseeds and pulses for any other purposes unless otherwise specifically mentioned in the Negative List of Exports.

INSURANCE OF TRADITIONAL FISHING VESSELS

1939. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has sought the intervention of the Union Government to ensure that lesser rate of premium is charged for insuring traditional fishing vessels; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) Premium rates for fishing vessels are revised from time to time, depending upon the claims experience, by he Tariff Advisory Committee, which is a statutory body set up under the provisions of the Insurance Act, 1938.

Premium rates in respect of mechanised and non-mechanised fishing vessels since 1979 were 2.25% and 4% respectively. On account of the adverse claims experience, an enhancement of premium rates was being contemplated in 1990 when representations were received from various quarters, including Kerala Government, to reduce the premium rates for the fishing vessels. After considering all these representations, the premium rate in respect of non-mechanised fishing vessels was reduced to 3.5% while the premium rate in respect of mechanised vessels was enhanced to 3% w.e.f. 1st August, 1991.

SERICULTURE IN ANDHRA PRADESH

1940 : DR. K. V. R. CHOWDARY : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of sericulture units in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to encourage the sericulture in the State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) and (b) In order to encourage development of sericulture in Andhra Pradesh, a World Bank/ Swiss assisted National Sericulture Project is being implemented in the State by the Central Silk Board and the State Sericulture Department. Further, the Central Silk Board is extending the necessary Research, Extension, Training and Infrastructure support through the network of units established in the State. A *statement* indicating the list of units functioning in the State is attached.

Statement

List of Central Silk Board units in Andhra Pradesh

Sr. No.	Name of Unit	No. of Units	Location
1.	Regional Development Office	1	Hyderabad
2.	Regional Sericulture Research Station.	1	Ananthapur
3.	Research Extension Centre	3	Rayachoty, Madakasira Hanmakonda.
4.	Basic Seed Multiplication Cum Training Centre	3	Vikarabad Rampachodavaram Chinnoor
5.	Reeling, Spinning Demonstration Cum Training Centre.	1	Kosigi
6.	Silkworm Seed Production Centre	5	Madannapalle, Chittoor, Hindupur, Paderu, Vijayawada
7.	P2 Basic Seed Farm	2	Horsely Hills, Parigi
8.	Technical Service Centres	12	Royalpet, Mulkalcheruvu, Penumur, Kuppam, Goramla, Hindupur, Penukonda, Tadapatri, Kambadur, Peapully, Vikarabad, Araku.
9.	Demonstration Cum Training Centre	1	Hindupur
10.	Silk Conditioning & Testing House	1	Dharmavaram

LOSS DUE TO CRASH OF INDIAN AIRLINES PLANE

1941. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the total estimated loss due to crash of an Indian Airlines plane;

(b) the amount/percentage of this loss that is made good by the insurance companies; and

(c) the amount of compensation paid to the kin of the dead and to the injured ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) The total estimated loss due to crash of an Indian Airlines plane is dependent upon the type and the age of the aircraft. Such loss cannot, therefore be quantified in general.

(b) Full loss due to crash of an aircraft is made good by the Insurance Company.

(c) Compensation in the event of air crash is governed by the provisions of The Carriage by Air Act, 1972. The Act provides for payment of compensation to the next of kin of the deceased at the rae of Rs. 5 lakhs for adult passengers and Rs. 2.50 lakhs for children below 12 years. For injuries, the Act provides for payment of Rs. 500/- per day subject to a maximum of Rs. 1 lakh.

IRREGULARITIES IN BILLING SYSTEM IN HOTELS

1942. DR. D. VENKATESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether irregularities worth lakhs of rupees have been detected in billing system of a Government run hotel:

(b) if so. the details thereof:

(c) the particulars of the officials found involved in these irregularities;

(d) the action taken by the Government against them;

(e) whether any action has been initiated by the Government to check recurrence of such cases in their hotels; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) The Management of Janpath Hotel, New Delhi had found certain irregularities relating to misappropriation of cash by substituting expenditure tax, telephone charges, etc.

(c) and (d) ITDC has handed over the case to the Delhi Police for detailed investigation. On receipt of their Report, necessary action will be taken against the erring employees under the ITDC Disciplinary Rules.

(e) and (f) With a view to checking recurrence of such cases, ITDC has already strengthened supervision of the billing system in its hotels. ITDC has also decided to install electronic billing machines in the hotels.

IMPORT OF SOYABEAN OIL FROM USA

1943. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY :

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

DR. R. MALLU :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of soyabean oil likely to be imported from USA under the PL-480 programme during the year 1993;

(b) the price to be paid per tonne and foreign exchange likely to be spent on it;

(c) whether any representation has been received by the Government in this regard ;

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

(e) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that the domestic production and market of soyabean oil do not suffer due to this import ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) In pursuance of the agreement dated the 28th

May, 1992 for donation of agricultural commodities signed between Governments of India and United States of America (USA), a supplementary agreement has been signed with Government of USA for import of approximately 44,000 Metric Tonnes of crude degummed soyabean oil during the US Fiscal Year 1993. As the soyabean oil is a gift, no payment to the donar is involved on this import and, therefore, there would be no foreign exchange outflow.

(c) to (e) Representations have been received from some oilseeds growers organisations located in various States opposing the Government's decision to accept the soyabean oil mainly on the ground that the import and release of soyabean oil will adversely affect the domestic edible oil prices which will affect oilseeds production in the country. Since the quantity of soyabean oil proposed to be imported is quite small as compared to domestic requirement of edible oils in the country, the proposed import and sale of soyabean oil in small quantities may have only marginal effect on domestic edible oil prices. Consequently, oilseeds production in the country will not be adversely affected. According to the agreement, State Trading Corporation of India (STC) is to sell the crude degummed soyabean oil to various vanaspati industry and producers/refiners holding valid registered users' licence through an open competitive bid system. STC has been exercising judicious care in disposal of soyabean oil already imported for the US Fiscal Year 1992 so that market prices of edible oils are not adversely affected. This approach will continue in disposal of soyabean oil proposed to be imported.

[*Translation*]

AIR ACCIDENTS

1944. SHRI RAM BADAN :

SHRI JANARDAN MISRA :

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

(a) the number of accidents to the Indian Airlines the Air India and the Vayudoot aircraft, separately, during each of the years 1990-91, 1991-92, 1992-93 and during the first quarter of 1993-94;

(b) the main causes of the accidents;

(c) the number of persons killed in these accidents, year-wise; and

(d) the measures taken to improve safety performance of these airlines ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) There was no accident to Vayudoot aircraft during this period. The details of accidents to Indian Airlines and Air India aircraft are as under :

Year	No. of Accidents	
	Indian Airlines	Air India
1990-91	—	1
1991-92	1	—
1992-93	2	—
1993-94 (Ist Quarter)	1	—
Total	4	1

(b) and (c) :

(i) Accident to Indian Airlines Boeing-737 aircraft on 16-8-91 at Imphal was caused due to pilot error. 69 persons were killed in this accident.

(ii) Accident to Indian Airlines aircraft B-737 at Udaipur on 4-9-92 was caused due to a Chowkidar coming on to the runway at the time of take-off. The Chowkidar was killed in the accident.

(iii) Investigation report into the accident to Indian Airlines leased aircraft TU-154 on 9-1-93 at Delhi is under consideration of the Government. There was no casualty in this accident.

(iv) Accident to Indian Airlines B-737 aircraft at Aurangabad on 26-4-93 is under investigation. 56 persons were killed in this accident.

(v) Accident to Air India B-747 aircraft at Delhi on 7-5-90 was caused due to partial separation of engine No. 1 from its wing attachment. There was no casualty in this accident.

(d) Implementation of recommendations emanating from investigation of aircraft accidents, dissemination of safety information, monitoring of cockpit voice recorders, control of bird menace at airports are among the measures taken to improve safety performance of the airlines. DGCA monitors observance of safety norms by the airlines.

[*English*]

INSURANCE SCHEME FOR OLD-AGE

1945. SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA) : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to launch a special insurance scheme for the old-age group citizens to meet their medical expenses :

(b) the details of the categories of old persons likely to be covered under it:

(c) the amount of insurance cover likely to be provided :

(d) the number of cities where this scheme is likely to be implemented ; and

(e) the time by which this scheme is likely to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (e) Already, two medical insurance schemes viz. 'Mediclaim' and 'Bhavishya Arogya' are being marketed by the four subsidiary companies of the General Insurance Corporation of India throughout the country, extending benefits to old-age group citizens providing for their medical expenses. Besides the above two Schemes, a new Scheme known as Senior Citizens Unit Plan has been introduced recently by the Unit Trust of India in collaboration with the New India Assurance Company Limited. All resident Indians in the age group of 21 years to 55 years can join the plan. The Member under this plan, on one time investment in the Units depending on his/her age, will have the benefit of medical treatment in any of the selected hospitals on completion of 58 years of age and all expenses for hospitalisation will be paid by 'New India' directly. Members joining the plan before the age of 55 years will be entitled for a medical benefit cover of Rs. 2.50 lakhs from the age of 58 years. This benefit is available either for the member or for both member and spouse. After the age of 61 years, they will be eligible for the cover of Rs. 5 lakhs after adjusting for any claims made earlier. Those joining the plan after the age of 55 years along with spouse, will be eligible for medical benefit cover upto Rs. 2.50 lakhs after two years of joining the plan and the limit will be increased to Rs. 5 lakhs (after adjusting for any claims made earlier) after six years. The facility which is available in 23 cities, is likely to be extended to more cities in future.

IMF METHOD OF MEASURING ECONOMY

1946. SHRI B. L. SHARMA PREM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the International Monetary Fund has devised a new method of measuring the size of economy called purchasing power method :

(b) whether the new method gives different ranking to our economy as compared to the traditional method ; and

(c) if so, the likely effect of this new method on eligibility criteria for development assistance and international aid for India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) The IMF in their study has discussed the use of Purchasing

Power Parity (PPP) based weights instead of market exchange rates for working out individual country weightage in global output. The study has used the survey data of International Comparison Programme (ICP) of the United Nations which have been published regularly.

(b) According to the new calculation, the Indian Economy would rank as the 9th largest in the World.

(c) Since neither the IMF nor the World Bank have accepted the findings of this study as their official policy.

DEALINGS OF NATIONALISED BANKS WITH EXPORTERS

1947. SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDELWAL :

SHRI G. DEVARAYA NAIK :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether apathy shown by the nationalised banks in their dealings with the exporters resulting in loss of huge amount of foreign exchange every year as reported in the 'Hindustan Times' dated June 5, 1993.

(b) if so, the details thereof :

(c) whether any Exporters' Associations have conveyed their views to the Government in this regard;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto ; and

(e) the remedial steps proposed to be taken in this regard ?

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

(b) to (e) The Delhi Exporters Association had represented to Government in May, 1993 regarding their operational problems with banks. The Reserve Bank of India have also considered these problems in their Standing Committee on Export Finance in July, 1993. On receipt of specific complaints, the concerned banks will take remedial measures.

[*Translation*]

INSTITUTIONS IMPARTING PILOT TRAINING

1948. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH :

SHRI MANJAY LAL :

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

(a) the names of the institutions in the country which impart training to commercial pilots :

(b) the total number of students who are given admission therein annually ;

(c) whether the Government have formulated or propose to formulate any scheme so that more and more persons are imparted pilot training :

(d) if so, the details thereof : and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) *Statement* of Clubs/Institutes is attached.

(b) Approximately 200.

(c) to (e) Director General of Civil Aviation has granted No Objection Certificate to 8 more flying institutes for training of Commercial pilots.

Statement

1. The Andhra Pradesh Flying Club, Hyderabad.
2. The Bombay Flying Club, Bombay.
3. The Gujarat Flying Club, Baroda.
4. The Madhya Pradesh Flying Club, Indore.
5. The Madras Flying Club, Madras.
6. The Delhi Flying Club, New Delhi.
7. The Coimbatore Flying Club, Coimbatore.
8. The Banasthali Vidhyapitha Gliding & Flying Club, Banasthali Vidhyapitha (non functional).
9. The Nagpur Flying Club, Nagpur.

10. The Jamshedpur Co-operative Flying Club Ltd., Jamshedpur.

11. The Ludhiana Aviation Club, Ludhiana.

12. The Amritsar Aviation Club, Amritsar.

13. The Northern India Flying Club, Jalandhar Cantt.

14. The Patiala Aviation Club, Patiala.

15. The Hissar Aviation Club, Hissar.

16. The Karnal Aviation Club, Karnal.

17. The Assam Flying Club, Gauhati.

18. The Rajasthan State Flying School, Jaipur.

19. The Pinjore Aviation Club, Pinjore.

20. The Kerala Aviation Training Centre, Trivandrum.

21. Ajanta Flying Club, Aurangabad (non functional).

22. Government Flying Training School, Bangalore.

23. Government Flying Training Institute, Calcutta.

24. Bihar Flying Institute, Patna.

25. Government Aviation Training Institute, Bhubaneshwar.

26. Government Flying Training Centre, Lucknow.

27. Andaman & Nicobar Flying Training Institute, Port Blair.

28. Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademy, Rae Barelli.

29. Uran Academy, Indore.

CONSTRUCTION OF HOUSES IN GUJARAT AND MADHYA PRADESH

1949. SHRI DILEEPBHAI SANGHANI :

SHRI SHIVRAO SINGH CHAUHAN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of refinancing assistance provided to the scheduled commercial banks, housing finance institutions and to the State Level main cooperative housing finance societies for the construction of houses in Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh by the National Housing Bank (NHB) during the last two years, institution-wise; and

(b) the amount of the refinancing assistance proposed to be provided during the current year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) National Housing Bank (NHB) provides refinance to scheduled banks, housing finance companies and state level apex co-op. housing finance societies in respect of eligible loans disbursed by them. By the end of June, 1993 the cumulative disbursement under NHB refinance schemes through these eligible primary lenders together with subscription to Special Rural Housing Debentures (SRHDs) floated by State Level Land Development Banks in respect of their eligible housing loans, amounted to Rs. 1,683.74 crores.

The institution-wise disbursements under NHB Refinance Schemes during the last two years were as under :—

(Rs. in crores)

Institution	1991-92	1992-93	Cumulative (upto June, 1993)
Scheduled Commercial Banks	37.76	32.39	99.05
Co-op Sector Institution	84.11	59.20	205.83
Housing Finance Companies	553.58	394.33	1378.86

State-wise break-up of this data is not available. However, specific disbursals in respect of Land Development and Shelter Projects undertaken by various agencies in Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh during the last two years is set out as Under :—

(Rs. in crores)

State	1991-92	1992-93
Gujarat	2.28	0.15
Madhya Pradesh	9.40	6.70

(b) NHB does not allocate funds for different States. As such it has not projected any State-wise allocation of refinance for the current year.

WORLD BANK LOAN

1950. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM : SHRI RAJESH KUMAR :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank has put any condition to increase prices of Coal for providing funds to certain projects in the country ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the details of the other conditions laid down by the World Bank; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The terms and conditions of loans with the World Bank assistance are firmed up after mutual discussions and it is ensured that these are consistant with our national priorities.

[English]

VISIT OF WORLD BANK'S TEAM

1951. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state ;

(a) whether a team of the World Bank which visited India in May this year, expressed concern over the slow pace of economic reforms ;

(b) if so, the details of the views expressed by the team ; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

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

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

IMF LOAN

1952. SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of financial assistance received from the International Monetary Fund as structural adjustment loans so far ;

(b) the details of the proposals for further loans being finalised ; and

(c) the terms and conditions laid down by IMF in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) India has not taken any loan from IMF under Structural Adjustment Facility (SAF) so far.

(b) and (c) Some discussions have been held with IMF for availing of assistance under the Extended Fund Facility/Enhanced Structural Adjustment Facility. Details will be known only after the negotiations are finalised.

FAKE U.T.I. CERTIFICATES

1953. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to State :

(a) whether fake certificates of the Unit Trust of India (UTI) worth lakhs of

rupees have been seized in Delhi during June, 1993 as reported in the 'Times of India' dated June 22, 1993 ;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard ; and

(d) the steps taken to prevent such fake certificates being issued in future and to create confidence in the public to invest more and more in the U.T.I. schemes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. UTI has reported that some fake certificates of two of UTIs scheme, Masterplus and Mastergain, have been seized in Delhi. The precise extent of the fraud is as yet unclear to UTI.

(c) and (d) UTI has cautioned the public immediately and informed all stock exchanges to be more vigilant. It also released notices and advertisements and also advised stock exchanges to display the UTI advertisements and notices on their notice boards. It has instructed its registrar, M/s. Datamatics, to scrutinise all shares of Masterplus and Mastergain given to them for transfer, reject the transfer of fake certificates and advise investors accordingly. No further action needs to be taken by Government.

[*Translation*]

NEW LABOUR LAWS

1954. SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn towards the news-item published in the "Economic Times" dated 18th May, 1993 regarding "India moving towards new labour law regime";

(b) if so, whether the Government are contemplating to bring about changes in the existing labour laws ;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(d) whether the existing labour laws hinder the development of the industry; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (e) In pursuance of the recommendations of the Indian Labour Conference held on April, 1990, a Bipartite Committee comprising representatives of Employers' Organisations and Central Trade Union Organisations was constituted under the Chairmanship of Shri G. Ramanujam in May, 1990 to formulate specific proposals for the New Industrial Relations Bill. The Committee submitted its report in October, 1990. Its recommendations were not unanimous. The report was considered in the Conference of State Labour Ministers held in February, 1992 and the Indian Labour Conference in September, 1992. The areas of disagreement in the report were also considered by a Committee of five State Labour Ministers. On the basis of these deliberations and also keeping in view the report of the Inter-Ministerial Group on Industrial Restructuring, specific proposals to amend the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 and the Trade Unions Act, 1926 are under consideration and they, inter alia seek to create an environment conducive to industrial development.

EXPORT OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS AND MINERALS

1955. SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to make exports to the tune of 2000 million dollars during the current financial ear :

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the percentage of the export of gricultural products in the total exports : and

(d) the percentage share of the minerals in this increase in the exports ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) and (b) The Export Target for 1993-94 has been set at US $ 22138 million out of which target for Agriculture and Allied Products is US $ 2255 million. The details of the targets for principal commodity groups in dollar terms are given in the attached *Statement*.

(c) and (d) As per provisional estimates, the shares of Agricultural and Allied Products and Minerals and Ores are 13.2 percent and 4.4 percent respectively in April, 1993, the latest period for which such data are available.

Statement

EXPORT TARGET 1993-94

(Value in US $ Million)

Sl. No.	Principal Exports	Target
I.	Plantation	500
II.	Agriculture and Allied Products	2255
III.	Marine Products	650
IV.	Ores and Minerals	869
V.	Leather and Leather Manufactures	1490
VI.	Gems & Jewellery	3455
VII.	Sports Goods	37
VIII.	Chemicals and Related Products	2168
IX.	Engineering Goods including Project Goods	2500
X.	Electronics[1]	375
XI.	Textiles including Handicrafts and Carpets	7400
XII.	Raw Cotton	170
XIII.	Petroleum Products	269
	TOTAL	22138

1 : Does not incoude computer software as these do not pass through customs channels.

[*English*]

ASSISTANCE TO STATES FOR ORGANISING FAIRS/FESTIVALS

1956. SHRI SURAJBHANU SOLANKI :
SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS :

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

(a) the amount of assistance provided to each State/Union Territory to organise fairs/festivals for the promotion of tourism and art during the last three years and the current year so far, year-wise;

(b) whether the Government have evaluated the results of such fairs/festivals organised during the above period;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether some State/Union Territory Governments have sought financial assistance for organising such fairs/festivals during 1993-94 and 1994-95;

(e) if so, the details thereof including the amount of assistance sought for each fair/festivals; and

(f) the present position in regard to each of these proposals ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) :(a) The details are given in the attached *Statement-I*.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The celebration of fairs and festivals have helped to promote domestic tourism and strengthened national integration.

(d) Proposals for release of funds for organising fairs and festivals are considered on a year to year basis. Proposals have been received from some State Governments for financial assistance for organising fairs & festivals during 1993-94.

(e) and (f) The information is given in the attached *Statement-II*.

Statement I

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE EXTENDED

(*Rs. in lakhs*)

S. No.	Name of the States	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93 (Upto 15-7-93)	1993-94
1.	Andhra Pradesh	—	2.86	—	—
2.	Bihar	2.00	—	2.60	—
3.	Goa	—	14.29	18.00	4.00
4.	Gujarat	1.00	3.58	—	—
5.	Haryana	11.74	12.60	19.00	—
6.	Himachal Pradesh	—	6.20	14.00	8.47
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	2.80	—	6.22	—
8.	Karnataka	7.22	8.00	10.35	5.00
9.	Kerala	4.00	7.50	—	—
10.	Mizoram	—	—	2.15	—
11.	Madhya Pradesh	4.50	19.80	8.00	—
12.	Meghalaya	2.70	—	—	—
13.	Maharashtra	1.00	—	8.41	—
14.	Manipur	—	—	7.00	—
15.	Nagaland	—	2.80	—	—
16.	Orissa	—	2.50	19.00	1.19
17.	Punjab	1.85	—	—	—
18.	Rajasthan	12.31	12.42	6.18	—
19.	Sikkim	2.25	1.84	—	—
20.	Tamil Nadu	3.30	4.06	19.56	4.25
21.	U.P.	3.25	1.75	12.96	—
22.	West Bengal	7.50	9.00	5.00	—
23.	Chandigarh	—	—	2.75	—
24.	Delhi	0.72	2.35	8.15	—

Statement II

DETAILS OF AMOUNT ASKED BY STATE GOVERNMENT FOR ORGANISING FAIRS AND FESTIVALS DURING 1993-94

S. No.	State	Festival	Amt. requested (Rs. in lakhs)	Present Position
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	i. Decan festival	5.00	Details asked from State Governments.
		ii. Andhra Food festival	5.00	Rejected as the festival is not identified.
2.	Goa	i. International Food Festival	11.76	Under process
		ii. Shigmo festival	17.00	Do.
		iii. Goa Carnival	9.55	Do.

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Gujarat . .	i. International Kite Festival	6.61	More details awaited from State Government.
		ii. Rann of Kutch	6.26	Do.
		iii. Tarnetar Festival	6.50	Do.
		iv. Navratri Festival	5.81	Rejected as the festival is not identified.
4.	Haryana . .	i. Kurukshetra Festival	7.50	Under process
		ii. Suraj Kund	32.97	Do.
5	Himachal Pradesh	i. Shimla Summer Festival	5.40	Sanctioned 4.25 lakhs
		ii. Kangra Valley Summer Festival	10.50	Sanctioned 4.00 lakhs
6.	Karnataka . .	i. Hampi Festival	5.00	Asked for last years details.
		ii. Mahamastakavisheka	20.00	Sanctioned Rs. 10.61 lakhs.
7.	Meghalaya . .	i. Nongren Dance Festival	4.33	Requested State Government to send the proposal.
8.	Tamil Nadu	i. Ooty Summer Festival.	5.00	Asked for more details
		ii. Shivratri Natyanjli	6.50	Do.
		iii. Tea & Tourism Festival.	7.00	Do.
		iv. Chithrai Festival	7.00	Sanctioned Rs. 5.19 lakhs.
		v. Mamiapuram Dance Festival.	7.00	Asked for details.
9.	Uttar Pradesh	i. Taj Mahotsav	8.00	Under process
		ii. Akbar Festival	5.00	Do.
		iii. Avadh Festival	6.50	Do.
		iv. Yoga Festival	5.00	Do.
10.	West Bengal	i. Vishnopur Festival	5.00	Under process
		ii. Shantintiketan	5.00	Do.
		iii. Darjeeling Tea Festival.	5.00	Do.
11.	Chandigarh	i. Rose Festival	5.05	Written to Chandigarh Administration for some clarification.
		ii. Teej Festival	5.00	Do.
12.	Delhi	i. International Mango Festival.	5.33	Under consideration.

PAYMENT OF TAX ARREARS

1957. DR. VASANT NIWRUTHI PAWAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to allow payment of tax arrears in instalments;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether this facility is likely to be extended to chronic defaulters and tax evaders also ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) There is provision in the Income Tax Act, 1961 to enable the taxpayers to make payments of taxes in instalments.

(b) The modes of collection in recovery of tax are provided in part D of Chapter XVII of the I.T. Act, 1961 and in particular in Sections 220 and 226.

(c) Each case is decided on merits by the income tax authorities and instalments are granted in cases considered to be fit.

[*Translation*]

WORKING OF GENERAL INSURANCE CORPORATION

1958. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received complaints that the functioning of General Insurance Corporation is not upto the satisfaction;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last year and the current year; 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 AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Complaints are received from time to time relating to claims settlement and customers satisfaction. They are examined and appropriate action, as required, is taken by the companies.

[*English*]

INCENTIVES TO EPZs

1959. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank has stressed the need for further liberalisation of export promotion schemes such as duty free import schemes for exports and creation of supportive infrastructure services, especially for the Export Processing Zones;

(b) if so, the precise proposals made by the World Bank in this regard; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) While the World Bank gives its assessment about current economic policies in its Annual Country Memorandum, there is no obligation or insistence that its observations should be acted upon. Government is therefore free to decide matters concerning trade liberalisation, etc. in accordance with its own better judgement.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

IMPACT OF CUSTOMS DUTY REDUCTION

1960. SHRI K. M. MATHEW : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) The impact of the recently declared customs duty reduction on both the economy and the revenues and the response of the importers thereto;

(b) whether there is any positive response on the items being produced by using imported materials;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the steps being taken by the Government to ensure the required impact of customs duty reduction on indigenous market ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (d) The basic objective of fiscal reforms is to stabilise the economy and to put it on a path of high sustainable growth. The impact of fiscal reforms including customs duty reduction on macro-aggregates, such as, industrial production, size of revenue collection etc. would be felt over a period of 2-3 years. It is, therefore, too early to judge the impact of reforms.

[Translation]

WAGES IN BEEDI, MINES AND CINEMA INDUSTRIES

1961. SHRI CHITTA BASU :

SHRI BIRSINGH MAHATO :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Task Force, set up by the Government, has recommended for the upward revision of wages for workers engaged in the Beedi, Mines and Cinema Industries; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to implement the recommendations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b) The Task Force was set up to make recommendations regarding alteration in the quantum of benefits or the procedure laid down in the existing welfare schemes for workers in Iron Ore, Manganese Ore, Chrome Ore, Limestone & Dolomite Mines and Beedi as well as Cinema Industry. It had nothing to do with the upward revision of the wages for these workers. One of the recommendations made by the Task Force is regarding increase in the income limit for eligibility under various welfare schemes. It was neither concerned nor has it made any recommendations regarding upward revision of the wages for such workers.

[English]

U. S. BILL ON CHILD LABOUR

1962. PROF. MALINI BHATTACHARYA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether an Anti-Child Labour Bill has been introduced in US Congress;

(b) whether this is aimed at export-oriented industries in India employing child labour; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) Yes, Sir. Private Members' Bills have been introduced in the US Congress for banning import of goods produced by child labour.

(b) No Sir, the Bills are neither country specific nor product specific.

(c) Govt. have been concerned with the existence of child labour in the country and have initiated various measures to address the problem.

DUTY FREE IMPORT OF CAPITAL GOODS

1963. SHRI RAM KAPSE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to allow duty free import of capital goods for capital intensive projects under Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A proposal to consider whether capital intensive projects should get the benefit of import of capital goods at zero duty under the EPCG Scheme, is under examination.

[Translation]

BONUS TO LIC POLICY HOLDERS

1964. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the rate of bonus being paid annually to the L.I.C. policy holders is very low;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to raise the bonus rate for the L.I.C. policy holders; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. The bonus rates depend upon the Corporation's experience as regards mortality rate, expenses and yield obtained on its investments. If the experience is more favourable than the assumptions made in the previous valuation, then surplus will emerge and accordingly the bonus is increased.

JOB TO WORKERS OF CLOSED MILLS

1965. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of textile mills closed during the year 1992-93, State-wise;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to provide jobs to the workers of these mills;

(c) whether the Government have provided jobs to all the workers of closed mills; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) 22 Cotton/Man-made Fibre Tetile Mills undergoing liquidation (Companies Act) and One woollen textile mills under I. D. Act were closed as on 31st May, 1993.

Cotton/Man-made Fibre Textile Mills	
Gujarat	17
Karnataka	2
Rajasthan	1
Tamil Nadu	2
Woollen Textile Mill	1
Himachal Pradesh	1

(b) to (d) Government have a Textile Workers Rehabilitation Fund Scheme (TWRFS), to provide interim relief to workers affected by closure of mills so that they are able to get alternative employment.

[English]

BANK BRANCHES IN WEST BENGAL AND BIHAR

1966. SHRI BIRSINGH MAHATO :

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be be pleased to state :

(a) the number and details of branches of the public sector and other banks opened in West Bengal and Bihar during the year 1992-93 and during the current financial year so far alongwith the names of the places where these branches have been opened;

(b) whether the Government have received representations for opening of new branches in these two States;

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

(d) the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND STATE MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) 21 branches in West Bengal and 19 branches in Bihar have been opened by public sector banks and other banks during the year 1992-93 (latest available) as per details given in *Statement-I*.

(b) to (d) A number of representations for opening of bank branches at various

centres in West Bengal and Bihar have been received. Under the Branch Expansion Programme 1990—95, the applications for opening of branches in rural areas are required to be recommended by the District Administration and forwarded to RBI through the State Governments concerned. Under the Branch Expansion Programme (1990—95) RBI have allotted 7 centres in West Bengal and 5 centres in Bihar as indicated in *statement-II* to the public sector banks on the basis of recommendations received from the concerned State Governments.

As regards semi-urban centres, a specified quota of 1285 centres has been allotted to commercial banks, on All India basis, to enable them to open their branches at semi-urban centres of their choice. No State-wise quota has been allotted in this regard. As the banks have been given freedom to open branches at semi-urban centres of their choice, the representations received by individual banks are considered by them while proposing centres for opening their branches on merits.

In respect of Urban/Metropolitan/Port Town centres, RBI have allotted 66 centres in West Bengal and 57 centres in Bihar to banks for opening their branches during the period 1990—95 in a phased manner. The identification of Urban/Metropolitan/Port Town centres has been made by the Working Groups constituted for the purpose and the centres for Branch Expansion were recommended by the Working Groups after taking into consideration all relevant factors.

Statement-I

District	Name of Centre	Name of Bank
1	2	3
	State : West Bengal	
Barddhaman	1. Asansol	United Bank
	2. Kaligram	Indian Bank
	3. Pangar	O.B.C.
Birbhum	4. Kachujor	C.B.I.
	5. Suri	B.O.I.
Calcutta	6. Calcutta	Allahabad Bank
	7. Calcutta	O.B.C.
	8. Calcutta	United Bank
	9. Calcutta	J & K Bank Ltd.
Darjiling	10. Siliguri	S.B.I.
Hugli	11. Baliymore	Canara Bank
	12. Champdani	S.B.B. & J.
Medinipur	13. Haldia	S.B.I.
	14. Haldia	Allahabad Bank
Murshidabad	15. Ratanpur (Samserganj)	Syndicate Bank
North 24 Parganas	16. Ambikapur Mamudpur	Allahabad Bank
	17. Bidhannagar	United Bank
	18. Chandpur	Allahabad Bank
	19. Hatiara	Allahabad Bank
	20. South Dum Dum	United Bank
Puruliya	21. Puruliya	B.O.I.
	State : Bihar	
Bhojpur	1. Arrah	S.B.I.
Bokaro	2. Bokaro Steel City	S.B.I.
Dhanbad	3. Dhanbad	S.B.I.

1	2	3
	4. Dhanbad	P.N.B.
	5. Geenagore	B.O.I.
Dhumka	6. Jamtara	S.B.I.
Gaya	7. Gaya	S.B.I.
Katihar	8. Katihar	S.B.I.
Munger	9. Monghyar	I.O.B.
Muzaffarpur	10. Mithanpura	S.B.I.
Nalanda	11. Bari Pahari	S.B.I.
Patna	12. Patna	B.O.B.
	13. Patna	J & K Bank Ltd.
	14. Patna	South Indian Bank Ltd.
Purbi Singhbhum	15. Jamshedpur	S.B.I.
Ranchi	16. Ranchi	S.B.I.
	17. Ranchi	B.O.I.
	18. Ranchi	P.N.B
Vaishali	19. Pohiari	C.B.I

Statement-II

District	Name of Centre	Name of Bank
	State : West Bengal	
1 Birbhum	1 Kachujor	C.B.I.
2. Barddhaman	1. Kaligram	Indian Bank
	2. Nandai	B.O.I.
3. Darjiling	1. Hatighisa	B.O.I.
4. Cooch Behar	1. Kushari Bari	C.B.I.
5. North 24 Parganas	1. Ambikapur Mamudpur	Allahabad Bank
	2. Kumarpukur	Allahabad Bank
	State : Bihar	
1. West Singhbhum	1. Kulda	B.O.I.
2. East Singhbhum	1. Murathakura	B.O.I.
	2. Matiabandhi	B.O.I.
3. Vaishali	1. Pohyar	C.B.I.
	2. Rohsa	C.B.I.

[*Translation*]

CAPACITY OF MINTS

1967. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of mints in the country and the locations thereof;

(b) whether capacity of these Mints is being fully utilised;

(c) whether the capacity is sufficient to meet the demand of coins;

(d) the value of coins got minted in foreign countries and the expenditure incurred thereon during last three years, yearwise; and

(e) the steps being taken to increase the capacity of these mints ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) There are four Mints in the country located at Bombay, Calcutta, Hyderabad and Noida (U.P.).

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No coins were minted abroad during the last three years.

(e) Government is modernising the Mints at Bombay, Calcutta & Hyderabad with a view to increasing the existing production capacity.

[*English*]

EXPORT OF APPLES

1968. MAJOR D. D. KHANORIA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of apples exported and the foreign exchange earned therefrom during 1992-93; and

(b) the steps being taken by the Government to boost its export ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) During 1992-93, an estimated quantity of 9400 MT* apples valued at Rs. 800 lakhs were exported.

(b) To boost export of fruits, including apples, Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has taken various steps which include promoting increased production and productivity, improved quality, developing infrastructure, improving packaging, disseminating marketing information, etc.

*Based on returns filed by exporters with APEDA.

[*Translation*]

OPENING OF BANK BRANCHES

1969. SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of branches of the public sector banks opened during the current financial year, State-wise; and

(b) the criteria fixed for opening a new bank branch ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) State-wise number of branches of public sector banks opened during the year 1992-93 (latest available) are given in the attached *statement*.

(b) Under the extent policy of Reserve Bank of India (RBI), opening of branches in rural areas are considered on two counts viz :

(i) Service area allocated to a bank branch may be found to be unmanageable due to large number of villages allotted number of constituents to be catered to and long distance/difficult terrain involved in servicing the area.

(ii) The increase in business of rural branch justifiably warranting an additional branch which could be viable.

The hilly/tribal areas and sparsely populated regions would get preference for opening new branches. It is left to the judgement of individual banks to assess the need on the above basis for additional rural branches. The centres so identified by them should have the recommendations of the concerned lead banks as also the State Government.

As regard semi-urban centres, Indian Scheduled Commercial Banks (excluding Regional Rural Banks) have been allotted a specific quota on All India basis for opening their branches at these centres of their choice during the period 1990—95. No specific quota has been allotted for any State.

In respect of Urban/Metropolitan/Port Town centres, allotments have been made as per the recommendation of the Working Groups constituted by Regional Offices of RBI taking into account relevant factors such as growth of areas, emergence of new colonies/localities at such centres, banking needs of the people, etc.

Statement

State	No. of branches opened
1. Andaman & Nicobar	2
2. Andhra Pradesh	33
3. Assam	1
4. Bihar	17
5. Chandigarh	5
6. Delhi	11
7. Goa	3
8. Gujarat	27
9. Haryana	22
10. Himachal Pradesh	8
11. Jammu & Kashmir	2
12. Karnataka	32
13. Kerala	26
14. Madhya Pradesh	26
15. Maharashtra	32
16. Meghalaya	1
17. Orissa	17
18. Pondicherry	1
19. Punjab	31
20. Rajasthan	23
21. Sikkim	4
22. Tamil Nadu	39
23. Tripura	2
24. Uttar Pradesh	45
25. West Bengal	21
Total	431

[*English*]

CITU PROPOSAL FOR REVIVAL OF N.T.C. AND BIC MILLS

1970. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Confederation of Indian Trade Unions (CITU) had submitted a memorandum in May, 1993 regarding revival of the 34 sick NTC and 6 sick British India Corporation (BIC) mills; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) and (b) Representations have been received from various quarters regarding the revival of the units of NTC & BIC. Government have approved a Turn Around Strategy for NTC & BIC textile mills involving, inter-alia, selective modernisation, financial & managerial restructuring & rationalisation of surplus workforce under the Voluntary Retirement Scheme.

[Translation]

TAXES RECOVERED FROM PRIVATE AIRLINES

1971. Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the taxes recovered from each of the private airlines operating in the country during the last one year;

(b) whether the private airlines are earning profit even after paying taxes whereas the Indian Airlines is running in loss ; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

(b) Air Taxi operators are not required to submit such information to the Government.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

EXPORT OF MARINE PRODUCTS

1972. DR. R. MALLU :
SHRI RAM SINGH KASHWAN:
DR. AMRIT LAL KALIDAS PATEL :
SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is an increase in the export of marine and fishery products ;

(b) the total quantity of different marine products including fish exported and the foreign exchange earned therefrom during each of the last three years, item-wise ;

(c) whether the Government have fixed any target for the export of different marine including fish products for 1993-94;

(d) if so, the details thereof, item-wise and the estimated amount of foreign exchange likely to be earned through it ;

(e) whether the Government have made any scheme for export of these products to European Community Countries and if so, the details thereof ; and

(f) the steps being taken by the Government to increase the production of the above items to meet the domestic demand before export ?

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

(b) A *Statement* showing the seafood exported during the last three years. item-wise is annexed.

(c) and (d) Government has fixed an export target of US $ 650 Million for marine products as a whole. No individual targets have been fixed for different items of marine products being exported from the country.

(e) The following steps are being taken to increase seafood exports to European Community countries :—

(i) MPEDA's participation in the leading seafood fairs held in EEC :

(ii) Single European market came into being from 1-1-93 and all the processing units will eventually have to comply with the ISO 9000 standards and other EEC directives for exporting to EEC. In order to assist exporter for adoptation of ISO 9000 standards in their processing units, MPEDA has been organising a series of workshops ;

(iii) Arranging buyer-seller meets;

(iv) Promoting Joint Ventures especially in deep sea fishing and processing;

(v) Dissemination of trade enquiries received from our missions abroad to the seafood industry.

(f) Most of the marine products exported from India do not have a domestic market because of their high value. The following steps are being taken to increase the export production of marine products :

(i) To increase production through aquaculture;

(ii) To increase the production and productivity of the existing aquaculture farms by practising scientific method of cultivation; and

(iii) To exploit the under-exploited marine resources in the Indian EEZ by practising diversified fishing.

Statement

SEA FOOD EXPORTED DURING THE LAST THREE YEARS, ITEM WISE

Q. Qty. in M. Tonnes
V. Value in Rs. Crores

Item		1992-93	1991-92	1990-91
Frz. Shrimp	Q:	74393	76107	62395
	V:	1180.26	976.16	663.33
Fresh/Frz.fish	Q:	75376	49333	42340
	V:	232.41	143.19	90.82
Frz. squid	Q:	30364	25529	16667
	V:	151.90	109.38	44.99
Frz. cuttle fish	Q:	18981	12437	11596
	V:	118.88	60.91	45.29
Frz. lobster	Q:	1613	1628	1600
	V:	43.34	55.31	34.30
Dried items	Q:	4233	2926	1127
	V:	18.02	13.95	1.40
Others	Q:	3642	3860	3694
	V:	22.62	16.99	13.24
Total	Q:	203632	171820	139419
	V:	1767.43	1375.89	893.37

Source: MPEDA, Cochin.

[*Translation*]

CONCESSIONS TO THE INDIAN INVESTORS BY HUNGARY

1973. SHRI CHETAN P. S. CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Hungary has offered a number of concessions to the Indian investors;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether India and Hungary have signed any bilateral agreement to promote trade on textiles, tea, coffee and medicines between the two countries;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Hungary has also proposed to supply additional equipment to various Indian Defence institutions; and

(f) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) and (b) No concessions specific to the Indian investors have been offered.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The question does not arise.

(e) and (f) Officers from Hungary for defence related items are received from time to time. The offers receive due consideration with reference to the recruitments of the Armed Forces, availability of resources and competitive commercial considerations.

STRIKE BY ALL INDIA RURAL BANK WORKERS

1974. SHRI GAYA PRASAD KORI :

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any notice regarding a country-wide

strike by the All India Rural Bank Workers and Officers Organisation;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the demands of the workers; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to avert the strike?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (c) The All India Regional Bank Employees Associaciation staged a Representative Dharna in front of the Office of Banking Division of the Ministry of Finance on 4-8-1993. The main demands of the Association are as under:

(i) immediate formation of National Rural Bank of India (NRBI);

(ii) immediate payment of arrears as per Tribunal Award;

(iii) immediate amendment of RRB Staff Service Rules/Promotion Rules.

The issues regarding formation of NRBI, and payment of arrears as per Tribunal Award are under consideration. In regard to staff Service Regulations and Recruitment and Promotion Policy, drafts of the rules and regulations have been prepared and these are to be examined further in consultation with Sponsor Banks and NABARD.

[*English*]

IMPACT OF INTERNAL DISORDER IN NORTHERN STATES ON TOURISM

1975. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH:

SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI:

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

(a) whether the Government have made assessment of loss caused in foreign exchange earnings through tourism during the last two years due to disturbances/internal disorder in Northern States particularly in Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have evolved any plan/scheme to recoup these losses; and

(d) if so, the specific details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) There has been a decline in foreign tourists traffic to India since December 1992 due to various reasons including the incidents in Ayodhya and its aftermath, disturbed conditions in some parts of the country and strikes in national airlines. The loss in foreign exchange earning due to the decline in tourist arrivals is provisionally estimated to be Rs. 27.92 crores during 1992 and Rs. 67.49 crores during the first six months of 1993.

(c) and (d) The measures initiated to check the decline in tourist traffic include re-assurance campaigns in the overseas markets, strengthening of publicity and promotional efforts and development of tourist attractions and facilities.

[*Translation*]

REDUCTION IN RATE OF COMMISSION BY LIC

1976. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rate of commission to be given after payment of premium of the policy to the agents of LIC has been reduced;

(b) if so, the extent to which rate of commission has been reduced and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to reconsider the above decision; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[*English*]

SICK INDUSTRIES REFERRED TO BIFR

1977. SHRI SOBHANA DREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria adopted by the Government for referring sick industrial units to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR);

(b) the number of sick units referred to BIFR in each State during the last two years and during the current financial year so far;

(c) the details of the units which have been rehabilitated in each State during the above period and the target fixed for 1993-94;

(d) whether there is any proposal to open more offices of BIFR in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) Section 15(1) of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 (SICA) requires the Board of Directors of an industrial company to make a reference to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) if it has become sick. Under Section 15(2) of the above Act, the Central Government, State Government, Reserve Bank of India, public financial institution, a State-level institution or a scheduled bank can also make a reference to BIFR if they have sufficient reasons to believe that the industrial company has become sick.

(b) The number of sick units registered with BIFR in each State during the last two years and upto 30-6-93 is given in the *Statement-I* attached.

(c) The names of units which have been rehabilitated during the above period is given in the *Statement-II*. No target can be fixed for this purpose as the number of companies which will be declared no longer sick during 1993-94 would depend on the actual performance of the companies.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement-I

Sl. No.	State	No. of Ref. Regd.			
		1991	1992	Upto June '93	Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh	21	25	13	59
2.	Bihar	4	8	2	14
3.	Goa, Daman & Diu	0	1	0	1
4.	Gujarat	8	11	4	23
5.	Haryana	6	3	2	11
6.	Himachal Pradesh	1	3	3	7
7.	Kerala	7	16	6	29
8.	Karnataka	10	13	4	27
9.	Madhya Pradesh	7	7	2	16
10.	Maharashtra	25	21	10	57
11.	Nagaland	0	1	0	1
12.	Orissa	5	5	3	13
13.	Pondicherry(B)	2	1	0	3
14.	Punjab	5	1	4	10
15.	Rajasthan	5	6	4	15
16.	Tamil Nadu	15	6	4	25
17.	Tripura	0	1	0	1
18.	Uttar Pradesh	22	30	6	57
19.	West Bengal	8	17	3	28
20.	Assam	2	1	2	5
21.	J & K	2	0	0	2
	Total	155	177	72	404

Statement-II

1. Shri Sulphurics Ltd
2. Nadiambal Textile Mills
3. Sujani Textiles
4. Mukerian Papers
5. Shri Manufacturing
6. The Bombay Co. Ltd
7. Karnataka Woollens
8. Dandeli Ferro Alloys
9. Elde Textiles
10. VST Tillers
11. Star Paper Ltd.
12. Tri Star Soya Products Ltd.
13. Kirtampudi Sugar Mills

RESTRUCTURING OF RRBs

1978. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE :

SHRI GAYA PRASAD KORI :
SHRI S. B. SIDNAL :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have worked out action plan to restructure regional rural banks to make them vibrant and viable to serve the rural sector effectively and to make them profitable ; and

(b) if so, the details of the plan worked out for implementation during the Eighth Five Year Plan and the targets set in this regard, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) Government have been considering a mechanism in order to bring back Regional Rural Banks ((RRBs) from their moribund state into a viable and vibrant part of the institutional credit delivery system for serving the rural poor. In this regard, a number of models have been studied including the proposal for establishment of a National Rural Bank of India (NRBI). However, no final decision has been taken so far.

DECLINE IN EXPORT OF CARDAMOM

1979. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a sharp decline in the export of cardamom ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) the steps taken by the Spices Board to enhance the export of cardamom during the remaining period of the Eighth Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STAE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) Yes, Sir. India's export of cardamom (small) during 1992-93 was 175 M.T. valued at Rs. 6.80 crore as compared to 553 M.T. valued at Rs. 16.07 crores exported during 1991-92.

(b) Major reasons for decline in the export of cardamom (Small) are :—

(i) Very high domestic price as compared to the international price and decline in production have made our cardamom highly uncompetitive in the international markets ;

(ii) Low production during 1992-93 was due to severe cyclone and flood damages in the cardamom growing areas; and

(iii) Saudia Arabia, which is the biggest market for cardamom, now prefers cheaper Gautemalam cardamom.

(c) Major steps taken by the Board to enhance export of cardamom (small) are :—

(i) With a view to improving production and productivity of cardamom in the country and to make available sufficient surpluses at competitive prices in

international markets, a number of development programmes are being undertaken such as production and supply of quality planting material, replantation of uneconomic gardens, implementation of irrigation and land development programmes and extension support to farmers on scientific cultivation, process and marketing;

(ii) Imparting training on quality upgradation and post harvesting processing;

(iii) Strengthening market base in existing markets and identifying new markets;

(iv) Popularising Logo as a mark of Indianness and quality to spices including cardamom in consumer packs;

(v) Particiption in major international trade fairs and sponsoring Sales-cum-Study Missions to markets abroad; and

(vi) Collection of market intelligence and prices and timely dissemination to exporters for adopting suitable export promotion strategies.

SALE OF SURPLUS LAND BY SICK INDUSTRIAL UNITS

1980. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL) : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether some sisk textiles industrial units in the country, especially in Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh, have asked for permission to sell surplus land for raising funds for revival;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (c) As regards private textile mills, permission has to be obtained from the conferned State Governments under the relevant Central and State laws. However, NTC proposes to sell its surplus land to raise resources for modernisation of its mills etc., in accordance with prescribed procedures.

[Translation]

LINKING OF RELIGIOUS CENTRES BY AIR SERVICE

1981. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate a scheme to link important religious centres of the country by air service; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) While efforts continue to airlink as many places as possible, there is no plan at present to formulate a scheme to airlink important religious centres.

CREDIT/DEPOSITS OF NATIONALISED BANKS

1982. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the rules and the criteria for providing loan out of the deposits in the nationalised banks in various states within that State where these banks are operating;

(b) the States in which the aforesaid rules and criteria are not being followed; and

(c) the deposits made and the loan provided by the nationalised banks during the last year in various States, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED : (a) and (b) Public Sector Banks provide loans to individual borrowers and corporate borrowers based on the economic, technical and financial viability of the schemes and projects. There are no uniform criteria laid down for the purpose. However, the banks follow the general guidelines prescribed by the RBI from time to time for taking deposits and providing advances as per the prescribed interest rates/conditions.

(c) The State-wise aggregate deposits mobilised and advances made by the public sector banks in the last year as at the end of March 1993 are indicated in the attached *statement.*

Statement

STATE-WISE AGGREGATE DEPOSITES AND ADVANCES OF PUBLIC SECTOR BANKS IS AT THE END OF MARCH 1993

(Amount in Rs. Lakhs)

State/Union Territory	March 1993	
	Deposit	Credit
Haryana	348313	179677
Himachal Pradesh	106096	34339
Jammu & Kashmir	58971	17471
Punjab	909382	366296
Rajasthan	335780	191246
Chandigarh	128276	63209
Delhi	1505996	736452
Arunachal Pradesh	2059	665
Assam	157067	76862
Manipur	5937	6155
Meghalaya	20993	3468
Mizoram	1816	361
Nagaland	9989	3828
Tripura	17107	8715
Bihar	644604	225531
Orissa	1864 7	115755
Sikkim	4553	896
West Bengal	964099	701239
Andaman Nicobar Islands	3468	1072
Madhya Pradesh	502344	279647
Uttar Pradesh	1605283	647408
Goa	145733	41056
Gujarat	1187247	528543
Maharashtra	3304882	2254170
Dadra andNagar Haveli	1732	616
Daman & Diu	2953	388
Andhra Pradesh	708889	528156
Karnataka	810274	521264
Kerala	455659	199236
Tamil Nadu	1156129	917283
Lakshadweep	1361	135
Pondicherry	29564	13646

UTILISATION OF BANK LOANS

1983. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the loans are being utilised for the purpose for which these were advanced by the public sector banks ;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ;

(c) the number of cases of misutilisation of the loans reported during each of the last two years, bank-wise ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (d) The Commercial banks provide loans to the identified beneficiaries under various Government sponsored schemes and under their own schemes framed by themselves. By and large every endeavour is made by banks to ensure that the credit facilities extended are utilised for the given purposes. This is sought to be ensured by taking appropriate caution while disbursing loans, conducting pre-sanction scrutiny and appraisals, post sanction inspections periodically during currency of the loan and by making direct payment to the suppliers. However, some cases of misutilisation of loans do come to the notice of the banks from time to time and appropriate action is taken by them to deal with such cases. The date reporting system does not generate the information regarding the number of cases of mis-utilisation of the loans.

REGISTERED FABRICATION UNITS

1984. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY :

SHRI MAHESH KANODIA :

SMT. SURYAKANTA PATIL :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to refer to reply given to unstarred Question No. 6553 on the April 23, 1993 and state :

(a) whether the investigations against the 19 exporters and other bogus fabrication units have since been completed and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any more complaints have since been received from some members of Parliament regarding allotment of quota and selling the same in black marketing and evasion of taxes; and

(c) if so, the action taken by the Government against such firms ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) Out of the 19 exporters whose entitlements for 1993 were withheld following the inspection by a team constituted by the Textiles Commissioner entitlements in respect of 9 exporters were subsequently released as they could furnish satisfactory proof regarding number of machines and workers in their units. The other 10 cases are still under investigation In addition, quota allotted to 15 more exporters were cancelled and certification of entitlement certificates were withheld in respect of 49 more exporters on the basis of inspection.

(b) and (c) A complaint has been received from a Member of Parliament alleging that one exporters was indulging in black-marketing in quotas. The manufacturing unit of the exporter was inspected on 21-6-1993. The inspection team reported less number of machines and workers than what had been declared by the party in their quota application. Apparel Export Promotion Council has therefore been advised by Office of Textile Commissioner to stop giving further certification on the party's entitlement certificates. The party has also been asked to clarify the discrepancies. Further necessary action will be initiated on receipt of reply from the party.

[*English*]

DEVELOPMENT OF HANDLOOM INDUSTRY

1985. SHRI HARIN PATHAK :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether certain schemes have been formulated for increasing the productivity in handloom sector and sale of finished goods at profitable price;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the target fixed for increasing the productivity during the Eighth Five Year Plan ?

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

(b) The following are some of the schemes implemented in the handloom sector for increasing the productivity of handloms and to provide marketing support for sale of finished goods at remunerative prices :—

(i) Training of Weavers and upgradation of technology through Weavers' Service Centres and Indian Institute of Handloom Technology;

(ii) Project Package Scheme for development of specific product/area/type of weavers;

(iii) Market Development Assistance Scheme;

(iv) Special Rebate on sale of handloom goods in the National Handloom Expo;

(v) National Design Collection Programmes.

(c) While no specific target in terms of productivity has been fixed, the approved outlay for VIII Plan under Plan Schemes in the handloom sector is Rs. 300.00 crores.

[*Translation*]

INVESTMENT BY COMMERCIAL BANKS IN RAJASTHAN

1986. SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the per capita capital investment made in Rajasthan by the commercial banks during the last three years as compared to other States;

(b) the credit-deposit ratio of nationalised banks in Rajasthan during the last three years with regard to small scale industries and weaker sections of the State; and

(c) the total amount of loan extended to small scale industries in Rajasthan during each of the last three years by the nationalised banks ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) The per capita investment of commercial banks (excluding Regional Rural Banks) in Rajasthan and other States during the years 1988, 1989 and 1990 (latest available) are given in the attached statement.

(b) The sector wise Credit Deposit Ratio of banks is not maintained. The Credit Deposit Ratio of nationalised banks in Rajasthan an on March 1991, 1992 and 1993 is as given below :

Year	Credit Deposit Ratio (%)
1991	55.7
1992	59.6
1993	58.7

(c) The total amount of loan extended to Small Scale Industries in Rajasthan during the last three years by nationalised banks is as given below :

Year	Amount (Rs. in crores)
1990-91	112.90
1991-92	131.54
1992-93	137.65

Statement

Investments of Scheduled Commercial Banks (Excluding RRBs) State-wise

(Rs. Lakhs)

Name of State	Per Capita Investment (Rs.)		
	1988	1989	1990
Andhra Pradesh	173	205	231
Arunachal Pradesh	—	33	71
Assam	155	182	218
Bihar	144	174	202
Goa	38	76	113
Gujarat	273	290	327
Haryana	230	246	298
Himachal Pradesh	251	297	339
Jammu & Kashmir	280	329	363
Karnataka	201	227	246
Kerala	243	284	329
Madhya Pradesh	156	190	222
Maharashtra	204	241	290
Manipur	222	242	273
Meghalaya	393	440	493
Mizoram	—	—	—
Nagaland	481	530	621
Orissa	207	243	287
Punjab	217	245	292
Rajasthan	208	238	275
Sikkim	—	58	172
Tamil Nadu	198	242	274
Tripura	154	165	198
Uttar Pradesh	150	174	207
West Bengal	216	211	244
ALL-INDIA	187	215	249

[*English*]

MINIMUM WAGES

1987. SHRI SANDIPAN BHAGWAN THORAT : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have announced minimum wages for skilled, unskilled and semi-skilled workers recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether film exhibitors of Delhi and other places have opposed the minimum wages rates;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to protect the interests of the Vulnerable sections of society by periodical revision of minimum wages and their effective implementation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b) The Govt. of National Capital Territory of Delhi vide notification No. F. 12(142)/92-MW/Lab dated 16-4-93 published the proposals to refix the minimum rates of wages and invited objections/suggestions from the affected persons and public at large. The notification proposed minimum rates of wages for unskilled, semi-skilled and skilled workers at Rs. 1272, Rs. 1438 and Rs. 1696 per month respectively.

(c) and (d) The Film Exihibitors of Delhi and 400 other affected organisations/individuals have objected to the revision of minimum wages. The National Association of Motion Picture Exhibitors has opposed the revision of Minimum wages on several grounds, inter-alia, that the earning capacity and the real income of the film exihibitors have gone down in the recent years due to competition from Cable T.V., Satellite and Video.

(e) The minimum wages as suggested vide Notification dated 16th April, 1993 will be made effective only after thorough consideration and having the views of the Minimum Wage Advisory Board. The Minimum wages as applicable in the National Capital Territory of Delhi are being enforced vigorously through mechanism of inspections, investigation of complaints, prosecution of defaulters in the court of law. The Management and the labour are also educated about the need to pay minimum wages.

EXPORTS OF TRADITIONAL ITEMS

1988. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI :

SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the export of traditional items such as mango, apple and tea are on decline;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have fixed any target for export of horticulture and fruits items for 1993-94;

(d) if so, the details thereof, item-wise;

(e) the total foreign exchange likely to be earned therefrom; and

(f) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to boost the export of these items ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) and (b) While the exports of tea during 1992-93 were lower as compared to the previous year, the exports of mangoes and apples have shown an increase. The decline in tea exports was mainly on account of the disintegration of the erstwhile USSR and lower purchases by Russia and other CIS countries on account of their economic problems.

(c) to (e) The targets fixed for fruits and vegetables etc., during 1993-94 are as under :—

Qty: '000 MT
Val: US $ Million

PRODUCTS	Qty.	Value
1. Floriculture & Seeds	12.00	14.67
2. Fruits & Vegetables	570.00	150.00
3. Processed Fruits & Vegetables	100.00	78.00
4. Other Processed Food	98.00	95.00
Total:	780.00	338.00

(f) Steps taken by Government to increase the export of Indian tea include uninational promotion for Indian tea undertaken by foreign offices of Tea Board, participation in Trade Fairs/Exhibitions, organising buyer-seller meets etc. For boosting export of fruits and vegetables, Agricultural and Processed Food Export Products Development Authority (APEDA) has taken a number of steps which include increasing production and productivity, improving quality, developing infrastructure, improving packaging, disseminating market information, etc.

EXPORT GROWTH

1989. SHRI ANKUSHRAO SAHEB TOPE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the target fixed for the growth of exports during 1993-94; and

(b) the details of efforts being made by the Government to achieve the targets ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED : (a) The aggregate target for export for 1993-94 has been set at US $ 22138 million, in consultation with the Export Promotion Councils and Commodity Boards.

(b) In order to boost exports, the Government have taken major steps for liberalisation of trade which include provision of export-linked imports, reduction of import licensing, strengthening export incentives, removal of procedural irritants through simplification of policy and procedures and pruning of negative list of Exports. 34 commodities have been identified as 'Extreme Focus' sector for a special export thrust abroad. In the 1993-94 Budget, the system of unified exchange rate has been introduced, customs and excise duties on many raw materials and capital goods reduced and interest rate on rupee export credit has been lowered. The exim Policy 1992—97 has been amended to include a scheme of EOU's for agricultural and allied sectors exporting only 50% of their produce and selling the rest in the Domestic Tariff Area. The Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme has also been extended to the Services Sectors. Besides, an Exporter's Redressal Cell has been set up by the Government in the Commerce Ministry to facilitate action on problems being experienced by exporters.

COUNTER TRADE PROVISIONS

1990. SHRI HANNAN HOLLAH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Airlines Authorities have decided to have adequate counter trade provisions in their future contracts for purchase of aircraft;

(b) if so, whether such provisions are being included by the Indian Airlines in the airbus purchase deal;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) In future contracts for purchase of aircraft, Indian Airlines will keep in view the aspect of counter trade.

(b) to (d) The purchase of six A-320 aircraft was part of an earlier agreement which did not envisage any counter trade obligation.

PAY SCALES OF SECTION OFFICERS AND PRIVATE SECRETARIES

1991. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Administrative Tribunal has directed the Government on March 16, 1993 to pass final orders within a period of four months to revise the pay scales of the Section Officers and Private Secretaries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action being taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (c) The Central Administrative Tribunal had directed the Government to pass appropriate orders on the basis of the report of the Bandhyopadhyay Committee. The report deals with the restructuring of the Central Secretariat Service. The examination of the report is in progress.

HIKE IN PRICES OF FIBRE

1992. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the producers of fibres have resorted to price hikes in Viscose Staple Fibre (VSF) and Polyster Staple Fibre (PSF);

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the extent of price hikes resorted to during the last three years;

(c) the reaction of Indian Spinners Association (ISA) thereto; and

(d) the details of steps taken/proposed by the Government to regulate prices of Viscose Staple Fibre and Polyster Staple Fibre to protect the interest of consumers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) and (b) There has been increase in the price of Viscose Staple Fibre and Polyster Staple Fibre during the last 3 years. The Current weighted average price of Viscose Stape Fibre and Polyster Staple is Rs. 58.48 and Rs. 74.10 per Kg. as against Rs. 41.83 and Rs. 69.51 per Kg. prevailing in July, 1990.

(c) The user industry of Viscose and Polyster Staple Fibre including Indian Spinners Association have been emphasising the need for downward revision of both Viscose and Polyster Staple Fibre prices.

(d) The prices of man-made fibres/yarns including Viscose Staple Fibre and Polyster Staple Fibre are primarily governed by the demand, supply and market forces. However, in order to regulate the prices of these fibres/yarns, Govt. have from time to time taken various policy initiatives such as liberalisation of industrial policy to encourage creation of fresh capacity, rationalisation of fiscal levies, modification in Export-Import Policy of these fibres/yarns, etc.

[*Translation*]

BANK LOAN TO THE POOR

1993. SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of loan provided by the public sector banks to the poor living below poverty line in Bihar during the last twelve months;

(b) whether the policy of the Government in this regard is being followed properly by the banks; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (c) The amount of loans provided by the public sector banks to the beneficiaries under the anti-poverty and self-employment schemes in Bihar are as under :

Year	Scheme/Programme	Total credit disbursed
(i) 1992-93	Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP).	Rs. 108.13 crores
(ii) 1992-93	Self-Employment Scheme for Educated Unemployed Youth (SEEUY).	Rs. 226.05 lakhs
(iii) 1992-93	Scheme of Urban Micro Enterprises (SUME).	Rs. 54.81 lakhs

The guidelines laid down by Reserve Bank of India for grant of loans under the priority sector lending by the banks are to be followed by them.

[English]

BAKEL TOURISM PROJECT

1994. SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN :

SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN :

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

(a) whether the Union Government have suggested some modifications in the Master Plan for the Bakel Tourism Project in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the work on the project is expected to start ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Bakel Tourism Authority has yet to appoint Consultant for preparation of the Master Plan.

INDO-NEPAL TRADE

1995. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Nepal has increased the export duty on the goods exported to India;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) to (c) In their Budget Proposal for 1993-94, Government of Nepal have increased the Export Serivce Charge rate from 0.5% to 2.0% for all exports from Nepal including exports to India.

Since export duty has not been increased on the Nepalese goods exported to India alone, no steps are considered necessary by the Government in the matter.

SICK JUTE MILLS

1996. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of jute mills in Orissa;

(b) the number of such mills which are incurring losses; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for revival of these mills ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) and (b) There is only one jute mill company in Orissa which is running in loss.

(c) Government have taken several measures for revival of jute industry including creating of Jute Modernisation Fund, establishing Special Jute Development Fund, prescribing compulsory packaging of specified commodities in jute bags, purchasing of B.T. will bags on cost plus basis, encouraging diversification through financial, fiscal and marketing support etc. Government have also set up the Board for Industrial and financial Reconstruction for determining and enforcing the preventive, ameliorative and remedial measures for revitalising sick industrial companies including jute mills.

DUTY FREE IMPORTS OF SILK FABRICS

1997. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA :

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether duty free imports of fabrics of natural silk, rayon, man-made fibre, woollen and cotton are permitted under the Advance Licensing Duty Free (DEEC) Scheme;

(b) if so, the quantum, value with CIF value and yardage of import licences granted by Bombay, Calcutta and Delhi Port Offices during each of the last three years, separately;

(c) the total FOB amount of export obligation imposed;

(d) whether the fulfilment of export obligations are ensured;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government in this regard ?

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

(b) and (c) Information is given in the *Statement* Attached.

(d) to (f) With a view to safeguarding the interest of the Government, bank guarantee/legal undertaking are executed by the exporters with the concerned Licensing Authorities before any import is made. Export obligations are also monitoring by the Licensing Authorities and in case any default is noticed, penal action, in addition to forefeiture of bank guarantee or enforcement of legal undertaking is taken which may result in imposition of fiscal penalty as well as debarment.

Statement

Period	Name of Port	Yardage	CIF Value (in Rs.)	FOB Value (in Rs.)
1990-91	Bombay	144730 Mtr.	84,24,600	1,47,15,000
	Calcutta	626 Sq. Mtr.	49,000	1,52, 570
	Delhi	286065 Sq. Mtr.	2,10,85,104	3,66,75,480
1991-92	Bombay	75953 Mtr.	3,52,08,024	6,65,25,386
	Calcutta	65587 Sq. Mtr	46,62,150	95,52,554
	Delhi	1661927 Sq. Mtr.	10,95,13,645	17,66,19,516
1992-93	Bombay	575305 Mtr.	15,87,73,829	24,29,96,622
	Calcutta	43214 Sq. Mtr.	51,33,000	82,18,508
	Delhi	6472210 Sq.Mtr.	32,47,91,962	68,69,04,076

RETURN OF UNUTILISED FOREIGN LOANS

1998. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VERMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the details of foreign aid (loan or grant) returned by the Government to the lending international institutions during 1993-94 so far due to non-utilisation thereof, project-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : Under a joint review conducted with the World Bank it has been agreed to concel an amount equivalent to US $ 537.4 million, against commitments made on account of savings arising mainly out of exchange rate adjustments as well as unutilised commitments on non-performing project components. These cancellations are in the Agricultural Irrigation, Power, Transport, Industry, Urban Development and Social Sectors.

TEXTILE OUTPUT

1999. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the relative share of textile output by the powerloom sector is rising at the cost of the relative share of the mill and the handloom sector;

(b) if so, the relative share of the three sectors during 1992-93, as compard to five years earlier ;

(c) The rise in total production during the same period;

(d) The change in per capita consumption during the same period; and

(e) the change in the export level of textiles during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) and (b) All the three sectors of Textile industry i.e., Handlooms, Powerlooms and Mill Sector are developing on the basis of their respective inherent strengths.

The share of three sectors in production of cloth was :—

(Million Sq. Mtrs.)

Sectors	1987-88	1992-93
Handlooms	4370	4255
Powerlooms	10429	16630
Mill Sector	3178	2255

(c) Total production of cloth increased from 17977 mill. Sq. Mtrs. in 1987-88 to 21340 mill. Sq. Mtrs. in 1992-93.

(d) Per capita consumption of cloth was 16.35 linear meters in 1987 and 14.39 linear mtrs. in 1991.

(e) The exports of textiles (excluding coir, jute and handicrafts) in 1987-88 and 1992-93 were Rs. 3781.16 crores and Rs. 16266.27 crores respectively.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS LAW

2000. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Chambers of Commerce and Industry has urged the Government to enact a comprehensive industrial relations law in tune wtih the new industrial policy;

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

(c) whether the Government have since examined these recommendations; and

(d) if so, the details of changes, Government propose to make in the industrial relations law ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (d) Certain suggestions for amending various provisions of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 and Trade Unions Act, 1926 in the context of the new industrial policy were made in the Seminar organised by the ASSOCHAM in June, 1992 on the subject of new industrial policy. Specific proposals for amending the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 and Trade Unions Act, 1926 based on the recommendations contained in Ramanujam Committee Report as well as various other suggestions including those which emanated from the aforesaid Seminar have been formulated and are being processed.

[*Translation*]

DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES OF SIDBI IN GUJARAT

2001. SHRI N. J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Small Industries Development Bank of India has started/propose to start any promotional and developmental activities in rural and adivasi areas of Gujarat; and

(b) if so, the details therof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) The Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has reported that it has been providing assistance to units in the tiny and SSI sectors under its refinance schemes in all the States and Union Territories including Gujarat. SIDBI has during the last 3 years of its operations sanctioned assistance aggregating Rs. 1168.11 crores to the small scale industries in Gujarat. This assistance has created employment opportunities in the State including rural as well as tribal areas.

SIDBI has also initiated various promotional activities in the State of Gujarat like (i) Rural Entrepreneurship Development Programme, (ii) Assistance in setting up of a Training Centre for Rural Women to train them in assessment of credit needs, (iii) Special Programme for Technology Upgradation of the salt and salt based industries identified in Kutch region (iv) Entrepreneur Development Programme for Women belonging to rural areas and (v) Management Assistance Development Programme for small

scale units to non-technical graduates including those from rural areas.

CONFERENCE OF COLLECTORS OF CUSTOMS AND CENTRAL EXCISE

2002. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether an All India Conference of Collectors of Customs and Central Excise was inaugurated by him in Delhi in the first week of July, 1993 ;

(b) if so, the main subjects discussed at the Conference; and

(c) the details of the important decisions taken at the Conference ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) Yes, Sir. A Conference of Collectors of Customs and Central Excise was held in New Delhi on 8th, 9th and 10th July, 1993.

(b) The main subjects discussed in the Conference were Tariff Reforms, Welfare and Efficiency, Anti-smuggling and Anti-Evasion, Vigilance, Simplification and Reforms, Organisation Facility, Litigation and Reconciliation of Accounts and Monitoring of Revenue, especially Revenue Accounts.

(c) Important recommendations of the Conference are given in the attached *Statement.*

Statement

Important recommendations of Conference of Collectors of Customs and Central Excise held on 8, 9 *and* 10*th July,* 1993 *at New Delhi.*

1. Recommendations have been made for considering reduction in general level of customs duties, fewer number of rates and abolition of zero rate in course of time, abolition of numerous exemptions and concession, strengthening of anti-dumping provisions.

2. Recommendations have been made for extension of excise duties to cover most manufactured goods, gradual reduction in number of rates, extension of Modvat credit in respect of capital goods, restructuring of excise duties for the textile industry.

3. Recommendations have been made for reorganisation of Central Board of Excise & Customs, having autonomous status and with the Chairman becoming a full-fledged Secretary to the Govt. of India.

4. Recommendations have been made for the creation of viable Collectorates of Excise consisting of not more than five Divisions.

5. Considering the volume of international trade and the need to curb invoice manipulation, recommendations have been made for the creation of valuation units at twelve foreign stations including New York, Brussels, Tokyo, Singapore.

6. Recommendations have been made for augmenting office accommodation and staff quarters. 1% of the total revenue collection may be earmarked for this purpose. Construction of guest houses, increase in the vehicles, provision of equipment have also to be augmented.

7. Recommendations have been made for reducing litigation. It has been suggested that a National Tribunal to deal with Customs & Central Excise disputes as also a Settlement Commission be created for this purpose.

8. Anti-smuggling and Anti-evasion activities are required to be strengthened by introducing computerisation widening of external intelligence coverage by setting up units at Singapore, Tokyo, New York, qualitative upgradation of anti-smuggling equipments, increasing the number of vehicles, vessels, setting up of dog squads.

9. Recommendations have been made for strengthening vigilance machinery to prevent malpractices and corruption. Merit and up-rightness should be encouraged.

10. Recommendations have been made for monitoring of revenue and reconciliation of accounts by introducing computerisation.

[English]

ESI SCHEME

2003. SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDELWAL :

SHRI G. DEVARAYA NAIK :

SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD :

SHRI SIMON MARANDI :

SHRI SHIBU SOREN :

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to delay on the part of the State Governments to release funds, the working of ESI hospitals and dispensaries has been badly affected;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have since contemplated any steps in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (c) The responsibility for administration of medical care under the ESI Scheme vests on the State Govts. However the expenditure on the ESI medical care in each state is shared by the ESI Corporation and the State Govt. in the agreed ratio of 7:1. As per agreement, the expenditure is initially borne by the State Govts. and thereafter it is reimbursed to the States by the ESIC on a quarterly basis. There has been complaints from the States that because of their financial constraints, they are not in a position to provide medicines and other facilities to the beneficiaries timely. The matter has been looked into and in order to overcome this difficulty, the ESI Corporation has started releasing adavnce paymcnt to the States.

[Translation]

DEVELOPMENT OF NO INDUSTRY AREA

2004. SHRI DILEEPBHAI SANGHANI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have issued instructions to the public sector banks to provide more loans for the development of no industry areas; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) The banks make available credit for various purposes including development of industry, irrespective of the places of their locations, taking into account various aspects such as economic viability technical feasibility availability of raw material, market for the products etc. The rates of interest charged by the banks on their advances are linked to the size of the loan and are not related to any sector-wise or area-wise activity.

[English]

AIR INDIA

2005. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Air India has signed an agreement with a private air taxi operator as reported in the Statesman dated May 18, 1993;

(b) if so, the salient features of the agreement;

(c) the benefits likely to accrue to Air India as a result thereof ; and

(d) the likely impact of the agreement on foreign exchange earnings of the Air India ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) (i) Under the agreement, East West Airlines accepts Air India tickets for transportation on its services but Air India does not provide similar facilities on its services for passengers of East West Airlines.

(ii) Air India settles bills of East West Airlines in Indian rupees whereas Air India realises the equivalent amount in foreign

currency on the tickets sold abroad. Hence, Air India retains its foreign currency earnings.

(iii) East West Airline gives a special discount of 12% to Air India on fares for domestic sectors in addition to the normal interline service charge of 9%. The domestic sector ticket is issued in combination with the international sector ticket.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

2006. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL :
SHRI RAJEER SINGH :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of agricultural products which are being exported by the country;

(b) the names of countries to which exports of these items are made;

(c) the earnings of foreign exchange during 1992-93 in comparison to 1991-92 till date, item-wise;

(d) whether there is any increase in exports of these items after the announcement of new EXIM policy;

(e) it so, India's performance in the world export;

(f) whether the Government propose to set up some export oriented units in agricultural sector;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps being taken by the Government to boost the export of these items ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) The major items are spices, deoiled cakes, tobacco, cashew, cotton, rice, wheat, fruits and vegetables, sugar, etc.

(b) The major destinations are the countries in West Asia, South East Asia, USA and Europe.

(c) Export of agricultural commodities (excluding cotton) during 1991-92, was US $ 1882 million and that during 1992-93 has been provisionally estimated at around US $ 1950 million.

(d) Performance of agricultural products has generally been very satisfactory and is expected to further improve pursuant to the change made in the EXIM Policy.

(e) India's share of export of agro-based commodities is less than 1% of the world trade about US $ 300 billion.

(f) and (g) Government on its own does not propose to set up export oriented units in the agricultural sector. However, under the scheme of Export Oriented Units (EOUs), units engaged in agriculutre, floriculture, horticulture, etc., can now avail of the benefits of duty free imports even if they export only 50% of their production and sell the remaining 50% in the domestic market. This is as against the limit of 25% for the non-agricultural sector.

(h) Government attaches special importance to the growth of export in the agricultural sector. Towards this end in view, apart from the liberalisations made in the EXIM Policy 1992—97, import duties on certain inputs and materials required by the agricultural sector have been lowered and made freely importable. Various incentives have also been included in the agricultural sector 1993-94 budget. These changes are expected to give an impetus to agricultural exports.

REGULATION OF U.T.I. MUTUAL FUND BY SEBI

2007. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) propose to regulate the U.T.I. Mutual Fund like other mutual funds;

(b) whether U. T. I. has agreed to the proposal; and

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

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

Securities and Exchange Board of India has proposed to regulate the Mutual Fund activities of U. T. I. in the manner in which it regulates other mutual funds under its Mutual Funds Regulations, 1993.

(b) U. T. I. is agreeable in principle to SEBI's regulation over its mutual fund activities but argues that such regulation shou'd take into account the special characteristics and status of U.T.I. and do not require the bifurcation of U.T.I.

(c) The Government has taken stock of the differences in perception between SEBI and UTI. It is committed to the effective regulation of U. T. I. by SEBI and is confident that the differences in perception will very soon be resolved.

PROMOTION OF TOURISM

2008. SHRI SURAJBHANU SOLANKI:
SHRI RAJESH KUMAR :
SHRI G. MADEGOWDA :
SHRI LALIT ORAON :
SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN :

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

(a) the targets fixed for foreign tourist arrivals and foreign exchange earnings thereby for 1993-94 and 1994-95;

(b) the details of the propsals for promotion of tourism received from each of the State/Union Territory Governments during the last three years and the current year so far;

(c) the details of the proposals approved and rejected indicating the reasons for rejecting each proposal;

(d) the present status of each of the pending proposals; and

(e) the steps taken for clearance of these proposals at the earliest ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Annual growth targets of 10% in arrivals and 20% in foreign exchange earning are anticipated under normal conditions.

(b) to (e) There are a few approved schemes under which financial assistance is provided by the Central Government to State/Union Territory Governments for tourism development and promotion. These include promotion of fairs and festivals, printing of publicity material, provision of way-side amenities, construction of accommodation facilities, improvement of transport facilities, development of facilities for adventure sports etc. The lists of projects for financial assistance in each State/Union Territory for every year is prepared on the basis of discussions with the respective State/Union Territory Governments who later prepare and sent detailed proposals. All such propsa's which are complete and included in the agreed list are sanctioned during the same financial year and as such there are no pending cases except for the year 1993-94.

[Translation]

SIMPLIFICATION OF TAX LAWS

2009. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA :
SHRI K. PRADHANI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to simplify the tax laws for the benefit of tax payers;

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

(c) the time by which it is likely to come in force ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c) Simplification of the tax laws is an on-going process. Hence, the question of fixing a time frame therefor does not arise.

[English]

CHILD LABOUR IN CARPET INDUSTRY

2010. SHRI SHRAVAN KAMAR PATEL :
SHRI S. B. SINDAL :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Carpet Export Promotion Council in its endeavour to eradicate child labour from carpet industry have adopted a code of conduct for member exporters ;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Council to ensure the implementation of this code of conduct ?

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

(b) A statement is attached.

(c) In order to enforce the code of conduct, the Carpet Export Promotion Council (CEPC) has initiated action for the registration of carpet looms. Every member of the Council would be required to get carpets woven only on registered looms on which no child labour in violation of the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 would be allowed to be engaged. The Registration-cum-Membership Certificate of Carpet Export Promotion Council has been made compulsary for export of hand-made carpets. Carpet Export Promotion Council has appointed 5 loom inspectors for periodical inspection of looms in different areas. On the basis of reports received from the officials of Department of Labour of the State Governments and from Loom Inspectors, the defaulter's looms are liable to be deregistered and black listed.

Statement

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE MEMBERS OF CARPET EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL FOR ERADICATION OF CHILD LABOUR IN THE CARPET INDUSTRY.

1. Title : These Rules shall be called "CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE MEMBERS ON THE USE OF CHILD LABOUR".

2. Applicability : These Rules on its adoption will become statutory for all the members of this Council irrespective of Region.

3. Date of Application : These Rules will become effective from the date of adoption by General Body of Carpet Export Promotion Council.

4. In these Rules unless there-be something in the subject of context inconsistent therewith :

"Council" means the Council called Carpet Export Promotion Council.

"Member" means members of the Council for the time being.

"Chairman" means the Chairman of the Council for the time being.

"Committee" means the Committee of Administration of the Council for the time being constituted under the Articles of Association of the Council.

"Annual General Meeting" means a General Meeting of the members of the Council held in accordance with the Articles of Association of the Council of adjourned meeting thereof.

"General Body Meeting" or "Extra-Ordinary General Body Meeting" means a General Body Meeting of the members of the Council duly called and constituted as per Articles of Association of the Council and any adjourned meeting thereof.

"Month" means the calender month.
"Office" means the Working Office of the Council for the time being.
"Secretary" means the Secretary of the Council for the time being and includes any person acting as such or appointed to perform the duties of the Secretary temporarily.

"Government" means the Union or State Government as the case may be.
"Year" means financial year from April 1st to March 31st.

CODE OF CONDUCT

1. It will be the responsibility of all the Members to ensure that neither he nor the looms owner on which his/her carpets are being woven, employ children below the age of 14 years in accordance with the provisions contained in the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986. However, exemption if permissible under the Law, will reply.

2. It will be the responsibility of each member to ensure strict compliance of the Code of Conduct.

3. A Committee consisting of Trade Representatives and NGOs as formed jointly by the Trade and Bandhua Mukti Morcha shall monitor the provisions of this Code of Conduct and report of violatioin, if any, to the Carpet Export Promotion Council.

4. The members will be authorised to use specially designed label on their carpets depicting that they are being manufactured without use of child labour.

5. In case of violation of the Code of Conduct, a Show Cause Notice will be issued to the member by giving him/her an opportunity to explain the circumstances under which the violation has been made.

6. The explanation so received will be placed before the Committee so as to decide the action to be taken for that violation.

7. In case a member is found guilty of violating any of the terms of Code of Conduct more than two occasions, the Secretary will be authorised to de-register the member without any further Notice to the concerned member, who will place such decision before the Committee in its next meeting.

CENTRAL LEGISLATION FOR AGRICULTURAL AND PLANTATION LABOUR

2011. SHRI K. M. MATHEW :

SHRI G. M. C. BALAYOGI :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to enact a Central legislation for the benefit of the agricultural and plantation labourers ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the other welfare schemes proposed to be introduced by the Government for the welfare of plantation and agricultural labour ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) The proposal regarding enactment of a Central legislation for agricultural labourers has not been finalised so far. The matter has been referred to a group of State Labour Ministers headed by Labour Minister of Maharashtra. Further action would be taken after receipt of the report. Law for Plantation Labour viz., Plantation Labour Act, 1951 already exists.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Government have already taken several steps for the welfare of Agricultural and Plantation Labour. The existing legislation like Minimum Wages Act, Plantation Labour Act, Bonded Labour (Abolition) Act etc.; schemes like IRDP, JRY, DWCRA; various Pension and Insurance Schemes which provide for socio-economic benefits; increased stress on improvement of infrastructural facilities, land reforms, financial assistance programmes etc. during the VIIIth Plan are further steps in this direction.

[*Translation*]

IMPACT OF ECONOMIC POLICY ON PRICES

2012. SHRI RAM BADAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey regarding the impact of new economic policy on prices;

(b) if so, the percentage hike in the prices on consumer articles like soap, tooth paste, vegetables, fruits during the last two years; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) The impact of new economic policy on prices is kept under constant review. Trends in wholesale prices are monitored every week and for consumer price index every month.

(b) Increase observed in the wholesale price indices of soap, toothpaste, vegetables and fruits during the last two years are as under :

	Percent increase over the corresponding date last year upto 17th July	
	1992	1993
Soap (Household laundry)	13.9	—2.7
Tooth-paste	18.9	7.9
Vegetables	2.9	1.8
Fruits	1.7	1.0

(c) Government have taken the following steps to check the price rise;

— Strict control on fiscal deficit.

— Liberalised trade policy and reduction in tariffs, especially in basic raw materials so as to reduce input costs.

— Supply management through augmentation of PDS supplies and import of essential commodities wherever necessary.

— Tight monetary policy.

[English]

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TASK FORCE ON EXTERNAL DEBT

2013. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to stae :

(a) whether the Government have accepted the recomendations of a task force and a policy group on external debt coverage and reclassification of external debt data for transparency and in conformity with internationally accepted definitions; and

(b) if so, the total quantum of debt, foreign and internal, separately as on March 31, 1991, 1992, and 1993 on the basis of the recommendations of the task force ?

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

(b) The total foreign debt as per revised classification as on March 31, 1991, March 31, 1992 and March 31, 1993 was US Dollars 63.40 million, 67.58 billion and 70.35 billion respectively. This does not include Short Term debt of upto 6 month maturity Defence Debt and other Rupee/Rouble denominated debt.

The Task Force and Policy Group did not make any recommendation about internal debt.

PERMISSION TO RUN INDUSTRIES/ FACTORIES ON CO-OPERATIVE BASIS

2014. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the workers of the industries/factories in Maharashtra have applied to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) to run the factories on co-operative basis;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and the details of such factories; and

(c) the action taken by the BIFR in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (c) The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has reported that while formulating revival schemes for sick industrial companies in the large and medium sector registered with it, proposals if any, received from the workers for workers co-operatives to run the sick companies are given due consideration. Since inception, BIFR has sanctioned the following four cases of workers cooperatives including two cases in Maharashtra;

(i) Kamani Tubes Ltd. Bombay— Sanctioned in Sept., 1988.

(ii) New Central Jute Mills, Calcutta—Sanctioned in Sept., 1990.

(iii) Powder Metals & Alloy Ltd. Thane—Sanctioned in March, 1992.

(iv) Kameni Metals & Alloys Ltd. Bombay—Sanctioned in April, 1993.

In addition, the BIFR has formulated a draft revival scheme on 16-6-93 through workers' co-operative in the case of Sion Garage Ltd. Bombay. Further, the following three proposals based on workers' co-operatives in Maharashtra were also considered by the Board but could not be sanctioned :

1. IAEC India Ltd.

2. Mafatlal Engg. India Ltd.

3. W. G. Forge & Allied India Ltd.

[*Translation*]

COLLECTION OF TAXES

2015. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI :
DR. CHATTRAPAL SINGH :
DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL :
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of each of the central taxes collected by the Government during the last three financial years;

(b) the proportion of the revenue collected from income tax to the total revenue during the above period;

(c) the amount refunded as a share of each State during this period; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to realise the dues in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) The information is given in the attached *Statement-I*.

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

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

(d) Necessary administrative, legal and other measures under the relevant laws/ Acts are continuously taken to recover the outstanding dues. Courts are also requested for expeditious hearing and early vacation of stay orders.

Statement-I

Statement showing amount of Central Taxes Collected during the financial years 1990-91, 1991-92 & 1992-93

(Rs. in crores)

	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
Central Excise	24514.00	28110.00	30551.22*
Custom	20544.00	22257.00	23817.73
Corporation tax	5335.00	7853.00	8842.00
Income tax	5375.00	6729.00	7850.00
Interest tax	—	305.00	657.00
Expenditure tax	80.27	144.45	153.69**
Estate Duty	3.07	2.87	1.19**
Wealth tax	231.17	306.59	463.98**
Gift tax	3.38	8.35	7.94**
	56185.89	65716.26	72444.75

*Exclusive of all cesses not adminstered by the Department of Revenue.

**Provisonal Figures.

Statement-II

(Rs. in crores)

	Income-tax collected	Total Revenue collected	% of A to B
	(A)	(B)	
1990-91	5375.00	56185.89	9.57%
1991-92	6729.00	65716.26	10.24%
1992-93	7850.00	72444.75	10.84%

Statement-III

Share of Central Taxes and Duties paid to States during 1990–91

(In crores of Rupees)

States	Income-tax	Basic Excise Duties	Additional Excise Duties
1	2	3	
Andhra Pradesh	338.21	627.38	128.40
Arunachal Pradesh	3.01	77.35	1.72
Assam	108.41	333.40	45.82
Bihar	511.68	964.95	139.22
Goa	4.53	45.07	3.69
Gujarat	187.48	278.16	98.78
Haryana	51.26	95.82	38.82
Himachal Pradesh	24.52	169.88	10.40
Jammu & Kashmir	28.64	309.10	15.52
Karnataka	203.06	359.29	98.00
Kerala	153.65	270.25	62.36
Madhya Pradesh	337.26	632.34	119.75
Maharashtra	337.51	453.70	198.65
Manipur	7.05	102.64	3.55
Meghalaya	8.57	77.98	3.17
Mizoram	3·01	95.60	1.09
Nagaland	3.95	117.83	2.00
Orissa	178.25	467.47	58.37
Punjab	70.29	118.81	59.14
Rajasthan	199.27	481.11	78.48
Sikkim	1.24	22.73	0.86
Tamil Nadu	326.80	557.79	118.53
Tripura	12.48	135.82	4.65
Uttar Pradesh	691.70	1368.77	245.03
West Bengal	323.65	578.66	2136.73
TOTAL	4120.48	8741.90	1672.53
Andhra Pradesh	419.08	729.57	147.58
Arunachal Pradesh	3.68	91.63	2.10
Assam	134.43	387.56	52.63
Bihar	633.84	1122.15	160.13
Goa	5.55	52.95	4.42
Gujarat	232.23	323.43	113.57
Haryana	63.41	111.38	44.65
Himachal Pradesh	30.36	198.19	11.97
Jammu & Kashmir	35.57	359.73	17.82
Karnataka	251.65	417.83	112.60
Kerala	190.42	314.27	71.74
Madhya Pradesh	418.03	735.37	137.62
Maharashtra	418.35	527.60	228.30
Manipur	8.76	119.80	4.08
Meghalaya	10.61	91.01	3.65
Mizoram	3.68	112.95	1.34
Nagaland	4.90	137.60	2.29
Orissa	220.80	542.59	67.14

Statement-III—(Contd.)

States	Income tax	Basic Excise Duties	Additional Excise Duties
1	2	3	4
Punjab	87.13	138 11	68 03
Rajasthan	246.74	559 23	90 25
Sikkim	1.51	26 53	0 99
Tamil Nadu	404 72	648.61	136 13
Tripura	15 45	158 40	5.35
Uttar Pradesh	857 81	1591 77	281 64
West Bengal	407 13	671 00	157 29
TOTAL	5105 84	10169 26	1923 31

Share of Central Taxes and Duties paid to States during 1992–93.

(In crores of Rupees)

States	Income Tax	Basic Excise Duties	Additional Excise Duties in lieu of Sales Tax
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	497 44	875 76	172 82
Arunachal Pradesh	4.31	109.54	2 40
Assam	159 20	465 54	61 67
Bihar	753 07	1347 84	187 13
Goa	6 52	63 72	5 13
Gujarat	275 95	388 56	132 88
Haryana	75 65	134 16	52 13
Himachal Pradesh	36 12	237 14	13 97
Jammu & Kashmir	41 89	432 95	20 89
Karnataka	298 57	501 61	131 79
Kerala	225 94	377 23	83 79
Madhya Pradesh	495 72	882 83	161 07
Maharashtra	496 07	633 28	267 28
Manipur	10 29	143 26	4 78
Meghalaya	12 64	108 73	4 27
Mizoram	4.38	135 39	1.52
Nagaland	5.83	164 42	2 70
Orissa	262 35	654 05	78 48
Punjab	103 32	166.25	79.44
Rajasthan	293.51	674 46	105 44
Sikkim	1 86	31 71	1.17
Tamil Nadu	481 19	779 60	158 90
Tripura	18 41	189 84	6 26
Uttar Pradesh	1015 59	1911 62	329 42
West Bengal	483 63	806 44	183 69
TOTAL	6059.45	12215 93	2249.02

EXPORT OF TYRES

2016 SHRI BIRSINGH MAHATO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the exports of tyres during 1992-93; and

(b) the details of foreign exchange earned from the export of tyres during the aforesaid period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) and (b) The details of foreign exchange earned by export of Auto Tyres & Tubes and Cycles & Tubes made during 1992-93 are given below :—

(Rs./Crores)

Auto Tyres & Tubes	Cycle Tyres & Tubes
481.6	62.0

(*Source* : Chemicals and Allied Products Export Promotion Council, Calcutta)

LIC BRANCHES IN MAHARASHTRA

2017. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to open more branches of the Life Insurance Corporation of India in Maharashtra during 1993-94; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the places where these branches are proposed to be opened ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It is proposed to open 12 Branches of the Life Insurance Corporation of India in Maharashtra during 1993 at the following places :—

1. Amravati (Distt. Amravati)
2. Mehkar (Distt. Buldhana)
3. Sailu (Distt. Nanded)
4. Tirore (Distt. Bhandara)
5. Ambad (CBO V) (Distt. Nashik)
6. Dindori (CBO VI) (Distt. Nashik)
7. Daund (Distt. Pune)
8. Narayangaon (Distt. Pune)
9. Wai (Dist. Satara)
10. Kolhapur (Distt. Kolhapur)
11. Murgud (Distt. Kolhapur)
12. Dombivli II (Distt. Thane)

CUSTOMS & DUTY EVASION

2018. SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI :
SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHEHRIA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total revenue earned from customs duties during the year 1992-93 and during the current financial year:

(b) the number of persons apprehended for bringing contraband goods during this period; and

(c) the methods being adopted to stop the evasion of customs duty ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) The total revenue earned from customs duties during financial year 1992-93 was Rs. 23,817.73 crores. The revenue from customs duties in the first quarter of the current financial year is Rs. 4,800.94 crores. The above figures are provisional.

(b) The number of persons apprehended for bringing contraband goods during the above periods are 1419 and 251 respectively.

(c) Apart from the normal checks by the assessing officers and the vigil kept by the Preventing agencies and the special investigation and intelligence units at local field level, the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence at the All India level keeps a constant watch to prevent evasion of customs duties.

[*English*]

BORDER TRADE WITH CHINA

2019. MAJ. GEN. (Retd.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI :
SHRI CHETAN P. S. CHAUHAN :
SHRI RAM KAPSE :
SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH :
SHRI B. N. REDDY :
SHRI BIRSINGH MAHATO :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Indian delegation has visited China recently;

(b) if so, the names of delegates who participated in the delegation;

(c) the details of issues including opening of more border routes discussed and agreements reached or signed with China during the visit for augmentation of bilateral trade; and

(d) to what extent the balance of trade between the two countries will be improved ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) and (b) In response to an invitation from the Vice Chairman, State Planning Commission, People's Republic of China, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Dy. Chairman Plg. Commission, then Commerce Minister led a delegation to China comprising of :

1. Prof. S. R. Hashim, Advisor (Perspective) Planning Commission.

2. Shri Ashok Kumar, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce.

3. Shri Ashok Kantha, Director, Ministry of External Affairs.

4. Ms. Omita Paul, OSD to Dy. Chairman, Planning Commission.

(c) There were wide ranging discussions for increasing bilateral trade between India and China. Co-operation in Iron Ore Mining, Railway Sector, Communication, Aviation, Water Conservancy,. Construction, Iron and Steel Processing were discussed. There were also wide ranging discussions with the State Planning Commission of China in Beijing and both sides agreed to have a standing arrangement for exchange of delegations and views in the future. The two sides also discussed extension of border trade. It was decided that the matter would be further discussed in detail in the sixth session of Joint Working Group on Boundary Question.

(d) Both the countries agreed that there exists a huge potential for expansion of bilateral trade and would make joint efforts to increase trade diversify it and achieve balance.

REVITALISATION OF HANDLOOM SECTOR

2020. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the inter-ministerial committee for the revitalisation of handloom sector had recommended increased credit flow to the country's handloom sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereon ?

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

(b) The major recommendations of the Committee are :

(i) Constitution of Standing Committee to monitor credit flow to handloom sector in important handloom states.

(ii) Make available concessional NABARD refinance through Commercial Banks.

(iii) Improve credit flow on yarn trading.

(c) State Governments of important handloom States have been requested to

constitute State level Standing Committees to look into the various problems of flow of credit and suggest measures to solve them.

It has been decided that where concessional credit is not available because of choking of district level cooperative banks, the State Cooperative Banks should finance directly. The interest rate for yarn trading has been equalised with that of production activity.

PRICES OF RAW COTTON

2021. DR. D. VENKATESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cotton growers in northern and southern zones are facing hardship as raw cotton prices declined sharply this year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (c) With the cautious policy on exports and timely, market interventions by Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) the prices of different varieties of cotton have remained well above the MSP levels i.e., in the range of 25 to 50%. A close watch was kept on the general cotton situation and the movement of the cotton prices in determining the need, quantum and timing of releases of cotton for exports.

SUBSCRIPTION FOR PROMOTER CONTRIBUTION

2022. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : Will he Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering a proposal to relax the minimum subscription for promoters contribution to equity capital of a company going to public;

(b) if so, the relaxation being made for subscribers; and

(c) the achievements likely to be made there from ?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

EXPORTS OF AGRICULTURAL AND FOOD PRODUCTS

2023. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of agricultural and processed food products exported during each of the last three years and the current year so far, item-wise;

(b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to boost the export of above items;

(c) whether the farmers get any additional incentives for these exported products;

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

(e) whether the Government propose to bring any policy paper on the export of agricultural products; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

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

COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) The deails of export of major agricultural and allied commodities since 1990-91 are given below :

(Rs. Crores)

S. No.	Commodity	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94 (April)
1.	Rice	461.57	754.98	971.93	166.54
2.	Wheat	31.13	121.47	10.18	0.20
3.	Other Cereals	2.77	6.74	10.14	0.37
4.	Tobacco	263.39	377.29	483.06	22.12
5.	Spices	233.94	370.40	368.81	58.34
6.	Cashew	441.90	668.45	745.13	59.79
7.	Sesame & Niger Seed	91.34	101.19	116.20	3.47
8.	Groundnut	56.06	7.40	7.95	3.17
9.	Oil Meals	608.50	871.27	1538.51	14.56
10.	Shellac	17.55	25.10	40.69	6.24
11.	Sugar and Molasses	37.57	144.23	325.09	22.72
12.	Floriculture Products	7.87	13.16	13.20	1.00
13.	Processed Fruits and Juices	60.40	88.38	124.26	7.72
14.	Misc. Processed Items	152.30	243.99	111.76	15.66
15.	Meat Preparations	139.84	230.52	257.04	30.47
16.	Fruits & Vegetables	213.25	348.96	361.44	50.22

(Source : DGCI&S, Calcutta and ISGIEIC, New Delhi)

(b) to (f) India has a natural comparative advantage in agricultural exports because of our lower import needs of inputs, reasonable labour costs and diverse agro-climatic conditions. Government has, therefore decided to accord high priority to agricultural exports and has already chalked out a strategy in this direction. While maximising foreign exchange earnings from the agricultural sector as well as maximising returns to farmers, the strategy would be to do so in a manner that it does not compromise with our food security. A special thrust is being given to exports of horticultural produce and processed foods. Towards this end substantial allocations have already been made in the Eighth Plan.

With the exchange rate adjustments, the introduction of a unified exchange rate, the lowering of customs duties, easier availability of credit for exports on softer terms, and changes and simplifications in the EXIM Policy and procedures, there is an environment in the country today which is highly conducive for exports. Within this environment, the specific programmes undertaken or proposed to be undertaken for the agricultural sector are expected to substantially step up agricultural exports within the Eighth Plan period.

Agricultural exports provide an expanded market to the farmers and, therefore, help them in obtaining higher prices. This is likely to result in a more efficient utilisation of land, labour and capital.

The importance attached to the export of agricultural commodities is reflected in the Agricultural Policy Resolution laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha by the Union Minister of Agriculture.

UNEMPLOYED IN WEST BENGAL

2024. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the unemployment problem is increasing day by day despite all the economic restructuring and Government's plan to achieve near-total employment by creating 8.5 million jobs annually for the next ten Years; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to check the unemployment scenario particularly in one-time industrially and commercially advanced State like West Bengal ?

THE MINISEER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b) Government is aware of the problem of unemployment in the country. Employment is therefore a thrust area of the Eighth Five year Plan. The Plan emphasises the need for a high rate of economic growth, combined with the faster growth of sectors, sub-sectors and areas which have relatively high employment potential for enhancing the pace of employment generation. Geographically and crop-wise diversified agricultural growth, development of wasteland and forestry, development of rural non-farm sector and rural infrastructure, faster growth of small and decentralised manufacturing and expansion of housing, are the basic elements of the employment oriented growth strategy envisaged in the Plan.

The Employment strategy envisaged in the Eighth Five Year Plan is expected to generate 42.5 million additional employment opportunities during the period 1992-97; and a continuation of this strategy during the Ninth Five Year Plan is expected to generate 47.5 million additional employment opportunities during the period 1997-2002. Thus, by 2002 A.D. the entire backlog of open unemployment and a sizeable part of a severe unemployment is expected to be wiped out.

The employment and unemployment in States including West Bengal is dependent on the overall pattern of development in the country.

CLOSURE OF TEXTILE MILLS IN AHMEDABAD

2025. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 40 thousand workers have been rendered jobless in Ahmedabad as a result of the closure of 30 textile mills in the past decade and their ranks are likely to swell with the addition of nearly 15 thousand workers following the closure of eight NTC mills;

(b) if so, the measures Government propose to take to engage them in productive activities;

(c) whether Government have initiated any programme to provide them immediate relief; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) As on 31-5-93, 12 Cotton/Man-made Fibre Textile Mills undergoing liquidation (Companies Act) are closed in Ahmedabad, affecting 27493 workers. Mills otherwise (temporarily) closed there due to variety of reasons are 12, affecting the work force of 22930. However, in 5 NTC Mills at Ahmedabad there is cessation of activities.

(b) to (d) Government have a Textile Workers Rehabilitation Fund Scheme (TWRFS), to provide interim relief to workers affected by closure of mills so that they are able to get alternative employment. However, for such workers of NTC who avail of Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) there is also a rehabilitation scheme under which workers can opt for installation of NTC looms/new powerlooms/reeling machines with institutional finance at concessional rate.

BALANCE OF PAYMENTS POSITION

2026. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the balance of payments position has improved after initiating the economic reforms ;

(b) if so, the details thereof as on June 30, 1993 ;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ; and

(d) the further steps being taken by the Government to improve the balance of payments position ?

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

(b) Full Balance of Payments data are not available up to June 30, 1993. However, the overall balance of payments position can be measured by the improvement in the country's foreign exchange reserves. The foreign currency assets of the RBI

which are the most important component of the reserves rose from a low of US $ 975 million as on July 12, 1991 to US $ 6.43 billion at the end of March, 1993. During the current financial year so far, there has been a further improvement. The foreign currency assets have risen to US $ 6.79 billion as on July 29, 1993.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The balance of payments is kept under constant watch and measures are taken to ensure that the external payments position remains stable. Additional steps being taken by the Government to improve the balance of payments position include further fiscal consolidation to keep inflation down, maintenance of competitive exchange rate, improvement of export infrastructure, removal of export constraints especially for agro-products, further streamlining of trade policy and procedures, ensuring of an increase in domestic production of crude oil, encouragement of non-debt creating capital inflows and also mobilisation of exceptional financing from multi-lateral and bi-lateral sources.

RESTRUCTURING OF RURAL BANKING IN MAHARASHTRA

2027. SHRI SANDIPAN BHAGWAN THORAT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the multiplicity of branches of various banks in rural areas of Maharashtra are affecting their viability ;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to restructure rural banking in Maharashtra in particular and in other States in general ;

(c) the specific recommendations of the experts committee in this regard ; and

(d) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for ensuring viability to rural banking ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) Multiplicity of branches of various banks in rural areas may not be considered to be affecting the viability of various banks in rural areas of Maharashtra, as the rural branches have district service areas.

(b) to (d) Perhaps, the Hon'ble Member is referring to restructuring of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs). Government have been considering a mechanism in order to bring back RRBs from their moribund state into a viable and vibrant part of the institutional credit delivery system for serving the rural poor. In this regard, a number of models have been studied including the proposal for establishment of a National Rural Bank of India (NRBI). However, no final decision has been taken so far.

[*Translation*]

LOAN TO EDUCATED UNEMPLOYED YOUTHS BELONGING TO SC/ST

2028. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM: SHRI RAJESH KUMAR :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the educated unemployed youths belonging to Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes who have been allotted telephone booths, have been provided loan by the banks during the Seventh Five Year Plan period ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) if not, whether the Government propose to extend such loans to the above youths in future ;

(d) if so, the details thereof ; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (e) Presumably, the Hon'ble Member is referring to the loan granted to educated unemployed youth under the scheme for providing Self Employment for Educated Unemployed Youth, (SEEUY). The educated unemployed youth, whose family income does not exceed Rs. 10,000/- per annum are eligible for assistance under the scheme. Bank loans to the extent of Rs. 35,000/- Rs. 25,000/- and Rs. 15,000/- are granted for undertaking self employment ventures like industries, service and business respectively. 30% of the sanctions are reserved for SC/STs under the scheme. The existing data reporting system does not

generate activity-wise information about the loans granted under the scheme. However, the total number of loans sanctioned and the loans sanctioned to SC/ST under the scheme during the years 1989-90 to 1991-92 are indicated below :—

(No. in lakhs)

Year	Total no. of cases sanctioned	Loans sanctioned to SC/STs
1989—90	1.06	0.11
1990—91	1.01	0.12
1991—92	0.94	0.11

PROMOTION OF SERICULTURE IN RAJASTHAN

2029. SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the measures adopted to strengthen the infrastructure for increasing the production of sericulture in Rajasthan and the names of the agencies working in the State for this purpose ;

(b) the number and the type of projects implemented in Rajasthan and since when these have been implemented ; and

(c) the amount spent so far in the State and the extent of production achieved as a result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) Besides Central Silk Board (CSB), two State Government agencies (viz. Department of Horticulture & Tribal Area Development Authority) and Association for Serva Seva Farm, a Non Governmental Organisation, are working for development of sericulture in the State of Rajasthan. For the purpose, the Central Silk Board has created the following Sericulture infrastructure units in the State :—

(i) One P2 Farm cum Grainage

(ii) 4 Technical Service Centres.

(iii) 13 Chawkie Rearing Centres

(iv) One Demonstration cum Training Centre

(v) One Farmers' Training School.

(b) & (c) The Central Silk Board had implemented an Inter State Tasar Project (ISTP) for development of tasar in Rajasthan during 1981-82 to 1985-86 and a National Sericulture Project (NSP) with the World Bank and Swiss assistance is being implemented since 1989-90 for development of mulberry sericulture. The Board has spent an amount of Rs. 171.18 lakhs in Rajasthan on these projects and the progress achieved is as under :—

Mulberry : 507.32 acres brought under mulberry cultivation covering 1071 beneficiaries.

Tasar : 259 Hectares brought under T. Arjuna block plantation covering 259 beneficiaries.

[*English*]

PLANS OF NABARD FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN BIHAR

2030. SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the plans drawn up by NABARD for agricultural development in Bihar ;

(b) the refinance provided by NABARD to Bihar under schematic lending during the last two years; and

(c) the schemes/projects for which the refinance was provided ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) The sector-wise credit estimates for agriculture and rural development under schematic lending during VIII Plan period (1992-93 to 1996-97) for the State of Bihar as drawn by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) are given in the *Statement I* attached. Purpose-wise schematic lending refinance programme for the year 1993-94 is furnished at *Statement II*.

(b) and (c) The refinance provided by NABARD to Bihar under various purposes during last two years is indicated in *Statement III*.

Statement-I

PURPOSE-WISE GROUND LEVEL CREDIT AND REFINANCE ESTIMATED DURING THE EIGHTH FIVE YEAR PLAN PERIOD (1992-93 TO 1996-97) FOR BIHAR

(Rs. in Lakhs)

	GROUND LEVEL CREDIT					REFINANCE				
	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
Minor Irrigation	4927	5001	5076	5152	5230	2678	2501	2538	2576	2615
Land Development	254	255	257	258	259	177	179	180	181	181
Farm Mechanisation	6753	6956	7164	7379	7681	1679	2887	2149	2214	2280
Dry Land Farming	192	192	192	192	192	133	192	192	192	192
Plantation/Horticulture	251	252	253	255	256	100	93	94	94	95
Dairy Development	4285	4414	4546	4683	4823	1994	2030	2091	2154	2219
Fisheries (Inland)	600	606	612	619	625	60	61	92	93	94
Storage/Market Yards	—	33	36	40	44	20	23	25	28	31
Bio-Gas	157	158	158	158	159	6	16	16	16	16
Poultry Farming	665	698	733	769	888	979	468	491	515	541
Sheep/Goat/Piggery	765	773	780	788	796	6	518	522	528	533
Farm Sector	13247	14572	16029	17632	19395	3727	4372	4809	5290	5818
Others	2394	2418	2442	2467	2491	915	822	831	839	847
TOTAL	34490	36326	38279	40391	42677	12466	13360	14029	14719	15462

Statement-II

Purpose wise schematic lending refinance programme for 1993-94 of Bihar State.

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sr. No.	Purpose	
1.	Minor Irrigation	314
2.	Land Development	89
3.	Farm Mechanisation	1950
4.	Dryland Farming	45
5.	Plantation/Horticulture	83
6.	Dairy Development	255
7.	Inland Fisheries	91
8.	Storage Godowns/Market Yards	23
9.	Poultry Farming	102
10.	IRDP	7304
11.	Non-Farm Sector.	200
12.	Others	5
		10461

Statement-III

Purpose–wise refinance provided by NABARD to Bihar during the years 1991–92 and 1992–93

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sr. No.	Purpose	1991-92	1992-93
1.	Minor Irrigation	43	123.0
2.	Massive National Programme for Small and Marginal farmers	2	—
3.	Farm Mechanisation	1716	2012.9
4.	Plantation/Horticulture	—	3.3
5.	Biogas	—	0.1
6.	Poultry	23	4.7
7.	Dairy Development	8	14.3
8.	Storage Godowns/Market Yards	104	—
9.	IRDP (FS)	3662	3366.8
10.	IRDP (ISB).	3372	2271.3
11.	SC/ST Action Plan	5	0.3
12.	Non-Farm Sector.	11	146.7
13.	Others	1	26.7
	TOTAL	8947	8070.1

NON-UTILISATION OF FOREIGN LOANS

2031. SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAO-SAHEB TOPE :

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY :

SHRI MANJAY LAL :

SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the amount received as foreign loans could not be put to optimum utilisation last year ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith the details of amount of such utilised loans ;

(c) whether the country had to pay interest commitment charges and other charges on these unutilised foreign loans ;

(d) if so, the amount paid as such ;

(e) the names of the departments which made maximum and minimum use of foreign loans ; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government for proper and speedy utilisation of this fund ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) The undrawn balance on account of externally aided projects as on 31-3-93 was Rs. 82633.17 crores. Foreign loans are committed against specific projects and programmes. The utilisation of such loans is dependent on the time profile of the project which is usually 5 to 7 years. Delayed utilisatiion in some externally aided projects arises from a number of factors which include exchange rate fluctuations, inadequate counterpart funds, technical problems, tardy land ecquisition and other project specific issues.

(c) and (d) Interest and commitment charges paid in 1992-93 amounted to Rs. 68 crores.

(e) Maximum disbursements were in the power sector, it is not possible to sation of aid include strengthening of the departments do not have externally aided projects.

(f) Steps taken to avoid delay in utilisation of aid include strengthening of the counterpart funds through the mechanism of advance additional central assistance to states, a decision to pass on 100% of aid received in all sectors as additional central assistance to States, intensified monitoring of projects and cancellations in and restructuring of projects where necessary.

EXPORT OF COTTON BALES

2032. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY :

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL :

SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated production and export of cotton bales during 1993-94.

(b) the names of the countries to which these cotton bales are likely to be exported;

(c) the income as well as foreign exchange to be earned therefrom ;

(d) the quota allotted to cotton growing states for export, State-wise ;

(e) whether the Government propose to increase the procurement price of cotton : and

(f) if so. the detailes in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) the cotton season 1993-94 would begin from September 1993 and the crop arrivals would start from October-November only. It is, therefore, not possible at this time to estimate the likely crop of cotton during 1993-94.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

(e) to (f) The Government has already announced the minimum support price of basic varieties of raw cotton for 1993-94 as under :—

F-414/H-77	Rs. 900 per qtl.
H-4	Rs. 1050 per qtl.

[*Translation*]

DUTY DRAW BACK SCHEME FOR EXPORTERS

2033. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have recently announced some new incentives for promoting exports ;

(b) the details of the duty draw back scheme and the number of items with massive export potential on which this facility is available ;

(c) the date from which these facilities are effective ;

(d) whether the Government have also decided to reduce the amount usually deposited by the exporters on shipment of goods ; and

(e) if so, the extent of reduction proposed to be made in this amount ; and

(f) the extent to which these concessions are likely to increase the exports in comparison to last two years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) No, Sir. However, new measures for boosting exports are continuously being evolved, as also rationalisation of procedures undertaken to facilitate exports.

(b) & (c) One Duty Drawback Scheme is governed by para 122 of the Export & Import Policy 1992—97, which relates to the supplies made under Deemed Exports.

The other Duty Drawback Scheme is governed by the Customs and Central Excise Duties Draw back Rules, 1971 and envisages reimbursement of Customs and Central Excise Duties levied on inputs used in the manufacture and packing of export products though its is not regarded as an incentive for export promotion. The All-Industry Rates of Drawback which are generally worked out on the basis of broad averages, are announced once in a year, following the Budgetary changes in the duties. These rates apply to all export products covered under the respective sub-serial number of the Table and the exporter can prefer his claim for drawback with the concerned Custom House. Revised All-Industry Rates of Dtuy Drawback in respect of over 600 export products have been recently notified wide Public Notice No. Drawback/PN-1/93 dated 31st May, 1993 as amended.

(d) Both the Duty Drawback Schemes do not envisage deposit of any amount by the exporter on shipment of goods.

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

(f) It is not possible to quantify the impact of these Duty Drawback Scheme on exporters.

ADDITIONAL CAPITAL FOR PUBLIC SECTOR BANKS

2034. PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to contribute towards the capital of public sector banks during 1993-94 ;

(b) if so, the amount proposed to be contributed to each of the above banks ; and

(c) the terms and conditions thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) A provision of Rs. 5,700 crores has been made in the Budget grant for the year 1993-94 for additional contribution to the share capital of nationalised banks. Government do not contribute to the capital of State Bank of India and its Associate Banks.

(b) and (c) The allocation and terms and conditions for distribution of the additional share capital have not yet been finalised.

[*English*]

FOREIGN EQUITY PARTICIPATION IN AIR TAXI OPERATIONS

2035. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA :

SHRI SARAT CHANDRA PATTANAYAK :

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

(a) whether the Government propose to allow foreign equity participation in air taxi operations ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c) The matter is under Examination.

(c) if not, the reasons therefore ?

AGRICULTURAL LABOUR

2036. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Committee of State Labour Ministers, constituted to look into the problems faced by the agricultural labourers has submitted its report ;

(b) if so, the salient features of this report and the extent to which the Government have implemented the same ; and

(c) if not, the steps taken by the Government to ensure submission of the report at the earliest ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) The Government have not constituted any Committee to look into the problems faced by the agricultural labourers. However, a Committee of State Labour Ministers was constituted to look into the question of Central Legislation for Agricultural Labourers. Their report is awaited.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

N.T.C. MILLS

2037. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :

SHRI RATILAL VARMA :

SHRI K. PRADHANI :

SHRI GAYA PRASAD KORI :

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA :

SHRI KESHRI LAL :

DR. CHATTRAPAL SINGH :

SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of NTC mills at present in the country, Statewise and the total number of employees working therein ;

(b) the total number of NTC mills which are closed and sick at present separately, Statewise :

(c) the reasons for closure of these mills ;

(d) the steps taken by the Government for revival and modernisation of these closed and sick mills ;

(e) the total number of employees rendered jobless due to closure of these mills, Statewise ; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government for rehabilitation of these employees ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) A *Statement* indicating the State-wise numbers of textile mills under NTC is enclosed. There were 1,37,193 employees, as on 1st April, 1993, under NTC.

(b) and (c) Two mills under NTC, one in Gujarat and the other in Tamil Nadu were not restarted after takeover nationalisation. No activities are underway in seventeen mills under NTC due to shortage of working capital etc. Seven of the

nine Subsidiary Corporations under NTC have been referred to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction under the provisions of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985.

(d) Government have approved a Turn Around Strategy for NTC involving, inter-allia, selective modernisation, financial & managerial restructuring and rantionalisation of surplus workforce under the Voluntary Retirement Scheme.

(e) and (f) No mill of NTC has been closed and none of its employees have been rendered jobless accordingly.

Statement

S. No.	Name of the State	No of Mills
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6
2.	Assam	1
3.	Bihar	2
4.	Delhi	1
5.	Gujarat	13
6.	Karnataka	4
7.	Kerala	5
8.	Mahe	1
9.	Maharashtra	35
10.	Madhya Pradesh	7
11.	Orissa	1
12.	Pondicherry	2
13.	Punjab	4
14.	Rajasthan	4
15.	Tamilnadu	15
16.	Uttar Pradesh	11
17.	West Bengal	12
	TOTAL	124

REPAYMENT OF FARM LOANS

2038. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development has conducted any study recently with regard to the defaults in repayment of farm loans;

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

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to ensure that the defaults are minimum and the satisfaction of the loanees is maximum ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (c) The problems of overdues in farm loans was inter-alia studied by the Agricultural Credit Review Committee (ACRC) appointed by the Reserve Bank of India in 1989 under the Chairmanship of Shri A. M. Khusro. As per the report of the ACRC, a wide range of factors influence the level of and trends in overdues of agricultural credit institutions. The different factors which lead to overdues can be classified under two categories i.e. (i) Factors internal to the credit system and (ii) Factors external to the credit system. Factors, in brief in both the categories are mentioned below :

(a) Factors internal to the system include defective loans policies and procedures; absence of linkages of credit with marketing; lack of provision of working capital with investment credit; lack of access to institutional credit for consumption purposes; ineffective supervision over sanction, disbursement, end use and its recovery.

(b) Factors external to the system include problems of agricultural economy like small and unviable size of holding, non-availability of irrigation and lack of latest technological inputs; incidence of

natural calamities; absence of linkages and supporting services; and wilful defaults by the borrowers.

Various measures suggested by the Committee for combating overdues included streamlining loan policies and procedures, synchronisation of investment credit and working capital; better supervision of credit; linking of credit with marketing and processing; linkages and supporting services and creation, in general, of a recovery climate for an efficient recycling of funds.

IMPACT OF DEVALUATION OF RUPEE ON TRADE

2039. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the EXIM Bank of India has conducted a study on the impact of successive devaluation of the rupee on India's trade, including imports of oil, recession and concessional aid ;

(b) if so, the details of the findings; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) EXIM Bank of India had funded a Study on 'Exchange Rate Policy of India 1970—92' undertaken by the Institute for Financial Management and Research, Madras.

(b) The summarised findings of the Study are given in enclosed *Statement*.

(c) The findings of the study will be kept in view in formulating Government's exchange rate policy, as and when necessary.

Statement

Summarised findings of the study funded by the EXIM Bank of India on 'Exchange Rate policy of India 1970—92'.

—the entire period 1970—92 witnessed both nominal and real devaluation of the Rupees (except 1979—83 when there was real appreciation) along with implementation of several export promotion and import control measures.. India's exports during the 70s and 80s have been determined by a host of internal as well as external factors of which exchange rate can be just one determinant.

—devaluation of the rupee has also been accompanied by devaluation by a number of developing countries who are India's major competitors in the export of primary goods. Competitive devaluation simultaneously by a number of developing countries led to depression in primary commodity prices in global markets, deterioration in terms of trade and drainage of real resources to service external debt.

—the external factors limiting primary commodity exports may include the slump in global commodity prices, the revival of protectionism in the west and the changes in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union.

—India's manufactured exports have been constrained in the past principally by the hitherto inward looking trade regime, characterised by import quotas and licensing and high tariff walls. The productivity of the Indian economy has remained low and worsened over time as compared with her competitors. The high cost structure according to the study has been contributed by factors, both internal and external. The internal factors are high internal inflation, high domestic tax rate, high real interest rate and high import tariff.

—the other internal and external factors which affected India's external sector include the impact of three oil shocks (1973, 1979 and 1990), the deterioration of the terms of trade, world recession, fall in concessional aid, domestic supply and demand factors.

In conclusion, the study observes that if the industrial sector is to become competitive in the global market, efforts must be made to reverse the unfavourable trends in productivity and cost structures.

[*Translation*]

CHILD LABOUR IN GUJARAT

2040. SHRI N. J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of child labourers working in different industries in Gujarat:

(b) whether there is any teaching centres for these child labourers;

(c) if so, the number thereof and the names of the places where these centres have been opened; and

(d) the amount of financial aid provided by the Union as well as the State Government to make these centres more useful ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) The number of working children in Gujarat is 6,16,913 as per 1981 census.

(b) to (d) At present no financial assistance is being given by thhe Central or State Government for establishing teaching centres exclusively for child labour in Gujarat. However, facilities provided in the Non-Formal Education Centres under the State and Central programmes are available to child labourers as well. Through a project recently taken up for implementation by an NGO under ILO's International Programme on Elimination of Child Labour, 600 working children are likely to receive benefit of non-formal education in Ahmedabad city.

[*English*]

FOREIGN INVESTMENT PROPOSALS CLEARED BY RBI

2041. DR. VENKATESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of foreign investment and technology proposals considered by the Reserve Bank of India during the last two years;

(b) the number of proposals cleared upto the month of May, 1993;

(c) the details of the United States Investment projects cleared; and

(d) the time by which these are likely to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHBAD : (a) to (c) Details of foreign investment and technology transfer proposals cleared under the automatic approval scheme by Reserve Bank of India are given in the *Statement* attached.

(d) It is not possible for Government to indicate a time schedule for implementation, as these depend on commercial decisions taken by the companies concerned. The decisions are not uniform across companies.

Statement

(a) : The total number of foreign investment and technology proposals considered and cleared by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) during the last two years is as under :—

Period	No. of approvals			
	Foreign Technology transfer to Indian Companies	Foreign Equity Participation (investments) in Indian Companies	Foreign Technology Transfer-cum-Investments in Indian Companies	Total
Sept. 91 to Dec. 91 . . .	147	4	36	187
Jan. 92 to Dec. 92 . . .	485	137	112	734

(b) : The number of proposals cleared upto the month of May, 1993 is as under :-

Period	No. of approvals			
	Foreign Technology transfer to Indian companies	Foreign Equity participation (investments) in Indian comapnies	Foreign Technology Transfer-cum-Investments in Indian companies	Total
Jan. 93 to May, 93 . . .	178	61	34	273

(c) : Details of foreign investment proposals from U S A. approved under the automatic approval route by RBI are as under :—

Period	Investment (Rs. crore)
1991	46.2
1992	291.69
1993 (upto June' 93)	29.22

PRODUCTS UNDER THE ADVANCE LICENSING SCHEME

2042. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have notified input/output norms for 92 products under the advance licensing scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the products which have tbeen covered so far under the above scheme; and

(c) to what extent it has been beneficial to the Government and industry ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Vide Public Notice No. 132 dated 27-5-93 standard input-output norms for 92 products comprising 56 Chemical items, 10 Engineering items, 15 Plastic items, 4 Leather items, 3 Textiles items and 4 Miscellaneous products were notified. Copies of the Public Notice are available in the Library of the Parliament.

(c) Fixation of standard input-output norms quickens the pace of issuance of advance licences for export promotion. It also helps in adoption of uniform rate of imports, wastages, value addition etc. in respect of specified export products thereby reducing the possibility of excessive imports against the same export products.

ILLEGAL PURCHASE OF TOBACCO BY TRADERS

2043. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a huge quantity of FCV tobacco is being purchased outside the auction platforms of Tobacco Board by traders in the States of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataa every year;

(b) whether this illegal purchase of tobacco is being used in cigarette manufacturing to avoid payment of excise duty to the tune of several crore of rupees;

(c) if so, the number of cases registered by Tobacco Board against the traders who indulged in such illegal transactions; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) There is no such report that huge quantity of FCV tobacco is being purchased outside the auction platforms, though some cases of this nature have come to the notice of Tobacco Board.

(b) There is no excise duty leviable under the Central Excise Act on raw tobacco.

(c) and (d) During the current year 40 cases of illegal purchases outside the auction platforms have been detected. Show cause notices have been issued to the traders involved. In two cases buyers' authorisations have been suspended.

FINANCING OF DEVELOPMENT OF AIRPORTS

2044. SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAOSAHEB TOPE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have evolved a scheme of financing development of existing airports with the active co-operation of the State Governments and the Non-resident Indians; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) At a meeting with the Chief Minister and officials of the State Government of Kerala held on 9th July, 1993, it was decided that development of Calicut Airport to handle wide-bodied aircraft would be financed by mobilising the requisite resources from the public including Non-Resident Indians. The funds would be made available to the National Airports Authority as interest-free advance, to be repaid out of the earnings of the airport. The responsibility of providing the requisite funds would be undertaken by a Society to be set up by the State Government.

RIGHT TO WORK

2045. SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to incorporate "Right to Work" as fundamental right in the Constitution;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to provide employment to at least one person per family ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (c) Given the resource constraints it would not be possible to implement any policy to make "Right to Work" a 'Fundamental Right'. However, the major thrust of the Eighth Five Year Plan is on employment. The employment strategy envisaged in the Eighth Five Year Plan is to achieve near full employment situation by the year 2002.

SUSPENSION OF BUSINESS BY FOREIGN BANKS

2046. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :

SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some of the foreign banks operating in India have informed the Reserve Bank of India for suspension of their business after the unearthing of the share scam; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) Reserve Bank of India have reported that none of the foreign banks operating in India have indicated any plan to suspend business in India.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

NATIONALISED BANKS HAVING REGIONAL OFFICES IN MAHASASHTRA

2047. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the nationalised banks which are having their regional offices in Maharashtra;

(b) whether any nationalised bank proposes to open its regional office in Maharashtra; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND STATE MINISTER OF THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) All 20 nationalised banks have their regional offices in the State of Maharashtra. Details are given in the attached statement.

(b) and (c) Presently, no nationalised bank has any proposal to open additional regional offices in the State of Maharashtra.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the Bank	Number of Regional Offices
(1)	(2)	(3)
1.	Allahabad Bank	2
2.	Andhra Bank	1
3.	Bank of Baroda	7
4.	Bank of India	8
5.	Bank of Maharashtra	21
6.	Canara Bank	4
7.	Central Bank of India	11
8.	Corporation Bank	2
9.	Dena Bank	5
10.	Indian Bank	2
11.	Indian Overseas Bank	2
12.	New Bank of India	1
13.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	1
14.	Punjab National Bank	3
15.	Punjab & Sind Bank	1
16.	Syndicate Bank	4
17.	United Bank of India	1
18.	Union Bank of India	6
19.	UCO Bank	4 (Divisional Offices)
20.	Vijaya Bank	2

[English]

SUBLETTING OF SHOPS BY DELHI TOURISM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

2048. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA :

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

(a) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General has, in its report No. 3 of 1993 (Delhi Administration), criticised the Delhi Tourism Development Corporation for revenue loss;

(b) whether the Delhi Tourism Development Corporation had subletted two shops allotted to it at the Inter-State Bus Terminus in Delhi at nominal rates and as a result thereof the Delhi Development Authority had to suffer loss;

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

(d) the corrective steps taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) to (d) The shops allotted to the Delhi Tourism Deveopment Corporation were run departmentally, although certain eatables were procured through private contractors for a short duration. However, this arrangement has been withdrawn since 1989.

RUNWAYS AT AIRPORTS

2049. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL :

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

(a) the names of airports having inadequate runways for safe landing and take off;

(b) whether the Pilots Association has drawn the attention of the Government to some specific airports in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether some State Governments have demanded more funds for development of such airports;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure safe landing and take off of aircraft at these airports ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) All airports, managed by National Airports Authority and International Airports Authority of India having operation of commercial air services have runways for safe landing and take-off for the types of aircraft operating there.

(b) to (f) The Indian Commercial Pilots Association had drawn attention to the question of upgradation of navigational and landing aids at certain airports. The matter was referred for arbitration to Director General of Civil Aviation, who has given his Award, which has been pubished in the Gazette of India on 18-3-1993. Action has also been initiated to implement the award.

[Translation]

BRANCHES OF PUBLIC SECTOR BANKS IN GUJARAT

2050. SHRI N. J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of licences issued by the Reserve Bank of India to open branches of public sector banks in Gujarat, particularly in Chhota Udaipur area during the last three years and the locations thereof; and

(b) the number and details of the bank branches opened so far or proposed to be opened and the locations thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) 109 licences were issued to Public Sector Banks for opening branches in Gujarat during the years 1990-91 to 1992-93. Locations of these 109 branches and also the centres at which the branches have been opened upto the end of March 1993 (latest available) out of these 109 branches for which licences have been issued are indicated in the attached statement.

Chhota Udaipur is one of the 12 Talukas in Baroda District. During the last three years, only one licence was issued to Central Bank of India for opening its branch at Ambala, a rural centre in Chhota Udaipur. The licence was pend-

ing as the branch could not be opened on account of lack of infrastructural facilities including non-availability of suitable premises for the branch.

Statement

List of centres allocated to Public Sector Banks during the years 1990—93 in Gujarat.

S. No.	District	Centre
1.	Ahmedabad	Ahmedabad-Vastrapur
2.	Do.@	Sahakar Niketan Society Road.
3.	Do.	Sardar Patel Nagar Road
4.	Do.	Near MJ Library
5.	Do.	Rea of India Colony on North Narudha
6.	Do.	Daxini Society
7.	Do.	Near L M. Talkies
8.	Do.	
9.	Do.	
10.	Do.	
11.	Do.	Someshwar Complex
12.	Do.	
13.	Bharuch	Bharuch-Ambica Nagar
14.	Do.	Ankaleshwar
15.	Bhavnagar	Bhavnagar
16.	Do.	Bhadraval
17.	Do.	Hanol
18.	Do.	Malapura
19.	Do.	Fithwadi
20.	Do.	Kanpur
21.	Do.@	Chamardi
22.	Jamnagar@	Harshadpur
23.	Do.	Dared
24.	Do.	Samosari
25.	Do.	Vad Panchesarg
26.	Do.	Ishwarig
27.	Do.	Samang
28.	Do.	Dhebat
29.	Do.	Nandana
30.	Do.	Bhogat
31.	Do.	Sampur
32.	Junagarh	Porbandar-Rajmahal Road
33.	Do.	Porbandar
34.	Do.	Veraval-(G.I.D.C. Industrial Estate)
35.	Do.@	Jamvala
36.	Do.	Sonvav
37.	Do.	Jaragli
38.	Do.	Bediya
39.	Do @	Alidhra@
40.	Do.	Chhodvadi
41.	Kheda	Nadised (PLJ Road)
42.	Do.@	Badwa
43.	Do.@	Anand
44.	Do.@	Simarda
45.	Do.	Sarkhej
46.	Do.	Finav
47.	Do.	Jalsan
48.	Rajkot	Rajkot-Saurashtra Kutch Stock Exchange Branch Yashik Road.

S. No.	District	Name of Centre
49.	Rajkot	Vivekanand Chowk
50.	Do.	Rajkot-(Vishveshwar Mahadeo Mardi Road)
51.	Do	Rajkot
52.	Do.	Rajkot-(Shivsagar Gondal Road)
53.	Surat@	Surat-Vishal Nagar
54.	Do.	Surat-Ashwini Kumar Road,
55.	Do.	Surat-Bhatar Road
56.	Do.	Surat-Mafawadi-Lambe Hanuman Road
57.	Do.	Afwa
58.	Do.	Gaji
59.	Do.	Masma
60.	Do.	Bhatpore
61.	Do.	Mota Varachha
62.	Vadodara	Vadodara-Subhanpura
63.	Do.	Vadodara
64.	Do.	Vadodara
65.	Do @	Vadodara
66.	Kutch	Kandla
67.	Vadodara	Bamangam
68.	Amreli	Mota-Mochiyala
69.	Do.	Kicher
70.	Do.	Pipalva
71.	Do.@	Dhareshwar
72.	Do.	Mota-Ringganiyala
73.	Do.	Maleshrom
74.	Do.	Kadvasan
75.	Do.	Chanakhy
76.	Do.	Shalvan
77.	Gandhinagar	Gandhinagar
78.	Panchamahal	Sena Dariyana Corda
79.	Do.	Chandi Bai Na-Muva
80.	Do.	@Bakor
81.	Do.	Dahod
82.	Surendra Nagar	Wadhwan City (GIOC)
83.	Do.	Surendra-nagar (Jintan Road)
84.	Ahmedabad@	Ahmedabad Goyal Inter-city Road
85.	Bharuch@	GIOC Industrial Estate Ankaleshwar
86.	Bhavnagar@	Bhavnagar
87.	Jamnagar@	Jamnagar GIDC Phase II
88.	Do.	@Jamanagar (Shah Medical College)
89.	Junagadh@	Junagadh Marketing Yard
90.	Nadiad	Nadiad Vaishali Road
91.	Kheda@	Nadiad Mission Road
92.	Surat@	Surat Nana Vanachha
93.	Vadodara@	Vadodara Road Indrapuri
94.	Do.@	Vadodara Harni Road
95.	Do.	@Vadodara-Maharshi Arvind Marg
96.	Valsad	Valsad
97.	Do.	Gandevi
98.	Kheda	Kheda
99.	Do.	Anand
100.	Do.	Kapadvanj
101.	Kutch	@New Anjar

S. No.	District	Name of Centre
102.	Kutch	Gandhidham
103.	Kutch	Mundra
104.	Kutch@	Anjar
105.	Mehsana	Unja
106.	Surat	Kosamba
107.	Vadodara	Kanjan
108.	Gandhinagar	Gandhinagar
109.	Ahmedabad	Ahmedabad

The centres where branches have been opened are indicated by @

(English)

SPECIAL FUND FOR STATES TO BOOST EXPORTS

2051. DR. D. VENKATESWARA RAO :

DR. K. D. JESWANI :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the incentives provided to State Governments to boost exports;

(b) whether experts have suggested that the Union Government may allocate special funds to the States out of the export earning from the units located in their territories to enable them to develop facilities for export production;

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) The Central Government has been providing and continuously upgrading infrastructural facilities in the form of Inland Container Depots, Container Freight Stations, Air Cargo Complexes and Export Promotion Zones and that of telecommunication, rail, road and air communication and ports etc. in different states with a view to maximise exports from areas with export potential.

(b) to (d) Yes, Sir. A centrally sponsored "Export Promotion Industrial Parks" Scheme, for providing financial assistance to State Government for setting up and maintaining appropriate infrastructural facilities has been drawn up in consultation with the State Government. After approval of the Scheme by the Planning Commission and making of necessary budget provisions, the scheme will be formally notified for operation. This may be possible within the next 3-4 months.

N.T.C. MILLS BEFORE BIFR

2052. SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAO-SAHEB TOPE : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of N.T.C. units referred to Board of Industrial and Financial Reconstruction;

(b) the action taken by the Board of Industrial and Financial Reconstruction thereon;

(c) whether the financial institutions have denied assistance to finance the modernisation programme for want of judgement from B.I.F.R.; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to expedite the decision on the units referred to B.I.F.R. ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (d) Seven out of the nine Subsidiary Corporations of NTC have been referred to the Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) under the provisions of the Sick

Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985. These cases are under various stages of hearing. Financial Institutions are generally reluctant to extend their exposure in these Companies till the packages for their rehabilitation are approved by BIFR. BIFR is seized of the need to expedite a financially viable scheme to determine and enforce the preventive, amelio rative and remedial measures to revitalise NTC.

DECLINE IN EMPLOYMENT

2053. SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the total employment in the organised private sector declined during 1992-93 as compared to the last year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to check this trend?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) Quick Estimates of employment in the organised private sector available for the quarters ending June 1992 and September, 1992 (of the Year 1992-93) show that there has not been any decline in the employment as compared to the corresponding quarters of the Year 1991-92.

(b) and (c) Questions do not arise.

PER CAPITA INCOME

2054. Shri SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to the International Monetary Fund's new calculations, Indian economy has been placed as the sixth largest economy in the World;

(b) if so, the details of IMF's views in this regard;

(c) the revised per capita income of India, in the context of the revised calculations of GDP; and

(d) the percentage of Indian population, according to this perception, living below poverty line, indicating the precise IMF perception of poverty line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b) According to the IMF's new calculation based on Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) based weights, the GDP of India would be about $1070 billion and the Indian Economy would rank as the 9th largest in the World.

(c) According to this calculation, the per capita GDP of India's would be $1246 compared to $283.8 on the basis of traditional calculation.

(d) The IMF Study has made no calculation of the poverty line.

RUPEE-ROUBLE EXCHANGE ISSUE

2055. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Russia has decided to freeze the remaining funds to rouble credit extended to India;

(b) if so, the implications thereof;

(c) whether a delegation from India visited Russia in this regard;

(d) if so, whether any concrete proposals have been worked out; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISRTY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (e) No formal communication has been received from Russia regarding freezing of the remaining funds out of the rouble credits extended by the former USSR. However, following the dissolution of the USSR, several rounds of talks have been held with Russia on the status of undisbursed USSR credits. The Russian Government

has agreed to complete the credit supplies for the Kahalgaon Power Project which is nearing completion on the old terms and conditions. In respect of other credit agreements signed with the former USSR between 1986 and 1989, Russia has indicated that these would need to be renegotiated in view of the changed circumstances. Accordingly, negotiations have been going on with the Russian authorities for credit facilities for some of the projects earlier earmarked for funding under Indo-Soviet credit agreements.

IMPORT OF AIRCRAFT

2056. SHRI KESHRI LAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to amend and modify the policy regarding import of aircraft by air taxi operators;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[*Translation*]

GRIEVANCES OF PRIVATE AIRLINES

2057. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVSINGH PATIL:

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:

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

(a) whether some private airlines are facing closure;

(b) whether the Government have received representations from private air taxi operators/airlines regarding their grievances;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to alleviate the grievances of private air taxi operators?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Three air taxi operators have suspended their operations.

(b) to (d) The grievances put forth by the air taxi operators are looked into from time to time and action is taken wherever required. Examples of the action taken are:—

(i) adjusting watch hours at aerodromes;

(ii) allotment of office/counter space at airports.

(iii) allotment of parking bays at airports;

(iv) clearance for import of aircraft;

(v) abolition of customs duty on import of aircraft.

[*English*]

PRODUCTION AND IMPORT OF AIRCRAFT

2058. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of aircraft being purchased from different countries;

(b) the present position in regard to each of these proposals;

(c) the details of the aircraft being manufactured in the country together with progress made in regard to each of these aircraft; and

(d) the estimated recurring and non-recurring expenditure thereon and the income expected therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Air India is acquiring four B-747—400 aircraft during the years 1993 and 1994. The first aircraft is due in August, 1993, two more aircraft will be delivered in 1993 and the

last aircraft in June, 1994. So far as Indian Airlines is concerned, 12 Airbus-320 aircraft are being inducted into the fleet during 1993 and 1994 of which 5 have already arrived, 2 more are expected to be delivered in 1993 and the remaining 5 in 1994.

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

PRODUCTION AND IMPORT OF CARDAMOM

2059. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to import cardamom during the current year;

(b) if so, the quantity of cardamom proposed to be imported and the total estimated cost of such imports;

(c) the total production of cardamom in the country during each of the last three years;

(d) whether cardamom was available during each of the last three years for export from India and if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any floor price has been fixed by the Government for cardamom and if so, the details thereof, years-wise ; and

(f) the steps being taken by the Government to increase the production in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Details of total production of cardamom (small) during the last three years are given below :—

1990-91	4750MT
1991-92	5000MT
1992-93	4250MT*

*Final field estimate

(SOURCE : Estimates of Spices Board based on field sample survey and market sales data)

(d) The export of cardamom (small) from India during the last three years are given below :—

Year	Export(MT)	Export as %share in production
1990-91	400	8%
1991-92	553	11%(P)
1992-93	175	4%(E)

(P) Provisional

(E) Estimate

(SOURCE : DGCI&S, Calcutta/shipping bills export returns)

(e) No, Sir.

(f) A number of steps are being taken by the Spices Board with a view to increasing production/productivity of cardamom in the country. These include :—

(i) Production and supply of quality planting material;

(ii) Irrigation & Land development;

(iii) Replantation of uneconomic gardens;

(iv) Propagation of high yielding varieties through tissue culture for improving productivity;

(v) Extension advisory services.

INTERNATIONAL MANGO FESTIVAL

2060. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether an international mango festival was organised in Delhi in July 1993 by the Delhi Tourism and Transport Development Corporation;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the purpose of the festival. the participants and the number of varieties of mangoes exhibited; and

(c) the total value of the business transacted in the festival ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The festival was organised for promotion of tourism. for creating awareness about Indian Mangoes and to encourage mango growers, exporters and others connected with it. More than 500 varieties of Mangoes including Mangoes from 10 foreign countries were displayed in the Mango festival.

(c) No Business was conducted in the festival as it was organised primarily for promotional purpose.

NAYAK COMMITTEE ON SMALL SCALE SECTOR

2061. SHRI MOHAN SINGH (FEROZEPUR) :
SHRI ANAND AHIRWAR :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has since considered the recommendations of Nayak Committee regarding small scale sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (c) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has considered the recommendations of Nayak Committee and as a consequence issued necessary guidelines to the Scheduled Commercial Banks on 17th April, 1993 and 3rd July, 1993. These guidelines, inter-alia include:

(i) Preference to village industries, tiny industries and other small scale units, while meeting the credit requirements of Small Scale Sector.

(ii) Banks have been asked to step up the credit flow to meet the legitimate requirements of the SSI sector in full during the Eighth Five Year Plan for which they would have to draw up an anunual credit budget.

(iii) The definition of a Sick SSI Unit and rate of interest applicable for Working Capital Term Loan (WCTL) granted as part of a rehabilitation package has been suitably modified. In order to arrest sickness in SSI units whenever there are signs of incipient sickness, banks have been advised to closely monitor the progress of the unit. and wherever necessary additional finance is to be provided if such a course is warranted.

(iv) An effective grievance redressal machinery within each bank which can be approached by the SSIs in case of difficulties will be set up.

(v) Banks have been advised to adopt the "Single Window Scheme" to provide both Working Capital and term loans.

(vi) For the credit requirements of village industries tiny industries and other SSI units having aggregate fund based working capital credit limits up to Rs. 50 lakhs from the banking system, the norms for inventory and receivables as also the First Method of Lending will not apply. Instead such units may be provided working capital limits computed

on the basis of a minimum 20% of the projected annual turnover for new as well as existing units.

BENEFITS OF CONCESSIONS TO CONSUMERS

2062. DR. D. VENKATESWARA RAO:

SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI:

SHRI ANNA JOSHI:

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have set up any machinery to ensure that various excise and other concessions given to industries have actually been passed on to consumers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action taken against those industries who fail to pass on the concession benefits to consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) There is no machinery to ensure that reduction in excise duty has actually been passed on to consumers.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There is no price control on most manufactured products. Market prices are generally determined by a multiplicity of factors, of which duty of excise is only one.

(d) There is no legal mechanism to enforce reduction in price to the extent of reduction in excise duty where there is no price control.

SMUGGLING OF SILVER AND NARCOTICS

2063. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any raids have been conducted to find out the smuggling of silver/narcotics in Rajasthan during the last six months;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of persons arrested and found guilty;

(d) the number of warrants issued and the number of culprits who have gone underground; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The search and seizure operations carried out by the Enforcement Agencies under the Ministry of Finance, during the last six months have resulted in the following recoveries:

Silver—1153.397 kgs.
Heroin—66.210 kgs.
Charas—1412.235 kgs.
Opium—12.115 kgs.

14 persons were found involved in such smuggling activities and were arrested.

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

(e) Enforcement agencies remain vigilant against smuggling of contraband including silver and narcotics. Close coordination is being maintained by all the agencies in combating the detection and prevention of smuggling.

IMPORT OF NEWSPRINT

2064. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether import of newsprint has increased consequent upon its decontrol;

(b) if so, the quantity of newsprint imported before and after its decontrol;

(c) whether the Indian Newspaper Society has strongly opposed the levy of 40 per cent on newsprint; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Against the quantity of 2,21,000 MTs of newsprint imported in 1991-92 by STC prior to decanalisation, the quantity of newsprint imported in the decanalised regime during 1992-93 is 2,20,920 MTs (*Source* : DGCIS).

(c) Yes, Sir

(d) There is no import duty on newsprint at present.

12.00 hrs.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : Yesterday, I thanked you. Day before yesterday, I thanked you. Today also in anticipation I want to thank you, Zero Hour activities should be over in half-an-hour time so that we should go to the other business.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I also thank you. Just now during Question Hour it was said that the hon. Minister was sick. I would also like to say that today Delhi is also seriously sick. It is suffering from contagious disease which can also spread in the entire country. What will happen to the country if Government is unable to solve the problem of Delhi ? Sir, we have been reading in the newspapers and yesterday our Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs....

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Khurana, it should not be a lengthy speech.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : The situation is going from bad to worse. There is water and electricity crisis in Delhi and people are resorting to Rasta-Roko agitation. There is law and order problem also in Delhi. There is no water in taps, rain water is logging on roads and in drains. The roads are in deplorable condition and when Delhi Administration or Corporation is approached, they show their inability to repair them. They say that they do not have funds. Tenders have been withdrawn two years back and all the works have come to standtill. When we approach DESU, they say that they do not have cables. I have a copy of the notification issued by the Corporation which reads as under :

[*English*]

> "As the Budget provisions under revenue heads of accounts had been drastically curtailed during 1993-94, the allocation made so much rupees be treated as withdrawn."
>
> "No work under this head of accounts should be taken up without prior approval of the Engineer-in-Chief."

[*Translation*]

When we talk of water, they do not have equipments with them. People wake up us in nights to tell about their problems. Today Chandani Chowk Bazar is closed as a protest and people are organising demonstrations. The Central Government have abolished Octroi last year in Delhi. It was done because Delhi is a Union Territory and it was decided that the Central Government would compensate the loss. But what happened is that the sale tax rates were increased and an additional burden of Rs. 70 crores was put on the residents of Delhi for making up the loss caused by the abolition of Octroi. Not a single paisa has been paid to Delhi in the Octroi head during the last nine months. There was an annual income of Rs. 42 to Rs. 43 crores from Octroi. I have personally talked to the Home Minister and informed him that an amount of Rs. 25 crores is due against the Central Government in the Octroi-Head which should be paid to Delhi so that some improvement can be made in the economic condition of Delhi.

MR. SPEAKER : What Shri Khurana wants to say is that there are water, electricity and other problems in Delhi. And it is all because of the non-compensation of loss of revenue suffered by Delhi due to abolition of Octroi. The Government reply will come later on.

SHRI KALKA DAS (Karolbagh) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise a point about Karolbagh. People are staging dharna in Gaffar Market.... (*Interruption*)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Khurana ji has covered all the points. I think you are very fond of speaking.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI R. DHANUSKODI ATHITHAN (Tiruchendur) : On 5-8-93, Shri Kumari Ananthan and some Congress Members are brutally attacked by the AIADMK MLAs while they were picketing the Road at Santhankulan to attract the State Government's attention to implement various development schemes like Sadaivaneri Canal, Integrated Drinking Water Scheme, expansion of Taluk Headquarters Government Hospital etc.

Even though Shri Kumari Ananthan informed his proposed Dharna to District Administration, they failed to provide adequate protection.

On the other hand, as a counter move, AIADMK MLAs Mr. Chelladurai and Shri V. P. R. Ramesh and other MLAs with goondas brutally attacked Shri Kumari Ananthan and other Congress workers who were participating in the Satyagraha. It is shameful to know that the State Government itself is inducing and instigating this sort of violence and vandalism.

So, I urge upon the Home Minister to direct and caution the State Government to give adequate protection to our legislators as well as Congress Party workers. It is a sheer evidence of lawlessness prevailing in Tamil Nadu.

The attack on Congress MLAs is continuing since we openly criticise the commission and omissions of the State Government. The State Government is unfit to continue. It should be dismissed.

[*Translation*]

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, thousands of telephones have been lying dead for the last one month in Gandhi Nagar and Ahmedabad and due to rain, the situation has further deteriorated there. Various institutions and establishments have sent telegrams and representations one after the other to the Central Minister, but no response has been given by the Minister. One of my colleagues Shri Harin Pathak is sitting on 72 hours long hunger strike in front of Town Hall from today. Therefore, I thought to raise this matter in the House to draw the attention of the Government towards this problem and request to send a High level Technical team to find out as to how the situation can be improved there and the telephones, which are lying dead and thereby causing hardships to the people could be brought in working order. It is very unfortunate that telephones have been lying dead for such a long time and the Government should pay attention towards it.

[*English*]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : Since it is on telephones, I fully support what has been said by Shri Lal K. Advani... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI M. R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN (Tirunnelveli) : His allegation is a totally false allegation.

SHRI P. G. NARAYANAN (Gobichettipalayam) : The allegation raised by him is baseless and politically motivated.

MR. SPEAKER : What you have said has been noted. Please sit down. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : For five years, no new telephone directory for Calcutta has been published. You can imagine what is the situation there. Repeatedly we have been telling them. There is supposed to be some dispute between the printer and the Telecommunication Department. For five years, we have written letters, we have met them. They are always promising. I do not know what the dispute is. Through you, Sir, I wish to emphasise and request the Government to wake up. This is a very serious matter. Telephone is no longer a luxury item. It is absolutely important. For minimum

economic activity and development, it is essential to have a telephone. I would request the Government to get the telephone directory published. If you cannot do it, give it to me, I shall get it published.

[*Translation*]

SHRI JASWANT SINGH(Chittorgarh) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, now-a-days Rajasthan is facing a great problem. After twenty years, locust swarm has once again attacked the western parts of Rajasthan. The Central Government had already got information on 7th June regarding the possible attack of locust swarm in western parts of Rajasthan. The locust swarm started from Somalia and with the on set of the rainy season, they entered several districts of Rajasthan and laid eggs at different places. Because there has been no problem of locust for the last 20 years, the concerned departments of the Centre as well as of the State had become totally inactive. Fortunately, there was good rainfall in western Rajasthan this year and there was possibility to have good crops this year. But now locust swarm have attacked the area and have laid eggs at different places, so I would like to say to the Government, through you, that locust have not created problem in Rajasthan alone but have also entered Palanpur, Mahsana and some other districts of Gujarat. The team deputed by the Government for spraying insecticides etc. does not even recognise locust. They are spraying BHC in the affected areas which is causing harm to the human beings and animals. The good crop, which was expected there as a result of good rainfall this year, would be destroyed by the locust. I would like to know as to what steps are being taken by the Government. Since there is no State Government now-a-days, so to whom we should approach for our difficulties. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to you for allowing me to speak. I hail from Rajasthan and that is why I am raising this matter. (*Interruptions*)

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : It is correct that locusts have caused extensive damage in Rajasthan. The locusts have moved further from there. Honourable Agriculture Minister assured us here in Lok Sabha that they have controlled them, but the condition is very serious. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record except that what is said by these hon. Members to whom I have permitted to speak.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI B. N. REDDY (Miryalguda) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, India was misled and humiliated on the rocket deal by the Russian Government. The Russian Foreign Ministry had misled India when it informed Delhi that the decision to exempt the technology transfer regarding the cryogenic contract had been approved by the Russian Government. It is well-known to the world that this was done at the dictates of America. Now, the entire contract has been cancelled. Therefore, our Government should protest against the Russian Government's shameful surrender dishonouring our entire nation by violating the international friendly relations.

MR. SPEAKER : This matter was discussed several times.

SHRI B. N. REDDY : Our Government should ask them to abide by the original contract. I would request that this cancellation of the transfer of cryogenic technology may be discussed in the House next weak.

*SHRI C. K. KUPPUSWAMY (Coimbatore) : Hon. Speaker, Sir, I thank you very much for having accepted my demand for considering to publish parliamentary documents in all the Indian languages.

MR. SPEAKER : I will discuss with you. I will discuss properly with you.

*SHRI C. K. KUPPUSWAMY : Likewise, we must get Government correspondence in all the 16 languages like Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam, Punjabi, Bengali, Urdu, Himachali, Oriya etc. We should not be mistaken for this request and

*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

we should not be considered anti-Hindi. I would like to impress upon Vajpayeeji that we oppose only the imposition of Hindi. Hon. Speaker, Sir, you are our custodian. You lead us all as the Presiding Officer of this august body. You said, you will look into this in your jurisdiction. Government too should take note of it. They should keep up the assurance given by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Shrimati Indira Gandhi and Shri Rajiv Gandhi. Hence, I request through you that letters sent by the Union Government should be in all the 16 languages. We believe in the unity of the country. It should not be divided on emotive issues. Only when all the language-groups are treated equally, there could be a sense of unity. Hence, I request the Government through you that Pandit Nehru's assurance should be upheld. I hope, you would fulfil our aspirations.

[*Translation*]

SHRI TARACHAND KHANDELWAL (Chandni Chowk) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, 40 shops were gutted in yesterday's conflagration in my constituency. 32 shops out of them were completely destroyed. I was there yesterday for 2 hours. This fire has caused a damage worth Rs. 15 to 20 crore rupees.

Sir, the fire broke out at 10.35 A.M. and the first fire tender arrived there at 11.05 A.M. The people of that area went to DESU's office and even rang up to get the electric current disconnected, but the officials of DESU did not heed and came only after around one and a half hour. This fire had not been caused by any spark in some shop, but was caused by DESU's electric pole on the road. A junction box and its wires had been lying there naked for many days. 15 days back the DESU was requested on telephone to tape the naked wires and cover the open junction box but DESU did not takes any action and said that they did not have tape to cover the naked wires. It is really surprising that DESU do not even have an essential item such as tape to cover the naked wires. What is the Government doing ? DESU is solely responsible for this incident of fire. This mishap could have been averted if the naked wires had been taped in time. That's why, it is my submission that the shopowners, whose shops have been gutted in fire, be compensated fully.

MR. Speaker, Sir, my other submission is that these shopkeepers should not be harrased by the officers of Sales Tax and Income Tax departments, as their all records have destroyed in the fire.

MR. Speaker, Sir, my third submission is that a judicial enquiry be ordered into this incident. I had met the Lt. Governor yesterday in this regard and had requested him also for conducting a judicial enquiry.

[*English*]

SHRI RAMESH CHENITHALA (Kottayam) : Sir, the recent statement of the Pakistan's care-taker Prime Minister Mr. Qureshi that Pakistan can make a nuclear bomb at will is a matter of grave concern to India. Pakistan's nuclear programme has always been shrouded in secrecy. Nevertheless, that country has, from time to time, let this known that it has a serious nuclear programme and that it has reached an advanced stage of manufacturing a nuclear bomb. Now that the top functionary of the Government, the care-taker Prime Minister has said openly that the Pakistan Government is in a position to make a bomb at will, all doubts on that score have disappeared. Everybody knows that India is the target. Since India is the only target of Pakistan's nuclear bomb, we have to think about this. We have to take a serious note of this. It may be recalled that in the last December, Mrs. Benazir Bhutto had openly disclosed that it had plans to drop a nuclear bomb during the Indian military exercise. This is a very serious issue.

I would like to request the Government to re-assure the Parliament and the nation that Government of India is taking very serious note of it repulse any such attack. And counter measures should be taken against these types of activities.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA (Jadavpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Shri Paswan had raised a question regarding holding of a cultural programme in Ayodhya. Mr. Pilot was to provide an

information to the House. I demand that information may please be supplied.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (Aonla) : I also want to say something in this regard.

MR. SPEAKER : Please don't make it lengthy.

[English]

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given a notice for raising a very important matter. Please permit me to raise that matter... *(Interruptions)* Sir, through you, I draw the attention of this Government to a very serious matter. Thousands of trucks in Andhra Pradesh and in several other States are off the roads because of the harassment which they are subjected to.

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister has already made a statement on that point.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE : Please hear me, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister has already made a statement.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE : He made a statement, but, what is the use, Sir ? Till now, the problem is not resolved.

MR. SPEAKER : You cannot raise it again and again.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE : The trucks are off the roads. The prices of essential commodities are increasing.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Rao, you are always bulldozing like this in the House.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE : What is this, Sir ? I am exercising my democratic right to raise a very important matter.

MR. SPEAKER : This is not correct. I am not allowing it.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE : Thousands of lorry operators are suffering.

MR. SPEAKER : I am not allowing it. The Minister made a statement and if you want a discuss, I will allow it in a proper way. But, you cannot always bulldoze like this in the House. Now, you may please sit down.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE :**

MR. SPEAKER : This will not go on record.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE : Please excuse me, Sir.

DR. K. D. JESWANI (Kheda) : Sir, it seems that the Punjab terrorists have started finding shelter in the State of Gujarat. The last two years have witnessed sporadic incidents which are taking place there. Recently, on 23rd July, a group of five terrorists who are very well recognized, were being followed by the Punjab police. Ultimately, there was a fierce encounter between the police and the terrorists in Khambholaj village of Kheda district, which is in my constituency. It is reported that they have hideouts there and they have abducted persons from Nasik in the vicinity of Khamonolaj village. During the encounter, one ASI was shot dead and some other police officers were also injured. But, all the terrorists could manage to escape. This has generated lot of fear in the surrounding areas of my constituency and practically, whole of Gujarat is stunned as a result of this act of terrorism. This is a direct ou come of the disturbed law and order situation in the State of Gujarat over the last two years.

I myself and all the other MPs from our Gujarat State have raised that issue in the House and through letters, it was brought to the notice of the Home Minister on several occasions. But, we are very sorry to say that neither the State Government nor the Government of India seems to have realised the seriousness of the situation.

MR. SPEAKER : Law and Order, is a State subject.

DR. K. D. JASWANI : This is an issue of terrorism. It is not simply a law and

**Not recorded.

order problem. Sir, I beg your pardon. Repeatedly, on three or four occasions, the recognized terrorists from Punjab have infiltrated into the State of Gujarat. I am really sorry if you dictate this as a State subject. It is really a serious matter.

MR. SPEAKER : I am not dictating; it is mentioned in the Constitution. You are a Member of Parliament and you should study the Constitution.

DR. K. D. JESWANI : Punjab police had followed these terrorists in the State of Gujarat and there was a encounter amongst them. One ASI was shot dead and some other police officers were injured but, all these five terrorists are at large.

MR. SPEAKER : O. K. I have allowed you to make a statement. Please do not prolong it now.

DR. K. D. JESWANI : These terrorists are not still traceable.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Shahabuddin may please speak now.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the world continues to be a silent spectator of the great human tragedy of Bosnia-Herzegovina which continues to bleed and which has been subjected at the same time, a Member State of the United Nations, to aggression by a neighbouring State, to State sponsored terrorism operating within the country, to massive violation of human rights by foreign invaders and to the violation of its territorial integrity.

Sir, it is a very sad example of the ineffectiveness of the United Nations' system and I am sorry to note here that we have not played our due role in bringing the situation under control and in bringing some comfort to the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina, with whom, right from the days of Marshal Tito and Jawaharlal Nehru, we had very harmonious relations.

Sir, this unfortunate country has witnessed the horrors of ethnic frenzy and now it is being forced against its will to the coming horror of partition. We, in this sub-continent, know that partition solves no problem, that partition only creates more problems, that partition only divides the people and it never resolves the conflict.

Now the leadership of that country is being forced into accepting a tripartite partition of that country. Well, it is a European problem and the European powers themselves have accepted that the principles that must govern the solution of the Bosnia-Herzegovina dispute must be to ensure its sovereignty and territorial integrity, to ensure respect for its pluralist character and the inadmissibility of acquisition of territory by force. It is a critical juncture at which a country like India with all the moral stature of the non-aligned movement must stand up and oppose this heinous partition of Bosnia-Herzegovina. I, therefore, propose that the Government must immediately convene a meeting of the non-aligned bureau at the foreign ministers' level and take up this question before it is butchered.

DR. SUDHIR RAY (Burdwan) : Sir, the Jute Corporation of India has decided to wind up its purchasing centres at many places. The decision is injurious to the peasants, as it will hit poor peasants hard and they will be compelled to make distress sale to the traders who will simply fleece them.

We want that jute growers should be given remunerative price. Hence, it seems strange to us that JCI in the interest of traders has taken this decision of winding up purchasing centres at many places. We demand that this decision should be immediately withdrawan in favour of jute growers.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI (Pune) : Sir, the International Council of World Affairs, an academic organisation of national importance founded by great leaders like Jawaharlal Nehru and others is today a den of manipulation and corruption. Every new day is leading this organisation towards its death. If the Government does not wake up and look into the multiplying problems and ever increasing deterioration, then that day is not very far away when only a grand burial will be the fate of this organisation.

Several hon. Members of both the Houses of Parliament have raised this issue but it seems certain unscrupulous elements have successfully avoided the Government's attention. It is high time that the Government either allows CBI to go into the details of the affairs of the ICWA and bring to book the responsible people for its present state or an enquiry should be conducted by setting up a commission. For fair and full enquiry the present responsible persons should be suspended. Also, the grievances of the staff and workers should be looked into and solved immediately. If the reports of these enquiries show that there is any element of truth of gross mismanagement, negligence and corruption, then the Government should not hesitate to take over this organisation and judicial prosecution should be launched against the people found guilty and punished and set an example to discourage any person to repeat the same in future.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa) : Sir, a disturbing news item has appeared that the Ayodhya Enquiry Commission set up to enquire into the events and sequences that led to the demolition of the disputed structure on the 6th of December is unable to perform its work due to non-cooperation from the CBI and the Home Ministry. This Commission asked for a Special Investigating Team to be given to them ; but the CBI has refused to do that. They are right to ask this according to the law; but that has not been given to them. Even the names of those who took part in this and other things which are in the possession of the CBI have not been provided to them. The term of this Commission will expire on 15th September.

I want to know from the Government what they really want from this Enquiry Commission. Do they want it to work properly and get to the truth or do they want it to remain inactive and the whole thing is subverted in the process ? I want a statement from the Government about the actual position of this Enquiry Commission.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : This is a very serious matter, Sir.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH (Bikramganj) : I would like to draw your attention to the horrible situation created by drought in Rohtas district, Aurangagad district, Buxor district, Bhojpur district, Gaya, Navada, Jahanabad and Palamu in Bihar.... (*Interruptions*)

MR SPEAKER : A two-hour discussion has already been held on drought condition.

MR. SPEAKER : Not like this. It won't do. You cannot speak whenever you feel like speaking.

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH : The situation is horrible there, people are dying and they are fleeing the area. The Government of Bihar do not have funds... (*Interruptions*)

** ** **

[*English*]

MR SPEAKER : I am not allowing him (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : You may please sit down.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down now. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER . Please understand that this is Parliament. I allowed the discussion on drought and flood for two hours each ; and you discussed it. I am not allowing it now.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : It is not going on record.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH : If we do not get a chance to speak here, where else should we raise it ? This issue concerns my constituency.

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat.

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH : Where else should I raise the problem concerning my constituency ?

MR. SPEAKER : I have allowed a discussion on your constituency.

(*Interruptions*)

**Not recorded.

[*English*]

SHRI HANAN MOLLAH (Uluberia) : Sir, I would like to draw the attention of this House to one of the most tragic incidents that occurred in the Capital last week. You know, Sir, that one of the very bright and promising students and sports persons, a girl of 12 years, Ms. Navaneeta Das Munshi, drowned in the National Stadium. She was a trainee and while she was there, there was no life guard. There is a complaint that there were no others to help her. And after one hour...,.

MR. SPEAKER : All right. The discussion is over now, please— half-an-hour is over.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Sir, it is a serious matter.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, you have brought it to the notice.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Now, the Papers to be laid on the table of the House. Shri Sangma.

(*Interruptions*)...**

MR. SPEAKER : This is not going on record.

(*Interruptions*)

12.31 *hrs.*

[*English*]

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

EMPLOYEES STATE INSURANCE REGULATIONS, 1993 AND NOTIFICATIONS UNDER APPRENTICES ACT, 1961

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy of the Employees' State Insurance (General) (First Amendment) Regulations, 1993 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. N-12/13/1/92-P&D in Gazette of India dated the 20th March, 1993 under sub-section (4) of section 97 of the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-4262/93]

(2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 37 of the Apprentices Act, 1961 :—

(i) The Apprenticeship (Amendment) Rules, 1993 published in Notification No. G.S.R.87(E) in Gazette of India dated the 27th February, 1993.

(ii) The Apprenticeship (Amendment) Rules, 1993 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 221 in Gazzette of India dated the 1st May, 1993.

(iii) The Apprenticeship (Second Amendment) Rules, 1993 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 380(E) in Gazette of India dated the 20th April, 1993.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT-4263/93]

FINANCE ACCOUNTS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR FOR THE YEAR 1988-89 ETC. AND APPROPRIATION ACCOUNTS OF GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR FOR 1988-89 ETC.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy of each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under clause (c) (iv) of the Proclamation dated the 18th July, 1990, issued by the President in relation to the State of Jammu and Kashmir :—

(i) Finance Accounts of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir for the year 1988-89.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT-4264/93]

(ii) Appropriation Accounts of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir for the year 1988-89.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-4265/93]

(2) A copy of the Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India

**Not recorded.

(Government of Jammu and Kashmir) for the year ended the 31st March, 1989, under clause 151(2) of the Constitution read with clause (c) (iv) of the Proclamation dated the 18th July, 1990, issued by the President in relation to the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-4266/93]

(3) A copy of the Appropriation Accounts (Union Government) of the Defence Services for the year 1991-92 (Hindi and English versions).

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-4267/93]

(4) A copy of the Appropriation Accounts, Railways for the year 1991-92, Part-I—Review (Hindi and English versions).

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-4268/93]

(5) A copy of the Appropriation Accounts, Railways for the year 1991-92, Part-II—Detailed Appropriation Accounts (Hindi and English versions).

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-4269/93]

(6) A copy of the Block Accounts (including Capital statements comprising the Loan Accounts), Balance Sheets and Profit and Loss Accounts of Railways for the year 1991-92 (Hindi and English versions).

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-4270/93]

(7) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962 :—

(i) S.O. 341(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th May, 1993 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or *vice-versa* for the purpose of assessment of Imports.

(ii) S.O. 342(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th May, 1993 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or *vice-versa* for the purpose of assessment of Exports.

(iii) S.O. 414(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th June, 1993 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or *vice-versa* for the purpose of assessment of Imports.

(iv) S.O. 415(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th June, 1993 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or *vice-versa* for the purpose of assessment of Exports.

(v) G.S.R. 437(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st June, 1993 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No. 3/93- Cus., dated the 2nd February, 1993.

(vi) G.S.R. 454(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th June, 1993 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No. 136/90-Cus., dated the 20th March, 1990.

(vii) G.S.R. 455(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th June, 1993 together with an explanatory memorandum rescinding the Notification No. 6/93-Cus., dated the 9th February, 1993.

(viii) G.S.R. 479(E) to G.S.R. 482(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th June, 1993 together with an explanatory memorandum making the provisions of the customs laws in tune with the amendments in the Exim Policy.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-4271/93]

(8) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 296 of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 :—

(i) The Income-Tax (Eighth Amendment) Rules, 1993 published in Notification No. S.O. 307(E) in Gazette of India dated the 20th May, 1993.

(ii) The Income-Tax (Ninth Amendment) Rules, 1993 published in Notification No. S.O. 330(E) in Gazette of India dated the 25th May, 1993.

(iii) S.O. 1202 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'The Nai Talim Samiti, Sevagram, Wardha' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1991-92 to 1993-94 subject to certain conditions.

(IV) S.O. 1203 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Spastic Society of Eastern India, Calcutta under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1990-91 to 1992-93 subject to certain conditions.

(v) S.O. 1204 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'The Bombay Gandhi Smarak Nidhi, Bombay' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1991-92 to 1993-94 subject to certain conditions.

(vi) S.O. 1205 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Haryana Defence and Security Relief Fund Committee, Haryana' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1990-91 to 1992-93 subject to certain conditions.

(vii) S.O. 1206 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Delhi Society for the Welfare of Mentally Retarted Children, New Delhi' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1990-91 to 1992-93 subject to certain conditions.

(viii) S.O. 1207 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to Bureau of Indian Standards, New Delhi' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1992-93 to 1994-95 subject to certain conditions.

(ix) S.O. 1208 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Vivekananda Nidhi, Calcutta' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1990-91 to 1992-93 subject to certain conditions.

(x) S.O. 1209 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'The Agha Khan Foundation, New Delhi' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1990-91 to 1992-93 subject to certain conditions.

(xi) S.O. 1210 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Society for Promotion of Wastelands Development, New Delhi' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1993-94 to 1995-96 subject to certain conditions.

(xii) S.O. 1211 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to the 'Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts, New Delhi' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1992-93 to 1994-95 subject to certain conditions.

(xiii) S.O. 1212 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Railway Women's Central Organisation, New Delhi' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1989-90 subject to certain conditions.

(xiv) S.O. 1213 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Ramana Maharishi Centre for Learning, Bangalore' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1993-94 to 1995-96 subject to certain conditions.

(xv) S.O. 1214 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'International Commission of Irrigation and Drainage, New Delhi' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1989-90 to 1990-91 subject to certain conditions.

(xvi) S.O. 1215 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Hamdard Dawakhana, New Delhi' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1988-89 to 1989-90.

(xvii) S.O. 1216 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Anandashram Trust, Kanhangad' under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1990-91 to 1992-93 subject to certain conditions.

(xviii) S.O. 1217 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Navaj-bai Ratan Tata Trust, Bombay' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1989-90 to 1991-92 subject to certain conditions.

(xix) S.O. 1218 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993, regarding exemption to "Pirojsha Godrej Foundation, Bombay" under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1990-91 to 1992-93 subject to certain conditions.

(xx) S.O. 1219 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to "Organization of Pharmaceutical Producers of India, Bombay" under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1989-90 to 1991-92 subject to certain conditions.

(xxi) S.O. 1220 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to "Victoria Technical Institute, Madras" under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1990-91 to 1992-93 subject to certain conditions.

(xxii) S.O. No. 1221 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to "The Sports Authority of Goa, Panaji" under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1989-90 to 1991-92 subject to certain conditions.

(xxiii) S.O. 1222 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Children's Film Society of India, New Delhi' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1992-93 to 1994-95 subject to certain conditions.

(xxiv) S.O. 1223 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Indian Ex-services League, New Delhi under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for for the period covered by the assessment years 1990-91 to 1992-93 subject to certain conditions.

(xxv) S.O. 1224 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Maharana Pratap Smarak Samiti, Udaipur' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1990-91 to 1992-93 subject to certain conditions.

(xxvi) S.O. 1225 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Voluntary Health Association of India, New Delhi' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1989-90 to 1991-92 subject to certain conditions.

(xxvii) S.O. 1226 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations, New Delhi' under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1992-93 to 1994-95 subject to certain conditions.

(xxviii) S.O. 1227 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Federation of Indian Export Organisation, New Delhi'

under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1989-90 to 1991-92 subject to certain conditions.

(xxix) S.O. 1228 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Harijan Sevak Sangh, Delhi' under section 10(23)C of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1991-92 to 1993-94 subject to certain conditions.

(xxx) S.O. 1229 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Family Planning Foundation, New Delhi' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1993-94 to 1995-96 subject to certain conditions.

(xxxi) S.O. 1230 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Muniwar-Abad Charitable Trust, Bombay' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1990-91 to 1992-93 subject to certain conditions.

(xxxii) S.O. 1231 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Asian Institute of Transport Development, New Delhi' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1993-94 to 1995-96 subject to certain conditions.

(xxxiii) S.O. 1232 published in Gazetted of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'National Association of Water Resources Development Agencies, Pune' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1991-92 to 1993-94 subject to certain conditions.

(xxxiv) S.O. 1233 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, Maharashtra Branch' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1991-92 to 1993-94 subject to certain conditions.

(xxxv) S.O. 1234 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Exhibition Society, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1990-91 to 1992-93 subject to certain conditions.

(xxxvi) S.O. 1235 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Kashtriya Gramin Vikas Nidhi, Guwahati' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1991-92 to 1993-94 subject to certain conditions.

(xxxvii) S.O. 1236 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Indian Association of Parliamentarian on Population and Development, New Delhi' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1989-90 to 1991-92 subject to certain conditions.

(xxxviii) S.O. 1237 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Madras Craft Foundation, Madras' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1991-92 to 1992-93 subject to certain conditions.

(xxxix) S.O. 1238 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Centre for Research in Rural Industrial Development, Chandigarh' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1991-92 to 1993-94 subject to certain conditions.

(xl) S.O. 1239 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Centre for Research in Rural Industrial Development, Chandigarh' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1987-88 to 1989-90 subject to certain conditions.

(xli) S.O. 1240 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Asiatic Society, Calcutta' under section 10(23C) of the

Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1991-92 to 1993-94 subject to certain conditions.

(xlii) S.O. 1241 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Bala Mandir Kamaraj Trust, Madras' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1993-94 to 1995-96 subject to certain conditions.

(xliii) S.O. 1242 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Centre for Social Studies, Surat, Gujarat' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1985-86 to 1989-90.

(xliv) S.O. 1243 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Sanjivani Trust, Everest, Bombay' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1991-92 to 1993-94 subject to certain conditions.

(xlv) S.O. 1244 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Sangit Mahabharati, Bombay' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1990-91 to 1992-93 subject to certain conditions.

(xlvi) S.O. 1245 published in Gezette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Fund, New Delhi' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1993-94 to 1995-96 subject to certain conditions.

(xlvii) S.O. 1246 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Tibetan Homes Foundation, Delhi' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1992-93 to 1994-95 subject to certain conditions.

(xlviii) S.O. 1247 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Swaminarayan Aksharpith, Shahibaug Road, Ahmedabad' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1990-91 to 1992-93 subject to certain conditions.

(xlix) S.O. 1248 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Raja Rammohan Roy Library Foundation, Calcutta' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1991-92 to 1993-94 subject to certain conditions.

(l) SO. 1249 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Sameeksha Trust, Bombay' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1991-92 to 1993-94 subject to certain conditions.

(li) S.O. 1250 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Agakhan Rural Support Programme (India), New Delhi' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1991-92 to 1993-94 subject to certain conditions.

(lii) S.O. 1251 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Maharashtra State Bharat Scouts and Guides, Bombay' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1991-92 to 1993-94 subject to certain conditions.

(liii) S.O. 1252 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Gujarat Ecological Education and Research Foundation, Gandhinagar' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1991-92 to 1992-93 subject to certain conditions.

(liv) S.O. 1253 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Sri Raja Rajeswari Devasthanam Trust, Bangalore' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1993-94 to 1995-96 subject to certain conditions.

(lv) S.O. 1254 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Shraddhanand Mahilashram, Bombay' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1990-91 to 1992-93 subject to certain conditions.

(lvi) S.O. 1255 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Turicorin Multipurpose Social Service Society, Turicorin' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1992-93 to 1994-95 subject to certain conditions.

(lvii) S.O. 1256 published Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Indira Gandhi Memorial Trust, New Delhi' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1993-94 to 1995-96 subject to certain conditions.

(lviii) S.O. 1259 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Maharashtra Energy Development Agency, Bombay' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1992-93 to 1994-95 subject to certain conditions.

(lix) S.O. 1260 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Bureau of Indian Standards, New Delhi' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1990-91 to 1991-92 subject to certain conditions.

(lx) S.O. 1261 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'The Association for the Welfare of Persons with a Mental Handicap in Maharashtra' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1991-92 to 1993-94 subject to certain conditions.

(lxi) S.O. 1262 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Heartcare Foundation of India, New Delhi' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1992-93 to 1994-95 subject to certain conditions.

(lxii) S.O. 1263 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Maharanapratap Smarak Samiti, Udaipur, Rajasthan' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment year 1989-90.

(lxiii) S.O. 1264 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Reaching the Unreached of Village India, Madurai' under Section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1990-91 to 1992-93 subject to certain conditions.

(lxiv) S.O. 1265 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Friends of Moral Re-armament (India), Panchgani, Maharashtra' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1990-91 to 1992-93 subject to certain conditions.

(lxv) S.O. 1266 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Vivekananda Rock Memorial and Vivekananda Kendra, Madras' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1993-94 to 1995-96 subject to certain conditions.

(lxvi) S.O. 1267 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Harijan Sevak Sangh, Delhi' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment year 1990-91 subject to certain conditions.

(lxvii) S.O. 1268 and S.O. 1269 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Calcutta Zoroastrian Stree Mandal, Calcutta' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1990-91 to 1994-95 subject to certain conditions.

(lxviii) S.O. 1270 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Indian International Rural Cultural Centre, New Delhi'

under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1990-91 to 1992-93 subject to certain conditions.

(lxix) S.O. 1271 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Kasthurba Gandhi Kanya Gurukulam, Vedaranium' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1990-91 to 1992-93 subject to certain conditions.

(lxx) S.O. 1272 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations, New Delhi' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1990-91 to 1991-92 subject to certain conditions.

(lxxi) S.O. 1273 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Defence Civilians Welfare (T.B., Cancer and Leprosy) Fund, New Delhi' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1990-91 to 1992-93 subject to certain conditions.

(lxxii) S.O. 1274 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Indian Parliamentary Group, New Delhi' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1993-94 to 1995-96 subject to certain conditions.

(lxxiii) S.O. 1275 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'National Council of Applied Economic Research, New Delhi' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1993-94 to 1995-96 subject to certain conditions.

(lxxiv) S.O. 1276 published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1993 regarding exemption to 'Khelaghar Shishu Nivas Shiksha Kendra, Calcutta' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1990-91 to 1992-93 subject to certain conditions.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-4272/93]

(9) A copy of the Life Insurance Corporation of India Class III and Class IV Employees (Promotion) Amendment Rules, 1993 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 393(E) in Gazette of India dated the 4th May, 1993 under sub-section (3) of section 48 of the Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-4273/93]

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

12.32 hrs.

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL : Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha :—

I am direced to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 5th August, 1993, has adopted the following motion regarding appointment of one Member of the Rajya Sabha to the Joint Committee to enquire into irregularities in securities and banking transactions :—

"That this House concurs in the recommendation of the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do agree to appoint one member from Rajya Sabha to the Joint Committee to enquire into irregularities in the securities and banking transactions in the vacancy caused by the retirement of Shri Dipen Ghosh from Rajya Sabha for the unexpired portion of the term of the Committee, and do appoint Shri Sukomal Sen to serve on the said Committee."

12.32½ *hrs.*

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS

Second Report and Minutes

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : Sir, I beg to present the Second Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Petroleum and Chemicals on Proposed National Drug

Policy and Minutes of the sittings of the Committee relating thereto. [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-4274/93]

12.33 *hrs.*

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA) : With your permission, Sir, I rise to announce that Government Business during the week commencing 9th August, 1993, will consist of :—

1. Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's Order Paper.

2. Discussion on the Resolution seeking disapproval of the Consumer Protection (Amendment) Ordinance, 1993 and consideration and passing of the Consumer Protection (Amendment) Bill, 1993 as passed by Rajya Sabha.

3. Discussion and Voting on the balance Demands for Grants for 1993-94 in respect of Jammu & Kashmir, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh.

4. Discussion and Voting on :—

(a) Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways) for 1993-94.

(b) Demands for Excess Grants (Railways) for 1989-90.

5 Consideration and passing of the following Bills as passed by Rajya Sabha :—

(a) The Legal Services Authorities (Amendment) Bill, 1991.

(b) The Public Records Bill, 1992.

(c) The Transplantation of Human Organs Bill, 1992 .

12.34 *hrs.*

(Mr. Deputy Speaker *in the Chair*)

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : I request that the following item may be included in the next week's agenda :—

The public sector coal industry in Orissa is facing difficulties due to imposition of land tax by the State Government to the tune of Rs. 3200 per acre per annum. The Central Government should immediately intervene in the matter.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL (Phulpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I request that the following item may be included in the next week's agenda :—

According to the survey conducted by the National Institute of Rural Development, Hyderabad the schemes launched by the Government to uplift the people above the poverty line have benefited them very little. It is, therefore, very essential that no Government or non-Government machinery should be used as intermediaries in granting aid and other funds for the welfare of the poor.

[*English*]

DR. D. VENKATESWARA RAO (Bapatla) : I request that the following item may be included in the next week's business :

Government should take purposive steps for social needs like employment, reducing poverty and the general aim of raising the quality and standard of living of the people.

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat) : I request that the following items may be included in the next week's agenda :

1. Transport strike and the effects thereof.

2. Continuous price rise of all essential commodities.

[*Translation*]

DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR (Hapur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir I request that the following items may be included in the next week's agenda :

1. Need to release an amount of Rs. 50 crore immediately from the Prime Minister's Calamity Relief Fund in view of the huge loss of life, property and crops

of farmers caused by heavy rains in Ghaziabad district in Uttar Pradesh on July 21, 1993.

2. Need to shiftbone-mill from Hapur, Ghaziabad to elsewhere.

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I request that the following items may be included in the next week's agenda :

1. Action be taken to abrogate Section 30 (2) and amend Section 26 of the Registration Act, 1908.

2. Necessary amendment be made in the Urban Ceiling Act, 1976 taking into consideration the interest of farmers of Uttar Pradesh.

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I request that the following subjects may be included in the next week's agenda :

1. The flood and drought situation and non-payment of arrears of crores of rupees to farmers will results non-availability of sugarcane to mills for next crushing session, thereby declining sugar production and hence the problems faced by sugarcane growers will continue as it is.

2. Heavy hailstorm in the beginning of the rainy season, cold waves, lack of a policy decision in the matter which might result in loss to the tune of crores of rupees is a cause for concern to the opium growers of Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan.

[*English*]

DR. K. D. JESWANI (Kheda) : I request that the following may be included in the next week's agenda :

1. More than 50 lakh Sindhis are living in the country. It is very necessary to establish a university for the development of Sindhi art, language and literature.

2. Recent terrorist activities of Punjab terrorists in village Khambholaj of district Kheda in Gujarat has thrilled the whole of the State. Government of India should take immediate measures to curb such terrorist infiltration in Gujarat.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI (Pune) : I request that the following items may be included in the next week's agenda :—

1. Recovery of outstanding dues from National Textile Corporation to the Maharashtra Cotton Federation for purchase of cotton bales.

2. Provision for 50 per cent Central assistance for construction of court building, residential accommodation, etc. in Maharashtra State.

[*Translation*]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzaffarpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to make two suggestions in this regard. My first suggestion is related to the Bofors issue which has been raised in the house during the last 10 days in one way or the other. I would like to know the decision taken by the Government in this regard especially against the persons found guilty by the Supreme Court of Switzerland. The Government should make a statement detailing the steps being taken by it to produce the guilty persons before the court. It should be debated upon in the House also... (*Interruptions*)

Secondly, I would like to say that the Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India is an institution run by the Government of India. This bank was constituted to provide financial assistance to sick industries in the country which were made sick by big people. The authorised capital of this bank is Rs. 200 crore. I do not know what amount it actually has today. It cannot be more than Rs. 200 crore. In this way Rs. 40 crore of the Government of India ... (*Interruptions*) by the Reliance Industry as share last week. The money which was meant for sick industries where labourers are becoming unemployed due to retrenchment has been put in the pocket of one of the big industrialists without any interest for four years. It is not a correct decision... (*Interruptions*) I would like to say that the Government should make a statement on it and allow a discussion on it.

[*English*]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Sir, I am on a point of order. (*Interruptions*). You kindly see the plight of the back

benchers. Our Senior leader, Mr. George Fernandes, having known all the rules, is flouting the rules and he is encouraged for that also. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : No, Mr. Panigrahi, I will tell you.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Sir, please tell us what is the procedure. There is a procedure for submissions. We are giving a notice in writing and reported at 10 A.M. It is ballotted then. Only the submissions of the names which are coming out of ballot are required to be made here and that too, only the approved text should be made. When we give three sentences, it is reduced to two or even one sentence. Under what rules has my learned friend, Mr. George Fernandes, made a submission ? If his name has come out in the ballot, it is all right. Is the text of his submission an approved text; if not, is it going on record or not ? This is my point of order. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh) : Even in matters under Rule 377, if you add one word, that is not recorded. But in the case of submissions, instead of one or two sentences, he has made a speech. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : In this case, Mr. Fernandes was to say that he has given a notice before 9 P.M. but his name has not come in the ballot.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Then what is the reason, Sir ?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Only the names which come in the ballot will come in the list. His name has not come in the ballot.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani) : Sir, I had submitted it today before 9.30 A.M. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Whatever you have given is in the ballot but only such names which come out of the ballot will be listed and will come up for submissions and not otherwise.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : If you go beyond that, then what will happen ?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : No, I am not expected to go beyond that. It amounts to dereliction of duty on the part of the Chair, if the Chair were to commit a mistake.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : As per procedure, the Minister should reply that the matter will be considered. (*Interruptions*)

12.45 *hrs.*

STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOUR AND WELFARE

Second Report

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : As the Members whose names are listed in the Order Paper are not present, I call Shri Rasa Singh Rawat to present the report.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : I beg to present the Second Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Labour and Welfare on the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis Bill, 1993. [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-4275/93].

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We will now adjourn for Lunch and reassemble at 13.45 hours.

12.46 *hrs.*

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Forty Five minutes past Thirteen of the clock.

13.54 *hrs.*

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at fifty four minutes past Thirteen of the Clock.

(Mr. Deputy-Speaker *in the Chair*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA (Surat) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to say something about Gujarat.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : This is not Zero Hour. You cannot do that.

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL VARMA (Dhanduka) : It is an important matter for Gujarat where a threat has been given to take 'Jal Samadhi' on this issue of public importance. The Government of India has given an assurance to review it. Now you may please ask the hon. Minister to give an assurance to the House in this regard.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You please let me know, how can you do that.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : How can this be raised on the floor of the House ?

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : What were you doing during Zero Hour, if the matter is so urgent ? You had an opportunity to raise this subject during Zero Hour on the floor of the House. Not now.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Don't compel me to break the rules Don't compel me to break the precedent. I am answerable to the House.

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL VARMA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this issue relates to whole Gujarat. Medha Patkar has since withdrawn her movement... *(Interruptions)* It is a very serious issue.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : It may be a very serious matter but you cannot take law into your hand.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : This pertains to whole of Gujarat. It is a question of saving Narmada. The Minister can atleast give us an assurance. Please ask him to give us an assurance... *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI (Pune) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is a question of Sardar Sarover and Narmada Andolan in Gujarat. Please listen me for a moment.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Can we express whatever we feel, whenever we like ? You are compelling me to commit a mistake. It is not possible.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Are you justified in raising this issue without giving prior notice ?

SHRI RATILAL VARMA : We received the information only half an hour before; how can we give you the notice ?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : That means whenever you get the information, you can raise the issue. Shall I make a suggestion ?

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You are deliberately violating the rules. Are we to follow the Rules of Procedure of the House or we are to violate them ? You had an occasion to raise the issue earlier.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

14.00 *hrs.*

SHRI GABHAJI MANGAJI THAKORE (Kapadwanj) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, it is a question related to the people of Gujarat and we are representing them here. We are their representatives. Are we not allowed to highlight the problem of the people of Gujarat *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANNA JOSHI (Pune) : Now the House is being adjourned for four days. You tell us to whom should we approach. We have just now received the message and this is a question of interests of peopeople of Gujarat *(Interruptions)*...

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Anna Joshi, you are a senior Member. Therefore, you cannot make me to commit a mistake. Please go to the speaker and discuss it with him.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL VARMA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, You will have to listen because this question is related to the people of Gujarat, it is related to their interests.

SHRI GABHAJI MANGAJI THAKORE : You can ask the Government to give a clarification in the House. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA (Surat) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Medha Patekar has declared to take Jal Samadhi in connection with Sardar Sarover Project. As per her programme when she was going to take Jal Samadhi today, she was assured on behalf of the Central Government that it was ready to review its decision regarding the Dam and it will be included in the jurisdiction of already constituted Committee of 5 officers. On the basis of this assurance given by the Government, Medha Patekar has since withdrawn her agitation.

Through you, Sir, I would like to ask that how can the Central Government give such an assurance, when on many occasions it has maintained that under no circumstances it would take any decision against the interests of the people and would never allow to undertake the review. After giving such an assurance, the Government have now betrayed the people of Gujarat. In this regard we demand a statement by the Minister of Water Resources in the House because it is an act of betrayal with crores of people and it is an act against their interests. Apart from Central Government, the Chief Minister of Gujarat, Shri Chiman Bhai Patel has also given an assurance on behalf of his Government that they would not allow to make the review. If the height of Dam is reduced, it will neither be beneficial to Gujarat nor to some other concerned State. Therefore, we demand that Minister of Water Resources should come in the House and give a statement in this regard and clarify the position. We would like to know that under what circumstances he had given such an assurance to Medha Patekar, what are the reasons behind it ? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RATILAL VARMA : This question is related to the people of Gujarat. We want that Government should make a statement in the House (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Thank you. Mr. A. Charles.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Whatever you have said, it is out of the way. It is enough.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I am sorry, you cannot expect an immediate reply from the Government. Please resume your seat. Mr. A. Charles.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RATILAL VARMA : The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is present in the House. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Dileep Bhai Sanghani, this is very bad; this is very very bad. It is impossible. You cannot expect any reply from the Government unless you give a prior notice.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : It is not only the people of Gujarat, but the people of Rajasthan, Maharashtra etc. are also not happy with the situation.

SHRI RATILAL VARMA : The Minister wants to say something.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : If you were to sit there, can you answer their question immediately ?

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Anna Joshi, you are raising issues which are not proper—I am very much sorry—violating the rules of the House is not very good.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Kashiram Rana, whatever you wanted to say, you have said; it has been brought to the notice of the Government. The Government will make the necessary arrangement. Your purpose has been served.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI GABHAJI MANGAJI THAKORE : This question relates to millions of people of our state. We are their representatives. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RATILAL VARMA : Central Government has already done injustice in the matter of Tribunal. At that time also it was said that review would not be done but now a very wrong step has been taken by announcing it. For how many years this review will be carried out ?

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Rana, you could have given a notice. Have you given a notice ?

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI GABHAJI MANGAJI THAKORE : The Government has given a commitment to Medha Patekar. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I honestly request you to take your seats. Whatever you wanted to say, you have said it.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH) : Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I respect the sentiments expressed by the hon. Members. I will convey this to the hon. Minister for Parliamentary Affairs, who is looking after this matter. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

DR. K. D. JESWANI (Kheda) : The Minister should give us some information in this regard today before evening. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RATILAL VARMA : Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, when Minister is expected to come in the House and apprise us in this regard. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You wanted a response from the hon. Minister. The hon. Minister has responded to your request, now it is your duty to get yourself satisfied with that. Please do not go beyond this limitation.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I am sorry to say you are absolutely taking away the time of the House. With great pain I have to say this.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have to say, you are unnecessarily causing inconvenience to the Chair.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Rana, you are such a senior member. You have brought it to the notice of the Government and the Government has taken a notice of it, now you please take your seat.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI GABHAJI MANGAJI THAKORE : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have to reply to the people of Gujarat. Kindly inform us when the Miniser is expected to come. A clarification needs to be given in this matter. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let the House to proceed further.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I need not tell what you have to do.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI GABHAJI MANGAJI THAKORE : Mr. Deputy Speaker, we do not have time to give a notice in advance as we got this information only an hour back. Mr. Deputy Speaker. Sir, our... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Yes, Mr. Charles please speak.

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum) : If you allow me to speak... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHAMAD) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we will convey the feelings of the hon. Members to the Minister of Water Resources Shri Vidya Charan Shukla. It has to be decided by him as to what answer is to be given and when. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The hon. Minister is assuring you again and again, what more do you want ?

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM NAIK : Whatever has been told by the hon. Minister just now does not support it. But what the hon. Members have said that they are giving half an hour time to the Government, I think is correct and within that span of time the Government should clarify the position to some extent. Somebody is prepared to take 'Jal-Samadhi', but the Members here are not informed and suddenly the Government starts talking about review instead. We request to be informed as to what has been decided by the Government.

SHRI RATILAL VARMA : If it is to be done. (*Interruptions*) We will also take 'Jal-Samadhi'.

[*English*]

We are going to die for our Gujarat and for our people.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER You give some time.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI GABHAJI MANGAJI THAKORE : How will we face our people in Gujarat when we go there ? (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : What will happen ? Nothing will happen. Why do you unnecessarily worry ?

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You cannot compel us like this. Shri Mukul Wasnik, you convey this to the hon. Minister of Water Resources.

Anyhow, we will be here up to six O'clock. Let us see.

14.12 *hrs.*

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE : DISAPPROVAL OF RECOVERY OF DEBTS DUE TO BANKS AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS ORDINANCE AND RECOVERY OF DEBTS DUE TO BANKS AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS BILL— Contd.

[*English*]

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum) : The country is facing a series of problems, after the scam has broken out. The whole economy of this country in a way has been shaken and even the confidence of the common man in the functioning of the nationalised banks is now broken. So, it is with some concern and anguish that I am participating in the present Bill which is now before the House. Banking is a business and there can be no difference of opinion that whatever is given as a loan will have to be repaid with interest as per the agreement, on the due date because the repayment of the amount is the basis of the functioning of the bank. Nobody will dispute that. To that extent, I support the Bill and I note from the Statement of facts that the Bill has been brought forward to fulfil one of the recommendations of the Narasimham Committee.

In paragraph 16 of the Narasimham Committee Report, it has been stated—

> "The delays that characterise our legal system have resulted in the blocking of a significant portion of the funds of banks and DFIS in unproductive assets, the value of which deteriorate with the passage of time."

In that paragraph it has been clearly laid down that unless this amount is repaid within the time the whole banking operations will be defeated.

Actually in the Narasimham Committee there are a number of recommendations and I would plead with hon. Minister that we should have another impartial full-fledged discussion on the total impact on the economy in case all the recommendations of the Narasimhan Committee are implemented. There are many recommendations that will have very far-reaching consequences.

The recommendation in paragraph 17 is as follows :

"For this purpose, the Committee proposes the establishment, if necessary by special legislation, of an Assets Reconstruction Fund which could take over from the banks and financial institutions a portion of the bad and doubtful debts at a discount, the level of discount being determined by independent auditors on the basis of clearly stipulated guidelines."

The next sentence is, I am afraid, a very very dangerous recommendation. It says :

"The ARF should be provided with special powers for recovery somewhat broader than those contained in Sections 29—32 of the State Financial Corporation's Act, 1951."

There are various elements in this. For example, what are the norms to decide a debt as a bad debt and what is the process of recovery ? There are certain concessions and discounts to be given but what is the proportion ? Section 29 of the State Financial Corporations Act itself, I feel, is very arbitrary and gives undue powers to the Recovery Officer. I am mainly concerned with the very small, tiny industrial units which have availed very small amounts of loan but which have become sick because of a number of reasons. In Trivandrum I know, there are thousands of such units. I have a small association of small industries, most of which are sick. Their problem is that they took Rs. 20,000 or Rs. 50,000. I am talking only about small, tiny units. I know this Bill is brought forward for the recovery of amounts over Rs. ten lakh. This ten lakh rupees is not the amount that has been taken or borrowed from the bank. It is the total amount, including the accumulated interest. I shall come to that shortly. I will not take much time of the House but it is with greatest anguish that I am presenting this case before this august House because the whole tiny industrial sector is now in shambles. A man who has taken Rs. 50,000 for a small business, unfortunately for one or the other reasons, his unit may become sick. It may be either due to lack of raw material, or due to problem of marketing or due to lack of electricity or because of delay in getting the clearance or because of lack of working capital. All that he has is about five cents of land or a small hut which has been pledged for taking the loan of Rs. 50,000. Now, at the end of six months, he has to pay one instalment which he was unable to pay. The second instalment also he was unable to pay. Finally, at the end of one year, whatever interest is there, that is added to the capital. It is a vicious circle. Rs. 50,000 loan which was taken becomes Rs. one and a half lakh at the end of five or six years. He might have paid about Rs. 25,000 in small instalments but that has all been credited towards the interest portion. So, the whole capital portion is there and the interest is also there. Finally, the bank will go to the court of law. There is a decree for about Rs. one and a half lakh. The Recovery Officer comes to take possession of all his property. This Section 29 gives undue powers to them. One fine morning he comes with the police, even without notice, and they take further steps for the sale and auction of everything and the small family will be on the streets. I feel that this arbitrary power cannot be given to a lower Revenue Officer and I feel that suitable amendments will have to be made to section 29 of the Act so that natural justice can be given to these persons.

The Narasimhan Committee Report says that when ARF is formed for the collection of bad debts, powers similar to that of section 29 should be given to them.

I request that action has to be taken for amending the arbitrary nature of section 29 of the Financial Corporations Act.

I am now coming straightway to the present Bill. In the Definitions part, clause 1(4) says that the provisions of this Act shall not apply... (*Interruptions*).

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Charles, hardly ten minutes are available to everybody.

SHRI A. CHARLES : Sir, this is a very important Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The point is that there are others also to participate in this debate.

SHRI A. CHARLES : I agree, Sir. I will talk only on on three or four relevant clauses of the Bill and not go out of the Bill.

Sir, I do not want the banks to be like the blade companies and like Shylock. The banks have to fulfil the social obligations and that was the very basis of nationalisation of banks.

My friend Mr. Chacko was not here when I started speaking on the Bill. I said, I am only for the small tiny industrial sector with less than Rs. 50,000.

Now coming to Clause 1, sub-clause 4, it says :

> "The provisions of this Act shall not apply where the amount of debt due to any bank or financial institution... is less than ten lakh rupees...."

So, when the amount is Rs. 10 lakhs, there is a feeling that he is a rich man and why cannot action be taken against him because he has ten lakhs of rupees. But that is not the case. As I told you earlier, somebody takes Rs. 2 lakhs and the industry becomes sick which may not be due to his fault. Even if it is not his fault, he has to pay the money. I do not dispute that the money shall not be given. But there are cases which are out of control of that small entrepreneur. These two lakhs of rupees, within a period of six to seven years, become Rs. 10 lakhs. When that amount becomes Rs. 10 lakhs, it comes within the ambit of this Bill. But what is the amount actually taken ? The amount actually taken is Rs. 2 lakhs.

I am glad that Shri Manmohan Singh is here. I know the concern he has for the poor. With that feeling, I am suggesting and making a request to him as to why cannot he change the whole concept of this; instead of saying Rs. 10 lakhs as debt due, you can say all those who have taken Rs. 5 lakhs and above as loan come in its ambit. That is a much more bigger amount. If somebody has taken five lakhs of rupees he is almost coming in tiny sector. He is in a comfortable position. But a person who has taken Rs. 2 lakhs, which ultimately become Rs. 10 lakhs, comes within the ambit of this legislation, what is the net result ? Finally it goes to the Tribunal. The Tribunal gives its judgement. If it decides that the whole amount shall be given, then he has a right to appeal.

Sir, on page 5 of the Act, Section 21 it says about appeal. I feel it is simply cruel. I quote :

> "...such appeal shall not be entertained by the Appellate Tribunal unless such person has deposited with the Appellate Tribunal seventy five per cent of the amount of debt so due from him as determined by the Tribunal under section 19".

If he has to remit 75 per cent of Rs. 10 lakhs in one instalment for the appeal to be given, and if he has that amount he will simply write off the whole loan and start a new business. Sir, kindly permit me a few more minutes. I will tell one example of this.

There is a case at a place 10 kilometres outside Trivandrum, in my constituency where there was a most powerful contractor. Ten years back he got a contract for Rs. 80 lakhs. He was a well-known contractor. But I am not going to disclose his name because the poor man has committed suicide one month back. There was some problem; there was a great flood; one bridge was washed away and he had incurred huge losses. He sold all his property except his own house at a small site and a building where he was staying. He sold everything and cleared it out. He went to arbitration. He got an Award for Rs. 6 lakhs. Six years back he was fighting to get the six lakhs of rupees from the Government which they have refused to pay because of technical reasons. At that time all that he had taken was Rs. 3 lakhs only. At the end of eleventh year, this amount of Rs. 3 lakhs became Rs. 13 lakhs. The matter went to the court; there was a decree to auction his house for Rs. 13 lakhs. He had to get Rs. 6 lakhs, seven years ago. If that amount was given to him then, he would have paid the amount back, and he would have had Rs. 3 lakhs in his pocket so that he may start new industry. Sir, a day prior to the auction, in his huge building, he hanged himself and died. It was three weeks ago, in my constituency.

This is the fact of poor people who approach the banks. If you say that 75 per cent of the entire due is to be paid for filling the appeal, it is not correct. Sir, there is a proviso and I quote :

"Provided that the Appellate Tribunal may, for reasons to be recorded in writing, waive or reduce the amount to be deposited under this section."

Sir, when you are bringing forward such a legislation, kindly do not give such vast discretionary powers to small officers. After all, it is a statutory thing. The appellate authority, I know, is of the status of a High Court Judge. Just think of a situation of a man who has to pay Rs. 75 lakhs. If he has to pay Rs. 75 lakhs as 75 per cent of the debt amount, who could go and appeal ? If the appellate authority is capable waiving the entire amount under this sub-clause, it will pave the way for corruption. I am sure it is a very bad thing and I would request that 75 per cent of the debt amount should be reduced to 10 per cent.

I also anticipate another contingency. Suppose the appellate authority revokes or sets aside the orders of the Tribunal, what would happen to these Rs. 75 lakhs estimated at the time of appeal as 75 per cent of the debt amount ? After all, the appellate authoriy is not a rubber stamp to approve whatever is decided by the Tribunal. The 75 per cent of the amount must be in the bank. What are you going to do with that ? You may say that the amount can be repaid. But you don't realise the problem of a man who is under a debt trap, how he would be able to make the 75 per cent of the debt for filing an appeal. So, this clause is not acceptable. I request the hon. Minister to bring forward an amendment to protect those who are under the debt trap.

Sir coming to clause 25, I may say that this is a very cruel clause.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please conclude. If more time is given to you, every body demands more time. Really you have raised a very relevant point. Please conclude.

SHRI A. CHARLES : I am raising a more relevant point. Clause 25 says :

"The Recovery Officer shall, on receipt of the copy of the certificate under sub-section (7) of section 19, proceed to recover the amount of debt specified in the certificate by one or more of the following modes namely :—

(a) attachment and sale of the movable or immovable property of the defendant;

(b) arrest of the defendant and his detention in prison;"

You know the case of a man who has taken Rs. two lakhs. Later on it has come to Rs. ten lakhs. He is now a pauper. The Recovery Officer comes and attached his property and finally the man is arrested by an officer of the rank of Tehsildar. I cannot understand how such a very illegal legislation can be passed. Sir, you are a very capable advocate. Just think of the situation.

There are several clauses in the Bill. Clause 22 says that the procedure of CCP need not be followed. It is all a summary procedure. Not even the natural justice is given. So, I do not think care has been taken in drafting the Bill. So, I request the Government to have an open mind and bring forward necessary amendments. I am sorry to say that the Narasimhan Committee Report has not been discussed in this august House. In that Report there are references in more than 10 places that all the problems of the bank are because of political interference. Sir, Rs. 5000 crores of the scam amount has been taken away by the brokers and they have looted the country. May I know what type of political interference is there in the whole scam ? I take strong objection to it.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Whatever you have said, the hon. Minister has noted down. Please conclude.

SHRI A. CHARLES : I request the hon. Finance Minister to have an open mind and bring a suitable amendment keeping in view the feelings and the anguish expressed by all the Members. So, please bring suitable amendments so that necessary changes will be brought and justice

can be meted out to those who go to the bank.

Sir, with these suggestion I wholeheartedly support the Bill.

[*Translation*]

SHRI CHETAN P. S. CHAUHAN (Amroha) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the 'Recovery of Debts Due To Banks and Financial Institutions Bill' introduced by the Government. I had asked a question in September, 91 whether the Central Government proposed to constitute any special court to do something about the non-recovery of bank loans and sickness being crept in industries. It was told at that time that Tiwari Committee had already set up and its report was awaited and a special court would be set up only after the report of the committee was received. This Bill introduced here has been delayed by a few years. Had the Bill been introduced by the Government some 5 to 8 years earlier the outstanding Banks' loans could have been recovered. I would like to submit to the hon. Finance Minister, that would be better if he listens to me patiently and attentively.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He is hearing with rapt attention.

[*Translation*]

SHRI CHETAN P. S. CHAUHAN : The data submitted by the Government reveal that the public banks have filed around 15 lakh cases and financial institutions have filed around 304 cases. Government says that about Rs. 5600 crores are involved in these cases. But a study of the available data shows that the amount involved is not Rs. 5600 crores, but it is around Rs. 20,000 crores. In addition to this, the non-performing assets have also increased to 14.16%. However it is learnt unofficially that the non-performing assets have increased to 40% and the recovery position is worsening day by day, be it agricultural sector, small scale industry or large industry. It is a very serious matter.

Sir, an Asset Reconstruction Fund was proposed to be created according to the report submitted by Narasimhan Committee It is not known whether the Government had considered it or not, however it was vehemently opposed because it was claimed by the Government that the proposed Asset Reconstruction Fund would not only take care of the recovery position but would also take care of the requirement of working capital and rehabilitation of the Industries.

[*Translation*]

Since funds were not available with the Banks and with the Government, this reconstruction fund could not be set up.

Sir, I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that merely the setting up of tribunal will not serve the purpose. At the same time we will have to see the reasons behind this sickness. In my opinion this sickness is just a beginning. Those who started distributing loans by organising loan Melas were responsible for this beginning. Thereafter, a scheme of waving off loans upto Rs. 10,000 was announced and the people made a habit of not repaying the loans. And it is the only reason that the number of wilful defaulters is increasing. It is a very serious matter, If the wilful defaulters are not checked the matter can take a serious turn.

Sir, the another issue which will have to be looked into by the Government and the Ministry of Finance is the practice of diverting the loan income from investment which will have to be checked. The money is not being utilised properly. This is also one of the main reasons. Secondly, the appraisal of loan proposals submitted to Banks is not done in the right earnest. This is the biggest reason behind misuse of loans. This is also because of lack of supervisory staff. I am a member of the Standing Committee of Finance. This issue was discussed there. I have worked for thirty years in a Bank. From my own experience, I would like to state that attention will have to be paid to the aspect of supervision. There is shortage of supervisory staff in the branches and regional offices, that is why the Supervisory work suffers. That is why the loans become sick. On the issue of sickness, I

would like to point out one thing and quote :

[*English*]

"Sickness often pays. Sick industrial units are granted various concessions and further advances under rehabilitation packages on soft terms besides waiver or writing off of past debts. The concessions are so attracted that even healthy units are tempted to go sick in order to avail the benefits. In a recent study conducted by one of the nationalised banks regarding various reasons for the units turning sick, it has been found that wilful default of borrowers account for nearly 31 per cent of the units turning sick."

[*Translation*]

It is a very serious matter. The hon. Minister of Finance should pay due attention to it. One thing noteworthy is that the quality of advances is deteriorating day by day. The first thing is that the Branch Managers of the branches which give loans are not trained and their attitude is also not proper. Documents become time barred. For instance, if a loanee acknowledges in writing a suit should be filed within three years in this regard. This is the reason that money cannot be recovered thereafter. The Branch Managers of Nationalised Banks should be retrained and they should be strictly instructed that documents do not become time-barred. Law of limitation also needs a slight change.

[*English*]

The law should be amended. The law restricts the bank to file suit within three years.

[*Translation*]

Steps should be taken to further enhance the period of three years.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : They are having legal advisers and they obtain legal advice. They will look into all those documents. So, the question of time limit does not arise.

[*Translation*]

SHRI CHETAN P. S. CHAUHAN : I would like to state one thing regarding staff. The good workers are not given any incentive. That is why the sickness is increasing more and more. Clerks, Officers and Executives are not given any additional increment or some other incentive. No special increment or out of turn promotion is given to those who succeede in making handsome recovery. Previously good and qualified persons used to join Banking industry, but now we see the gradual deterioration. Industrious and honest persons are going to other sectors.

This is also a great danger. I would like to suggest that the two track system should be introduced and the persons who are industrious and have ambition to rise should be put under a separate system and avenues of promotions for them should be increased and the persons who do not want promotions and want to remain where they are should be put under a separate one. There is no transfer policy in Banks at present. This is also a discouragement.

The Narasimhan Committee had talked about the promotion of multifunctional Organisation. What is Government doing about that ? In its report the Committee had suggested that all the Banks including State Bank should constitute an organisation which should pay attention to recovery and rehabilitation and towards providing working capital to viable units. The Government should think over it also.

The issue of formation of National Rural Bank of India has been lying pending for a long time. The Regional Rural Banks are incurring loss of Rs. one crore every day. This has been discussed time and again. It has been discussed with the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Minister of Finance too. I would like to request the Government to announce that National Rural Bank would be set up at the earliest. The Government is also thinking of merging these Rural Banks with nationalised Banks. I would like to point out that the entire concept of setting up of Rural Banks was to provide loans to farmers in rural areas through these banks, which will be defeated by merging rural banks into nationalised banks. Therefore, the National Rural Bank should be set up at the earliest so that there no more loss is

suffered in future. I have objection in respect of clause 21 of the Bill introduced by you.

[*English*]

"*Clause* 21 :

Where an appeal is preferred by any person from whom the amount of debt is due to as bank of a financial institution or a consortium of banks or financial institutions, such appeal shall not be entertained by the Appellate Tribunal unless such person has deposited with the Appellate Tribunal 75 per cent of the amout of debt so due from him as determined by the Tribunal under Section 19."

[*Translation*]

I would like to point out to the hon. Minister that a person who is in a position to repay 75 per cent amout of debt will immediately go to the Bank to put forward a compromise proposal. Therefore, this percentage may be reduced from 75 to 25. The Government has authorised the Appellate Tribunal to waive the loans, but the customers should not be asked to go to the Appellate Authority. Therefore, I request the Government to reduce it from 75 per cent to 25 per cent.

It has not been mentioned in this Bill as to how much interest should be charged on it. When the case is referred to the Tribunal would the Government impose contractual charges or would charge 6 per cent as suggested by it earlier ? The two things are also needed to be clarified i.e. whether the interest would be charged on it or the case would be referred to the Tribunal ?

In the end I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that you have stated that over 10 lakh cases will be referred to the said Tribunal, but you are recently giving permission only for 2 lakh cases. Therefore, I fear that this tribunal is not reduced to a Labour Court or Civil Court and its very purpose may not be defeated. The case should not take 10 or 15 years to be settled. Otherwise the entire purpose will be defeated.

I would also like to suggest that with the setting up of the Tribunal, the Banks should also be instructed to pay greater attention to all the loan Units. The small cases need not be referred to the Tribunal.

I would also like to reiterate that due attentoin should be given to provide adequate incentive to the staff. The last but not the least, I would like to mention that in nationalised Banks the Headquarters, Zonal Offices, Regional Offices are heavily staffed whereas there is paucity of staff in the branches which results in unsatisfactory service to customers. On account of shortage of staff documents are not renewed, no visits or inspections of the godowns are made nor any unit is inspected. I, therefore, would like to request the hon. Minister to provide maximum possible staff to the branches. With these words, I welcome this Bill.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, after the serious bank scam, the Government has woken up to recover its debts due to the banks. Therefore, it has issued an ordinance for setting up a tribunal. But from the Bill brought to replace the ordinance it appears that the intention of the Government is not clear because whatever has been expressed publicly is not going to be fulfilled. The Government is saying that matters involving the amount of more than Rs. ten lakh will be presented before the tribunal and in special cases the matters involving upto even Rs. two lakh can also be reviewed by this tribunal. The number of cases will increase enormously, if this provision is made.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, what will be the composition of this tribunal ? Will it be a judge of a status of a district judge or of a status of a High Court. Who will form the tribunal. If it is one member tribunal there would be no possibility of disposal of the cases early. So I would like to suggest that the Government should consider to increase the number of members of the tribunal. More tribunals should be constituted, so that matters could be decided and solved easily and early. Now I would like to say something about the powers of the Tribunals. I think that the Tribunal would have a power to appoint a Recovery Officer and the Chapter V deals with the powers of the Recovery Officer.

[*English*]

The Recovery Officer shall, on receipt of the copy of the certificate under subsection (7) of Section 19, proceed to recover the amount of debt specified in the certificate by one or more of the following modes, namely :—

(a) attachment and sale of the moveable or immovable property of the dependent ;

(b) arrest of the defendant and his detention in prison;

(c) appointing a receiver for the management of the movable or immovable properties of the defendant.

[*Translation*]

At present this power of detention under CRPC and IPC has been given to some particular officials. The provisions of CRPC are approved by the Parliament after a discussion and if the tribunal delegates the powers of various sections of CRPC to any of its Recovery Officer to arrest or to send to jail and to attach the property of the defaulting party, then in my view it would be quite contrary to the existing laws of the country. So I suggest that a legal advice should be taken in this regard. What will be the status of the Recovery Officer appointed by the Tribunal ? Will he be of a rank of sub-divisional Magistrate, Special Magistrate or 1st Class Magistrate, or the Tribunal would be free to appoint any ordinary person who in the eyes of tribunal is suitable for the job ? And in my opinion, if you like him to act under various provisions of CRPC then it will invite a lot of litigation and it would not be possible for you to do this job. Therefore, it seems necessary to seek legal advice in the matter. I think if you do so, you will go against the Rules and Laws and moreover it is not under its jurisdiction. The powers of tribunals are vested in some particular officials under CPC. You cannot misuse the powers of CPC by treating it an Act of one department in the name of a Tribunal. For that purpose, all the sections of CPC, CRPC and IPC will have to be amended. Unless you do it, the Tribunals cannot function effectively. So, I think that this ordinance has been issued in a hurry to satisfy the common people who had turned against the Government due to the Bank Scam; but this should be reviewed seriously.

The second thing is that this bank scam has adversely affected the credibility and reliability of banks to such an extent that the public believe on each and every statistics given by the newspapers etc. in respect of the amount involved in the Bank Scam. Just now my friend was saying that amount involved is Rs. 20 thousand crores, I say that it is ten thousand crore. Dr. Manmohan Singh says that it is 5600 crore and if you say this amount is Rs. 6000 crore, no one will object to it. This shows the level of reliability of the Government ? The Finance Minister time and again emphasizes the need for improvement in the functioning of banks. I would like to know about the measures to be taken to restore the reliability or to re-establish the credibility of banks. In my opinion the Government would have to take the country into confidence and to assure the country that the total amount of money would positively be recovered through this Tribunal. Just now Mr. George was blaming that there was political encouragement behind it. I agree to it hundred per cent. I need not say much as to who is encouraging it. A video film had already been exhibited throughout the country on this issue in which a Minister was involved, and this was revealed by his cabinet colleague. I need not name the institutions which have received money from them. When this issue was raised in the Parliament, this House was assured that the money taken from Harshad Mehta would be returned but what about the money got from Ruiya, will you return that money too ? Till date that institution has not revealed this thing before the nation. We need not tell this point to the people making enquiry into the Bank Scam. The whole country knows it. Now the only question is how to restore the reliability and credibity of Banks. This could be done only through the strong will power of the Government. The Government has information that needy and eligible persons do not get loans even after

signing the agreement and completing all the formalities while the ineligible persons get the money from banks immediately by giving bribe. It has become an eternal truth of today. There are several financial institutions like Financial Corporation, Industrial Development Corporation etc. through whom the agreement of setting up factories is signed. They get permission, funds, and electricity for setting up the factory and when they require working capital from banks, the banks start imposing several conditions. Even after fulfilling all the conditions and completing all the formalities the banks do not provide working capital and due to lack of it the factory starts becoming sick and then the question of recovery of the capital involved in setting up of the factory arises. The Government has every mean for making the recovery from the small factories. The persons against whom small amount of money is outstanding, can be put in jail for 14 days by the orders of the district Magistrate or the Sub-divisional Magistrate. On the other hand there is a Modi Factory in Uttar Pradesh, which owes Rs. 175 crore to Punjab National Bank, but the Bank dares not to recover the money from it. The Sub-divisional Magistrate who has been made responsible for the recovery, pays regular visit to the owner, so how he can dare to recover the amount.

On the other hand there is a unit named 'Progressive Construction' which owes Rs. 150 crore and the Hyderabad High Court says that no such unit exists in records. Sons and daughters of big political leaders and Government officials are the members of its Governing body, so despite the exposure, the Government is not in a position to recover the outstanding amount of Rs. 150 crore. Recovery of dues depends on the will power of the Government. The persons eligible for getting bank loans, despite completing all the formalities including guarantee clause and have the will and resources to repay the loan amount, are deprived of bank loans and ineligible persons get loan immediately. On the whole this has created a peculiar problem before us. All the organisations of bank employees and their representatives are also the members of the Governing body of banks. They have their representatives in Directorate too. The representatives of bank managers and employees also take part in it. I was very much surprised to know how these banks were being looted for the last one and a half year and none of the representatives of employees, who constitute the Governing body has raised the issue before the country and the public. This is a serious issue. We have to answer the question-whether it is enough to appoint representatives of banks in the Directorate as Directors to improve the working of banks. This has put a big question mark so it should be reviewed seriously.

Narsimham Committee has emphasized the need to make the banks of this country more competitive. Through you, I would like to say that at the time of banks nationalisations. Some objectives were laid down. The main reason for nationalisation of banks was the welfare of the weaker and backward people in our society. Earlier the banks in India were not providing financial assistance to the common people and as a result of it the poor people were unable to set up their own profession to earn their livelihood with their small capital. So providing assistance to the weaker sections and backward people is a sort of social service of the banks towards them. It is a vast field. But I am very sorry to say that instead of checking the irregularities being committed in the Banks and improving the functioning of the Banks, the Government has started giving licences indiscriminately to the foreign banks which are looting this country's money and taking it to their own countries.

15.00 hrs.

The Finance Ministry is not in a position to impose Indian laws on these banks. I would like to request the Finance Minister to make arrangements for imposing Indian Laws on the foreign banks also in the same way as are being imposed on Indian Banks. The State Bank of India is also claiming that its profit has increased and this year too to will be able to increase its profit by 21-22 per cent. How this profit has increased ? Banks are

slowly doing away with social service part and by doing so, they say that they are earning profit.

Common man's money is deposited in these banks. A part of that money should be given to the poor section of the country to earn their livelihood. The representatives engaged in this field, specially the representatives of the regional Banks have staged dharna here. This question has been raised in this House several times and it has been emphasised that to improve their condition, we must creat a National Bank for them. But you say that as they are running in huge losses, you are not ready to take over them. Actually, regional Banks are related much to the rural people. We have entrusted the big responsibility of social service to them. They are fulfilling that responsibility of social service. Therefore, to meet their losses and to streamline their functioning a National Bank for these banks should be set up and the working of these Banks should be improved. With these suggestions, I conclude. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI GABHAJI MANGAJI THAKORE (Kapadwanj) : The Minister is sitting in the Central Hall. (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI BHAWNA CHIKHLIA (Junagarh) : We want certain clarifications about Narmada.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Any how, you have told the Minister.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You have also made some efforts to make the hon. Minister come over here.

(*Interruptions*)

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER : The Miniter may come here, I think.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please sit down now.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let us wait for some time.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI GABHAJI MANGAJI THAKORE : It is a question of 4 crore people. We request all the hon. Members to cooperate. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Have you met the hon. Minister ?

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RATILAL VARMA : He is in the Central Hall. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let us see.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let the Parliamentary Minister come here.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RATILAL VARMA : We are distressed. The Chief Minister of Gujarat had assured the people of Gujarat. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let the Parliamenatry Minister come here.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Varmaji, Let us wait for some time.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let us wait for 10 minutes by which time the hon. Minister will come. (*Interruptions*)

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nobody has made any commitment.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Anyhow, you have intimated your grievances. It is passed on to the concerned Minister.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur) : What is the policy of Government in regard to Gujarat. Please make it clear. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI BHAWNA CHIKHLIA : Hon. Minister is sitting outside. He should make a statement in the House. ...(*Interruptions*) We want a clarification from the Government about Narmada.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let us hope the hon. Minister comes to the House and says something.

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North) : This matter is very important. This issue is being raised for the last three days in Parliament. Now, the Government is not giving any assurance to the Parliament but is making some agreement outside. Is this House not worthy enough that the Government should inform us ? (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let us wait.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA : Why does he make a statement outside. This House will reconsider this matter.

SHRI RATILAL VARMA : Farmers there are dying for want of water. There has been no rain in Saurashtra. Situation there is very grave. We have already talked much about it. The debate is going on in the entire country. Hon. Minister should give us an assurance and make a statement. (*Interruptions*)

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA : Half an hour has passed but nothing has been said about this.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Who has said that within half-an-hour, they are going to make a statement ?

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nobody has made any commitment.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : That is not accepted.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM NAIK : If it is not accepted, then we would not allow the House to go on like that.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let us wait for 10-15 minutes. Meanwhile the Minister may come here.

[*Translation*]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA : The Minister is making statement outside this House but does not make a statement in the House ? ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA (Surat) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you can tell him that this is a very complicated issue because of which Gujarat is facing serious problem. When he can assure Medha Patekar outside the House, then cannot he give assurance to the Members of Gujarat and Maharashtra here ? Are we of no importance.

(*Interruptions*)

15.09 *hrs.*

At this stage, Shri Ratilal Varma and some hon. Members sat on the floor near the Table of the House. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani) : Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I think this question does not relate only to Gujarat. It is an issue of National importance and dignity of the country. The House should be apprised of the way the World Bank has threatened and the stand taken by Government of India. With this project some States will be less benefited and some will be more benefited. Our coal reserves are dwindling. This project will be quite helpful to us. Wherever ecological problems are being faced, they should be removed but Narmada Project and Tehri Project should continue because it will be against the national interest to stop these project. These should be implemented at the earliest. ... (*Interruptions*) The matter relates to the whole of country. The Minister must say something about it in this House. (*Interrupitons*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Kindly resume your seats.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Raising slogans on the floor of the House is not fair. Secondly, I am making a request to you to resume your seats. Let us wait for some time. Kindly oblige and take your seats.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. C. CHACKO (Trichur) : Sir, a handful of Members cannot hold the House to ransom. We cannot allow such things. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Hon. Members, I am repeatedly requesting you to resume your seats. Mr. Chacko, the House is coming to a normal condition. Kindly exercise your patience.

SHRI P. C. CHACKO : No Sir, that is not the point. They cannot behave in this manner and hold the House to ransom. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

ONE HON. MEMBER : You please call the Minister. Government should reply. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : There is no need to call anyone.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RATILAL VARMA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we would like to know the assurance given by him to Medha Patekar. We would like to know only this, nothing else. (*Interruptions*) We do not know about the assurance given to her whereas everyone outside this House knows about it. (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA : (Junagarh) : The hon Minister should assure. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RATILAL VARMA : We want a clarification. We want to know the assurance given on the issue. ... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : This is unfair. In spite of my repeated requests, you are not showing any restraint. Please go back to your seats. It is not at all fair on your part to behave in this unruly fashion. Please go back to your seats. Mr. Panigrahi, you may please speak on the Bill.

SHRI SRIBALLAY PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : Thank you Sir ... (*Interruptions*)

tions). How can I speak when they are shouting in this manner. Please let me speak on the Bill. (*Interruptions*)

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are ready to obey your every order but kindly ask him to give the clarification.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let the Members go back to their respective seats. Please resume your seats. They are deliberately creating disorder in the House. Such impressions should not be enacted and do not lead to such an impression.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RATILAL VARMA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we just want to know the assurance given to Medha Patekar by the Minister. I would like to know the outcome of the discussion. (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA : The Minister can give assurance outside the House but not in the House (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The thing you are saying has already been said by Shri Varma.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA : We want clarification. (*Interruptions*)

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, he has said outside the House that they will review the matter. He should say the same thing here in the House. Had he said this thing in the House, Members would not have got agitated. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RATILAL VARMA : Sir, the matter relates to four crore people of Gujarat, four States and the farmers of the country. It is related to people dying for want of water and receding rivers. (*Interruptions*)

Question is not of Medha Patekar but of millions of people of Gujarat. (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA : If the hon. Minister can assure people outside the House, then why not here. (*Interruptions*). We want clarification in this House. (*Interruptions*)

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : The whole day cannot be converted into a Zero Hour. You cannot hijack the House. (*Interruptions*)

15.25 *hrs.*

[SHRI RAM NAIK *in the Chair*]

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL VARMA : Sir, if the height of the dam is lowered. Rajasthan will not get the water. (*Interruptions*) What measures the Government is going to take to save Rajasthan. You are with us or not ? (*Interruptions*)

DR. ABRAR AHMED : Several important issues are discussed in this House every day, there is prescribed time for them. But you cannot hijack this House, I strongly object to it. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : If you have expressed your views, then please go to your seat.

SHRI RATILAL VARMA : The hon. Minister had assured. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have made out your point, now let the proceedings of the House go on. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : We are ready to take our seats as per your order. (*Interruptions*) But the Government, should reply to the points raised.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are repeating the same thing. Please take your seat. (*Interruptions*)

DR. ABRAR AHMED : I would convey the sentiments of hon. Members to the Minister of Water Resources, Shri Vidyacharan Shukla. I can say only this. (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA : This assurance was given earlier also.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Minister has said that he will convey your feelings to the concerned Minister. You have expressed your sentiments. Now please take your seats. It is 3.30 P.M. Private Members business will start. Government business is over now. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Minister has said that he will convey your feelings to the Minister of Water Resources. Now, take your seats. It is time now for Private Members' business. The issues of Vananchal and Uttaranchal will be discussed now.

15.33 *hrs.*

(*At this stage, Shri Kashiram Rana and some other hon. Members took their seats.*)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzaffarpur) : The Minister of Law is sitting here. I would like to know as to what happened to the question of going to the court today regarding the Election Commissioner. (*Interruptions*) All right, I will raise the issue after 6 O'Clock.

15.34 *hrs.*

THE COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS TWENTY-THIRD REPORT.

SHRI G. MADE GOWDA (MANDYA) : I beg to move :

"That this House do agree with the Twenty-third Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 4th August, 1993."

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That this House do agree with the Twenty-third Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 4th August 1993."

The motion was adopted

15.35 *hrs.*

RESOLUTION RE : CREATION OF NEW STATES OF UTTARANCHAL AND VANANCHAL—Contd.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House shall now take up further discussion of the following Resolution moved by Shri Jagat Vir Singh Drona on the 5th March, 1993 :

"This House recommends to the Government that in order to remove the backwardness of the States of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, two new separate States to be called Uttaranchal, comprising hilly regions of Uttar Pradesh and Vananchal, comprising Chhotta Nagpur and Santhal Paragana regions of Bihar be created."

Shri Chinmayanand Swami—not present.
Dr. G. L. Kanaujia—not present.

Now the Minister may reply.

MAJ. GEN. (Retd.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (Garhwal) : Sir, I have to move my amendment !

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have already spoken and have moved the amendment earlier. So you need not move it again. The Minister may reply please.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. M. SAYEED) : Mr. Chairman Sir, this Resolution which was moved by my esteemed friend Shri Jagat Vir Singh Drona.. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Minister, there is one more speaker. Would you mind ?

[*Translation*]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (AJmer) : Hon. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I earnestly support the resolution moved by Shri Jagat Vir Singh Dorna on formation of Uttaranchal and Vananchal States. I am very sorry to say that this Government has been unable to fulfill the aspirations of the people and it has become insensitive to such an extent that it does not know the expectations of people and reasons for creation of Vananchal and Uttaranchal. The Government has not paid any attention to the people of these areas, which have been exploited continuously since independence. The result is that small States in the country have developed speedily but smaller areas in big States have been ignored and have not developed to the desired extent.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Uttar Pradesh is the most populous State. 16 per cent of total population of the country lives here. 10 per cent of total population of the country lives in Bihar. Thus total population of both the States constitutes 26 to 27 per cent of the country's centre population. Both the States have fertile land, irrigated by the Ganges. In the lap of Himalayas, the innocent people or hilly area of Uttar Pradesh have been ignored continuously. The money allocated for development of the State has either been spent in Western part of the State or the development of big cities. Although four Chief Ministers belonging to the Congress party hailed from this hilly area, even then people from the Uttaranchal area have been treated stepmotherly, and the Government has not taken any measures to solve their problems. The Government has not paid any heed to the demands of the people from this hilly area regarding arrangement for irrigation facilities, agricultural and industrial development in the area. Thus discontentment among people of this area kept on brewing. The same condition prevails in Bihar also. Minerals are produced by Vananchal area. It consists of the biggest forests of the country and it also provides the maximum coal to the country. Whether it is Hazaribagh, Jharia, Giridih or any other area of Vananchal, these are all rich in minerals. When popular Government under the Chief Ministership of Shri Kalyan Singh was formed, B.J.P., respecting the feelings of the people had promised to come out Uttaranchal Pradesh from Uttar Pradesh. The Kalyan Singh Government got passed a resolution unanimously in the Legislative Assembly to this effect and sent the same to the Central Government as the Central Government is of the view that issue of formation of a separate State could be considered by it only after it receives a unanimous approval of such a resolution by the Legislative Assembly. Now, B.J.P. Government has fulfilled this formality also. It has sent a proposal, approved by the Legislative Assembly to accord the status of separate State to Uttaranchal area on the same line as has been done in the case of Himachal Pradesh. But the above resolution seems to have been thrown to the dustbin. By manipulating its majority, the Government is playing with the emotions of the common man and trying to supress this demand.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to request the Government and the

Home Minister, who is also present here, to respect the sentiments of people there, Vananchal should be formed in Bihar. In the name of Jharkhand Movement, several political parties have emerged in that area, like Jharkhand Mukti Morcha, Soren Group, Mandal Group etc. and these parties are creating division among the tribals, Congress Party is doing all this and just to maintain its majority in the House, it is giving false assurance for the formation of Jharkhand. My party says that whether it is West Bengal, Orissa or Madhya Pradesh, no separate State should be formed without the wishes of the people. The tribal area in Bihar, which is known as Vananchal, should be accorded the status of separate State, as it is the demand of its people. This demand is appropriate in every way. Earlier, Punjab was a big State but later on it was reorganised and Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Punjab and Chandigarh were carved out from it. Now all are competing with each other in progress. In the same way, ir north-east part of the country, small State have been formed on the demand of people there and these are being developed speedily. Through you, I, therefore, urge upon the Government to constitute a new State Re-organisation Commission to review the demands of the people. The hilly area of Uttar Pradesh has been ignored and exploited politically for quite a long time.

This area is rich in natural resources. Water is in abundance in the rivers, which can be used for generation of electricity. A separate Uttranchal State must be carved out. Likewise, all developmental work is at stand still in Bihar also. Its tribal areas are in very backward state, which requires the formation of the Vananchal State there. I would urge upon my friends from Janata Dal to support the demand of Vananchal. I would request my friends from the Congress that they should rise above the party lines and judge the feelings of the nation and work towards the formation of the Uttranchal and Vananchal States in order to make these backward people free from exploitation. You should accept it unanimously and while replying, the hon. Minister should make an announcement to their effect that Uttranchal and Vananchal States will be formed and the Government will itself bring a Bill for this purpose. You will not be able to suppress the demand of Uttranchal and Vananchal in the coming days.

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. M. SAYEED) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, first of all, I want to dispel the impression created by many speakers, particularly from the opposite bench, that this Government is not honouring the feelings of the people, the emotions of the people and the sentiments of the people. This Government came here for respecting the emotions of the people, for respecting the feelings of the people and not for discording the respect of the people. I just wanted to dispel that feeling created by certain Members while participating in this Resolution. (*Interruptions*)

MAJ. GEN. (Retd.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (Garhwal) : We will see how you react now. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. M. SAYEED : Sir, this Resolution has two parts. One is concerning with Uttaranchal State and the other one is concerning with Vananchal State. Let me read this Resolution. It says :

> "This House recommends to the Government that in order to ensure balanced development of the States of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar and to meet the aspirations of a large number of people, a separate State to be called 'Uttaranchal' comprising of eight hill districts of Uttar Pradesh be carved out and a separate State to be called 'Vananchal' comprising of Chhotta Nagpur and Santhal Paragana regions in South Bihar be carved."

Sir, in this connection, for the first time probably in free India, one of the States had passed a unanimous Resolution to carve out another State within. A Resolution was passed in Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly on 12th August 1991 urging the Central Government to create a separate State 'Uttaranchal' comprising Kumaun and Garhwal divisions of Uttar Pradesh, consisting of eight hill districts

of Nainital, Pithoragarh, Almora, Uttar Kasi, Pauri Garhwal, Tehri Garhwal, Chamoli and Dehra Dun. This was conveyed by a letter to the Union Home Minister by the then Chief Minister on 17-12-1991. After the receipt of this letter, certain information was sought from the Government. There was no reply for a long time. Again the Home Minister himself wrote a letter. A message was received after repeated reminders... *(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI (Jhansi) : Let the hon. Minister may apprise us about the information asked for ?

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is not proper to interrupt in between. If you want any clarification, then let the Minister complete the reply but it is not proper to interrupt in between.

(Interruptions)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Kindly do not disturb the Minister.

SHRI P. M. SAYEED : I am not bringing any controversial issue here. Why should he get agitated ? ... *(Interruptions)* I am not going to give you a very lengthy speech and bore you. I have a very short message to give you. Please give me a patient hearing.

After repeated reminders, information was received. But that was also partial. Information received from the State Government covers district-wise, area, population and justification for the formation of the proposed State. But, Sir, a very important information regarding the financial profile of the eight Districts, revenue and expenditure split up under administrative, developmental and maintenance categories asked for by the Ministry was not given. So, again we have expressed our inability to accede to the request and again go to the State Government. Meanwhile, we again received a reply on 31-7-92 and that again gives no information. Ultimately, on 6th December, as we all know, the State Government was dissolved. The stand taken by the Central Government was that there must be financial profile for the feasibility of the State to be given. After the dissolution of the State, we have said that it would be better for the popular Government to give the reply so that we will keep it open for the formation of such a State. Therefore, I wanted to dispel that misunderstanding that when this information is received, the Central Government is open for dialogue and discussion, and if at all that financial feasibility is there, we shall... *(Interruptions)*.

MAJ. GEN. (Retd.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : Sir, I would request the Minister to kindly clarify two points. There seems to be some wrong information conveyed. Two things he has said. One is that the first proposal came in December, 1991 and thereafter, after repeated reminders, the information was given. Let me remind the Minister that in this House on 5th of March, there was a Starred Question asked by me, and when I asked here, the then Home Minister said that they had not received it. Then I told him that it had come to his table on the morning of 5th March. He then looked back and said yes, it had come. So, this sort of impression should not be created that it was received after repeated reminders. The information was served on your table on 5th of March, 1991.

The second thing I would like the hon. Minister to kindly clarify is about the financial viability. He has said that he asked about the financial viability. Will the Minister kindly clarify how many new States in India have been created and how many times has have they asked for financial viability before the concurrence of the State Government for a separate State to be formed ? So, I request him not to mislead. He may say that he does not want to give us a separate State but he should not create new precedents... *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA (Almora) : Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister... *(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seat. Without the permission of the Chair you cannot ask the question.

SHRI P. M. SAYEED : Sir, I would like to inform the House that State Government informed on 31-7-92 that they are not in a position to supply information about income and expenditure in these eight districts... (*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN : You cannot speak without permission. First you must ask for the permission. You know that the Resolution is to be replied to by the mover.

SHRI P. M. SAYEED : Mr. Chairman, Sir, probably the hon. Member might be referring to the North-Eastern States. We all know that the Government might have taken that particular decision because of the strategic importance of the North-Eastern States, because of its sensitivity and because of its natural or Indian cultural ethos to be totally aligned with the mainstream of the national line. The same yardstick will not be available to have a new State to be formed, particularly with the eight districts mentioned in this Resolution. Sir, as I put it, the moment the financial viability comes, we will take action. Government has not closed its eyes. It is open for the Government. We will consider the financial viability and decide.

MAJ. GEN. (Retd.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : This is not at all fair. Mr. Minister, your reply is not fair. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The mover of the resolution has a right to reply to what the hon. Minister is saying. Shri Drona is here.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please do not interrupt the Minister. Let him complete.

MAJ. GEN. (Retd.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : Sir, I request the Minister to please tell us, if after independence has any State been asked to give financial viability before its creation ?

SHRI P. M. SAYEED : I have already mentioned it. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : He has already replied that point that it has not been so. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Khanduri, please do not disturb the Minister like this.

SHRI P. M. SAYEED : Sir, thank you very much. My throat is not well because of viral fever. I seek my friend's cooperation.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yesterday you have visited Delhi city also.

SHRI P. M. SAYEED : There also I lost some of my voice.

Therefore, this is the only thing I want to impress upon the mover of the resolution and all my friends. The Government is open for discussion and dialogue. The moment a new and popular Government comes there and when we receive all the above information, it will be considered on its own merits.

Sir, now I am coming to the Vananchal issue. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please do not disturb the Minister like this. Let him complete the speech.

SHRI P. M. SAYEED : Regarding Vananchal, which is Jharkhand issue, on the No Confidence Motion itself,—you were there—the hon. Prime Minister has repeatedly talked about it. What I want to say is that a Bill was passed in the Bihar Assembly and that was sent here for President's assent.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (Aonla) : You had secured four seats in the name of Vananchal. Therefore, you should pass the Bill in this regard. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Why are you making interruptions. Let him make a reply.

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK) : Sir, such a remark is not correct. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. M. SAYEED : Sir, such a remark about the voting of a member is not conducive and it should not go on record. Such a thing should not go on record. It is not that for their purpose they have voted against the motion.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani) : Just two days ago there was a news in the newspapers that nearly 40-50 Members of Bihar Legislature have been suspended in two lots on the question of the creation of Jharkhand. What negotiations are going on between the Bihar Government and the Government of India and, what are the hurdles in it ? MLAs in such a large number have already been suspended. What steps do you envisage to ensure peace there.

[*English*]

SHRI P. M. SAYEED : I will come to that. As regards the creation of a separate State of Vananchal comprising of 16 districts of Bihar, the matter has been considered by the Ministry in connection with a Private Member's Bill earlier. After that many things have taken place. That is what I was mentioning earlier. A Bill was passed in Bihar Assembly and sent for President's assent. We have discussed it threadbare and our suggestions have been communicated after having detailed discussions with Jharkhand Morcha people and their organizations and the Chief Minister of Bihar. Discussions were held by the Home Minister, myself and my esteemed colleague Rajeshji and all of them had detailed discussions. Our suggestions have been intimated to the State Government. A Bill which includes these suggestions can be moved in the Bihar Assembly. 16.00 *hrs.*

And when it comes to the Centre, we can definitely and positively think on that matter. That is what I want to convey, and this is a small matter, Sir. (*Interruptions*). The States' reorganisation is not a small matter, Sir.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KARIYA MUNDA (Khunti) : I have a point of order. Just now, the hon. Minister has said that a discussion was held with the representatives of Jharkhand Mukti Morcha, the Chief Minister and other leaders of Bihar. My objection is that other people also had discussion with him as well. He should have mentioned their names also. During the discussion with the Home Minister, everybody asked for separate state.

MR. CHAIRMAN : What is the point of order in it ?

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is a point of information.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is no point of order. If the Minister wants to react, he may reply.

SHRI P. M. SAYEED : I did not follow what he said. Can you kindly say what he said. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please proceed.

SHRI P. M. SAYEED : Sir, regarding the Jharkhand issue, as has already been mentioned by me, this is not a small issue, this is concerning the aspirations of the people of that area, the tribal area, and the non-tribals are also there. So, it is not easy to immediately come to a rash conclusion. As the Prime Minister has noted, one has to keep it in such a way that everybody in the State will have to be taken into confidence so that instead of creating harmony, we do not want to create any more problem in that State. That is the intention why the Prime Minister has categorically stated that it is a delicate issue and it has to be considered in such a fashion, and definitely, Sir, we will take into consideration the aspirations of the people both in Bihar and in Uttaranchal. Therefore, Sir, I do not want to proceed further. I would like the mover of the Resolution to withdraw the Resolution so that in the atmosphere of harmony we will be in a position to proceed further.

[*Translation*]

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA (Kanpur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have already submitted that there was no party politics behind my resolution.

It should be the right of the citizens of every part of this country that the development of his area should be taken care of. Even after 46 years of Independence there are no roads, no drinking water facilities, no school and hospitals and no infrastructure is available for doing business in these areas. Keeping in view this pitiable condition, I presented this resolution before the House.

33 Hon. Members expressed their views and it will be seen and the hon. Minister too will be agreeing to this, that not even a single speaker has opposed the idea of creation of a new State of Uttranchal comprising of the hilly districts of Uttar Pradesh. There is some uncertainty regarding creation of a State so far as 16 backward districts of Chhota Nagpur and Santhal Pargana are concerned but consensus of this House has been that smaller States should be created. The citizens of this country should be given equal rights and facilities. This was the basic aim behind my resolution and in the very beginning, I had mentioned that if we rise above the party politics, only then we would be able to find some way out of this issue. The speakers who participated in it include the top leaders of all political parties and I am heartly grateful to all of them... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI MRUTUNJAYA NAYAK (Phulbani) : But the Janata Dal did not take part in it.

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Mrutunjaya ji, in order to remove your misconception I would like to mention the names of those leaders of Janata Dal who took part in it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI MRUTUNJAYA NAYAK : They did take part in the discussion but they do not propose to give vote.

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : The Members of Janata Dal who participated include Shri Pratap Singh, Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, Shri Surya Narayan Yadav, Shri Nitish Kumar, Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh, Shri Shahabuddin, Shri Manjay Lal and Shri Mohan Singh... *(Interruptions)* I would like to assure the hon. Member that these speakers unanimously supported the resolution for the creation of Uttaranchal. With regard to my resolution about Bihar State, they supported the resolution. They said that they were in favour of reorganisation of Bihar but not in the division of Bihar. They had certain apprehensions in this regard. I am making everything clear. I hope, the hon. Member would not interrupt me, if at all he wants to ask anything, he may please ask just now.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is not a subject matter which could be linked to party politics. I expected the hon. Minister who listened to the whole debate to come forward with some concrete assurance which would pave the way in future. I regret that the Congress Government has adopted the principle of neglecting the feelings of people. They want the people of eight hilly districts of Uttar Pradesh, who are most patriotic, honest and sincere and who want to achieve their objective through their own efforts should adopt the same path which was adopted by Jharkhand Liberation Front. It appears to me that Government does not pay any heed to the demands presented in a peaceful manner. Rather it wants to create situation similar to that of Kashmir and Punjab in Uttar Pradesh. When the seven states namely Meghalaya, Manipur, Tripura etc. were formed in the east. The hon. Minister had pointed out that these were the sensitive areas and were having certain political disputes with other states. It appears that the hon. Minister is not acquainted with the geographical conditions of Uttar Pradesh. I had proposed the organisation of eight hilly districts to form one state. Are they not facing the similar situation there ? The Government may well imagine the consequences, if people of these regions adopt the path of agitation and struggle.

Keeping in view the feelings expressed by the various speakers, I expected the Government to accept it on the plea that the resolution had a solid base. I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that Uttar Pradesh has a population of 14 crores. Is it possible for the State Government to develop the remote areas ? Six districts out of eight districts of proposed 'Uttaranchal' State to happen to be 'No Industry' districts. This is as per the Government figures. The total area of this

region is 60,000 square km. having populations of 60 lakh. Is the Government reluctant of giving opportunity to them because they would not get the people belonging to these areas to serve in hotels and houses etc. ? I would like to ask whether such things would now happen in the country ? Similarly, 70 per cent of the total revenue of Bihar comes from Chhota Nagpur and Santhal Pargana areas, whereas only 20 per cent revenue is spent on the development of these areas. Keeping in view all these disparities, I would like the Government to give an assurance in this regard and also accept the Resolution. However, I regret to say that if the people of this region continue to follow the path they have been adopting the Government is not likely to pay any heed to the demands of the people of these areas.

Just now, some of the speakers alleged that I was speaking in term of division. It was 1947 when the first partition of our country took place. I have failed to understand as to how they have taken an impression of partition of the country from my resolution. I have always been an advocate of re-organisation of country into smaller states for the welfare of common masses, for which we are committed.

The hon. Minister during his speech stated that he understood the aspirations of common masses, and the seriousness of the situation in the sensitive areas. But his suggestion to withdraw the Resolution has no relation to what he had said. My friend has also expressed similar views and also given several examples just now with regard to Vananchal. When the 'No Confidence Motion' was moved, the hon. Prime Minister had spoken two sentences in this regard and the President of my party had immediatly pointed out that the Prime Minister had referred to Jharkhand Liberation Front in his speech but it is not known as to why he had referred to it. We understood the whole thing. Government of Uttar Pradesh passed the Motion on August 12, 1991 and the hon. Prime Minister also referred to it while giving reply to the debate. But if that resolution had any defect why did the Government not return that to the State Government ? Every State Government has got right to take decisions with regard to the matters concerning the State. For instance, the people of Bihar oppose the idea of the reorganisation of that State. The hon. Minister suggested that the financial viability should also looked into and that should be the main considerations. However, I would like to ask, Shri Khanduri had also raised this question as to whether the Government gave any consideration to economic viability at the time of reorganisation of various states including Himachal Pradesh and all other seven states after independence ? Can the Government deny the fact that the all hill areas in the country have been converted into States whether it was Jammu-Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Nagaland or Assam ? So much so that there arises apprehensions in the minds of people of our area over the intentions of the Government regarding providing funds to our area as there are disparities with regard to the funds allocation to Himachal Pradesh and our area. Rather the Government makes the problem more complicated in this manner.

Sir, through you, I would like to urge upon the hon. Minister to rise above the party politics and work in the national interest to fulfil the aspirations of the people living in these areas and provide them their due rights so that they may feel that they are the citizens of this country and they have got as much right to develop their children as others have.

Such an obstinate attitude won't do. If the Government is determined not to accept their demands, but to reach an agreement with a few supporters of Jharkhand Liberation Front and thus get out of power by getting No Confidence Motion passed, they may do so... (*Interruptions*)... This country cannot be run in this manner, as long as the Government continue to play such political games, the country cannot be taken ahead nor can it be kept integrated. I have already submitted and would like to submit again that all the speakers who participated in it have pointed out... (*Interruptions*)... Sir, only a few districts have been proposed to be separated from Bihar through the Resolution I have introduced. The argument behind it is that Jharkhand Liberation Front want to get 25 districts separated from four states to

constitute a new State. It has been our experience that contradictions arise over an issue in which more than one party is involved, it becomes difficult to reach a unanimous decision. There are 16 districts under Chhota Nagpur and Santhal Pargana areas of Bihar, where no development has taken place for a long time, and the people of that region still hoping the development to take place. All the 16 districts of that region should be organised so that development may take place there. My demand is not difficult to fulfil. I wish that they may have tolerance and patriotic feelings. Since they have given an assurance to do justice and restore social order while working at the centre, we hope that development would take place in the entire region... *(Interruptions)*

I would again urge the Government to review the matter and form a separate State comprising eight hilly districts of Uttar Pradesh. The Government accepted the demands of the people of Bihar, it should also avoid the situation where the peace loving people of Uttar Pradesh are forced to adopt the path of agitation. It would be the most unfortunate day for the nation. Such an act would neither be in the interest of the nation nor in the interest of any political party. The hon. Minister may please accept my Resolution. The Government should give an assurance to this effect that it accepts the Resolution and that separate states of 'Uttaranchal' and 'Vananchal would be formed.

SHRI P. M. SAYEED : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have submitted what I had to. I would urge upon Shri Drona to withdraw his Resolution and rise above the party politics and think in the interest of the nation.

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : I tried to bring the Government on right track, but my efforts proved futile. I would like to have voting on the Resolution in the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Drona has refused to withdraw his Resolution. Shri Khanduri has proposed an amendment also in this regard.

[English]

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : Sir, I seek leave of the House to withdraw my amendment.

The Amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Since the division is claimed, let the lobbies be cleared. Now the lobbies have been cleared.

The question is :

"This House recommends to the Government that in order to remove the backwardness of the States of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, two new separate States to be called Uttaranchal, comprising hilly regions of Uttar Pradesh, and Vananchal, comprising Chhota Nagpur and Santhal Paragana regions of Bihar, be created."

The Lok Sabha divided

AYES

16.32 hrs

Abedya Nath, Mahant
Advani, Shri Lal K.
Agnihotri, Shri Rajendra
Bandaru, Shri Dattatraya
Berwa, Shri Ram Narain
Bhargava, Shri Girdhari Lal
Buta Singh, Shri (Jalore)
Chaudhary, Shri Rudarsen
Chauhan, Shri Chetan P. S.
Chauhan, Shri Shivraj Singh
Chavda, Shri Harisinh
Chhatwal, Shri Sartaj Singh
Chhotey Lal, Shri
Chikhlia, Shrimati Bhavna
Choudhary, Shri Ram Tahal
Chowdhary, Shri Pankaj
Das, Shri Dwaraka Nath
Deshmukh, Shri Chandubhai
Dhumal, Prof. Prem
Dikshit, Shri Shreesh Chandra
Drona, Shri Jagat Vir Singh
Fundkar, Shri Pandurang Pundlik
Gangwar, Dr. P. R.
Gangwar, Shri Santosh Kumar
Gautam, Shrimati Sheela

Jai Prakash, Shri
Jatiya, Shri Satynarayan
Jeswani, Dr. K. D.
Jha, Shri Bhogendra
Joshi, Shri Anna
Joshi, Shri Dau Dayal

Kamal, Shri Shyam Lal
Kanodia, Shri Mahesh
Kapse, Shri Ram
Katheria, Shri Prabhu Dayal
Khanduri, Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Bhuwan Chandra
Khanoria, Major D. D.
Koli, Shri Ganga Ram
Kori, Shri Gaya Prasad
Krishnendra Kaur (Deepa), Shrimati
Kusmaria, Shri Ramkrishna

Laljan Basha, Shri S. M.

Mahajan, Shrimati Sumitra
Mahendra Kumari, Shrimati
Maurya, Shri Anand Ratna
Mishra, Shri Ram Nagina
Misra, Shri Janardan
Munda, Shri Kariya

Narayanan, Shri P. G.
Oraon, Shri Lalit

Pandeya, Dr. Laxminarayan
Passi, Shri Balraj
Patel, Dr. Amrit Lal Kalidas
Patel, Shri Chandresh
Patel, Shri Somabhai
Patidar, Shri Rameshwar
Purkayastha, Shri Kabindra

Raj Narain, Shri
Raje, Shrimati Vasundhara
Ram Singh, Shri
Ramdew Ram, Shri
Rana, Shri Kashiram
Rawal, Dr. Lal Bahadur
Rawat, Shri Bhagwan Shankar
Rawat, Prof. Rasa Singh

Sakshiji, Dr.
Sanghani, Shri Dileep Bhai
Saraswati, Shri Yoganand
Sarode, Dr. Gunvant Rambhau
Shah, Shri Manabendra
Shakya, Dr. Mahadeepak Singh
Sharma, Shri Jeewan
Sharma, Shri Rajendra Kumar
Shastri, Acharya Vishwanath Das
Shukla, Shri Astbhuja Prasad
Singh, Shri Brijbhushan Sharan
Singh, Dr. Chattrapal
Singh, Shri Devi Bux
Singh, Shri Rajveer
Singh, Shri Rampal
Singh, Shri Satya Deo
Soundaram, Dr. (Shrimati) K. S.
Swami, Shri Chinmayanand
Swami, Shri Sureshanand

Thakore, Shri Gabhaji Mangaji
Tomar, Dr. Ramesh Chand
Tripathi, Shri Lakshmi Narain Mani
Tripathi, Shri Prakash Narain
Trivedi, Shri Arvind

Vadde, Shri Sobhanadreeswara Rao
Vaghela, Shri Shankersinh
Vajpayee, Shri Atal Bihari
Varma, Shri Ratilal
Veerappa, Shri Ramchandra
Vekaria, Shri Shivlal Nagjibhai
Verma, Shri Phool Chand
Verma, Prof. Rita
Virendra Singh, Shri
Yumnam, Shri Yaima Singh

NOES

Ahmed, Shri Kamaluddin
Aiyar, Shri Mani Shankar
Akbar Pasha, Shri B.
Arunachalam, Shri M.
Ayub Khan, Shri

Bansal, Shri Pawan Kumar
Bhagat, Shri Vishweshwar
Bhakta, Shri Manoranjan
Bhatia, Shri Raghunandan Lal
Bhoi, Dr. Krupasindhu
Bhonsle, Shri Prataprao B.
Bhonsle, Shri Tejsinghrao
Birbal, Shri
Brar, Shri Jagmeet Singh

Buta Singh, Shri
Chacko, Shri P. C.
Chaliha, Shri Kirip
Chandrakar, Shri Chandulal
Chandrasekhar, Shrimati Margatham
Charles, Shri A.
Chaudhary, Shri Kamal
Chaudhri, Shri Narain Singh
Chaure, Shri Bapu Hari
Chennithala, Shri Ramesh
Chidambaram, Shri P.
Chowdhary, Shrimati Santosh
Dadahoor, Shri Gurcharan Singh
Damor, Shri Somjibhai
Das, Shri Anadi Charan
Deka, Shri Probin
Delkar, Shri Mohan S.
Dennis, Shri N.
Deshmukh, Shri Ashok Anandrao
Dev, Shri Santosh Mohan
Devi, Shrimati Bibhu Kumari
Dighe, Shri Sharad
Dutt, Shri Sunil
Farook, Shri M. O. H.
Gaikwad, Shri Udaysingrao
Gajapathi, Shri Gopi Nath
Galib, Shri Gurcharan Singh
Gavit, Shri Manikrao Hodlya
Ghatowar, Shri Paban Singh
Gogoi, Shri Tarun
Gomango, Shri Giridhar
Gudadinni, Shri B. K.
Gundewar, Shri Vilasrao Nagnathrao
Handique, Shri Bijoy Krishna
Harchand Singh, Shri
Hooda, Shri Bhupinder Singh
Imchalemba, Shri
Islam, Shri Nurul
Jaffer Sharief, Shri C. K.
Jangde, Shri Khelan Ram
Jawali, Dr. B. G.
Jhikram, Shri Mohanlal
Kahandole, Shri Z. M.
Kairon, Shri Surinder Singh
Kale, Shri Shankarrao D.
Kaliaperumal, Shri P. P.
Kamat, Shri Gurudas
Kanithi, Dr. Vishwanatham
Kasu, Shri Venkata Krishna Reddy
Kaul, Shrimati Sheila
Kewal Singh, Shri
Khan, Shri Aslam Sher
Khan, Shri Ghulam Mohammad
Khursheed, Shri Salman
Konathala, Shri Rama Krishna
Krishna Kumar, Shri S.
Krishnaswamy, Shri M.
Kshirsagar, Shrimati Kesharbai Sonaji
Kuli, Shri Balin
Kumaramangalam, Shri Rangarajan
Kuppuswamy, Shri C. K.
Lakshmanan, Prof. Savithri
Mallikarjun, Shri
Manphool Singh, Shri
Mathew, Shri Pala K. M.
Mathur, Shri Shiv Charan
Mirdha, Shri Nathu Ram
Mujahid, Shri B. M.
Muralee Dharan, Shri K.
Murthy, Shri M. V. Chandrashekara
Muttemwar, Shri Vilas
Naik, Shri G. Devaraya
Naikar, Shri D. K.
Nandi, Shri Yellaiah
Nayak, Shri Mrutyunjaya
Nayak, Shri Subhash Chandra
Nikam, Shri Govindrao
Panigrahi, Shri Sriballav
Panja, Shri Ajit
Patel, Shri Praful
Patel, Shri Shravan Kumar
Patel, Shri Uttambhai Harjibhai
Patil, Shrimati Pratibha Devisingh
Patra, Dr. Kartikeswar
Pilot, Shri Rajesh
Potdukhe, Shri Shantaram
Prabhu Zantye, Shri Harish Narayan
Pradhani, Shri K.
Rajeswari, Shrimati Basava
Ramchandran, Shri Mullappally
Rao, Shri P. V. Narasimha
Rao, Ram Singh Col.
Reddaiah Yadav, Shri K. P.
Reddy, Shri Magunta Subbarama
Roshan Lal, Shri
Sadul, Shri Dharmanna Mondayya

Sahi, Shrimati Krishna
Sajjan Kumar, Shri
Sangma, Shri Purno A.
Sanipalli, Shri Gangadhara
Satrucharla, Shri Vijayarama Raju
Sawant, Shri Sudhir
Sayeed, Shri P. M.
Scindia, Shri Madhavrao
Selja, Kumari
Shankaranand, Shri B.
Sharma, Shri Chiranji Lal
Sharma, Capt. Satish Kumar
Shukla, Shri Vidyacharan
Siddhartha, Shrimati D. K. Tharadevi
Sindal, Shri S. B.
Silvera, Dr. C.
Singh, Shri Arjun
Singh, Shri Khelsai
Singh, Shri Motilal
Singh, Shri S. B.
Singh Deo, Shri K. P.
Singla, Shri Sant Ram
Sodi, Shri Manku Ram
Solanki, Shri Surajbhanu
Sukhbuns Kaur, Shrimati
Sultanpuri, Shri Krishan Dutt
Tara Singh, Shri
Thakur, Shri Mahendra Kumar Singh
Thangkabalu, Shri K. V.
Thorat, Shri Sandipan Bhagwan
Thungon, Shri P. K.
Topno, Kumari Frida
Tytler, Shri Jagdish
Umbrey, Shri Lacta
Upadhyay, Shri Swarup
Urs, Shrimati Chandra Prabha
Verma, Shri Bhawani Lal
Verma, Kumari Vimla
Vijayaraghavan, Shri V. S.
Vyas, Dr. Girija
Wasnik, Shri Mukul Balkrishna
Yadav, Shri Ram Saran

MR. CHAIRMAN : Subject to correction*, the result of the division is :

Ayes : 98
Noes : 152

The motion was negatived

[*Translation*]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : (Lucknow) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I know that it is the time to take up Private Members' Bills and it is not proper for me to raise any other issue at this moment. But the Members belonging to Gujarat are very much agitated. They have already expressed it in the House also. We do not want that our Members should rush to the well and raise slogans. But why this thing happened ?

Mr. Chairman, Sir, if the Centre is holding talks about Narmada Project and if the people of the region are not taken into confidence about that, there will be misunderstandings. The suspicion in the minds of the people of Gujarat will be strengthened that the Government is going to abondan the Sardar Sarovar Project. I thought that if any Member rises and speaks, he would be heard. But I forgot it and I admit my fault for that. We could have raised the issue with the Hon. Speaker's permission. But when the issue has already been raised here, why the hon. Minister Shri Vidyacharan Shukla is saying such things ? There are some environmentalists, who have some doubts. The Government should try to clear their doubts. We do not want that any one should take 'Jal Samadhi' but we also do not want that multipurpose power projects are stopped due to such threats. The entire House as well as the people of Gujarat want to know the facts. The Hon. Prime Minister is aware of this. We would like to know about the details of the discussion and the decision taken on it. There will be more misunderstanding, it

*The following members also recorded their votes :

AYES : Shri Guman Mal Lodha and Prof. K. Venkatgiri Gowda.

NOES : Shri K Thulasiah Vandayar and Shri Umrao Singh.

the issue is kept in dark. Shri Vidyacharan Shukla should take the House into confidence and should tell about the assurance he had given.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am not happy that the leader of the opposition mentioned this issue with reference to Gujarat only. This is an issue of national importance. River Narmada originates from Amarkantak and Madhya Pradesh. Maharashtra, Gujarat and Rajasthan are related to it. The Centre of India which has turned into desert is also related to it. I, therefore, think that abondaning or delaying this project will cause national loss. On the one hand, some people think that we are doing all this for the sake of tribal, but on the other hand some people believe that we want the tribals to live in huts only for centuries to come. I would, therefore, like that all the problems regarding the rehabilitation of tribals should immediately be removed. 'Pucca' houses should be constructed for them and they should be provided with employment. Only one project will provide all these facilities to the people. It will control the flood, provide irrigation facilities and Hydel power and transportation and moreover, it will also be beneficial for environment.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, whenever we go from Bombay to Allahabad or from Delhi to Madras, we do not find any forest in these areas. There are only three to four feet long shrubs. If canals are dug on both the sides, there will be gardens everywhere in the entire country. So, no one should be allowed to take 'Jal-samadhi' or do immolation. It is the responsibility of the state and the society. But the problems in rehabilitation should immediately be removed. Neither there should be shortage of funds nor the height of the dam should be reduced and the project should also not be delayed. This issue is not only concerned with Gujarat but it also concerns with the entire country. We are unanimous about it.

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, from today morning this issue has been raised beore me by the Congress Members from Gujarat ... (*Interruptions*) It has been decided unanimously that neither there should be any difference of opinion nor any changes should be made in the Sardar Sarovar Project. I would like to make it clear that the Central Government has no intention of making any changes in the project. All the four states and the Central Government had accepted the decision given by the Tribunal and according to the law made or settling the inter-state rivers disputes, the decision of the Tribunal is treated as law. It can be changed only with the mutual consent of all the concerned states. If one of the concerned States is in disagreement, in that case even a slightest change cannot be made in that decision. I have made it very clear to all the state that any change in that decision can be made only with the agreement of all the five parties, that is, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and the Central Government... (*Interruptions*) Please listen to me first... (*Interruptions*) There is no question of making changes in the Narmada Project and there will be no such question in future.

I would again like to make it clear that I was present in the House today morning and I went out only when the House was adjourned for lunch. None of the Members raised this issue during the Zero-Hour, otherwise, I would have made it clear at the same moment. This issue was raised later, when the Private Members Business was going to be taken up. All the leaders had a meeting with the hon. Speaker and I was in the meeting of the executive of our parliamentary group. The hon. leader of the Opposition has given me the opportunity to clear the situtation and so I would like to make it clear that not even a coma or full stop of the decision given by the Tribunal is going to be changed. Several people were concerned that nothing was being done there about the issues related to environment. Justice was not being done to the poor of Gujarat, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh, whose land was going to be submerged. There was an agitation. The entire country is aware of the situation as to how that agitation was intensified. I do not want to waste the time of the House by discussing it here. But their doubts should be removed and they should be made known

that we also agree that the environment should be protected and the poor who are being deprived of their ancestral land, should be rehabilitated above the poverty line. The State Governments of Gujarat and Maharashtra have prepared very good schemes in this regard, which have been found better in many aspects than the standards set by the World Bank.

So, in view of these facts, it was demanded that talks should be held and the Project should be reviewed. I told them that we had no objection, but according to the legal position, we could not make any changes in the Project. While accepting this fact, if they wanted to hold talks, I had no objection. So the talks were started in this way.

The problems of displaced persons were raised during the talks. As you just said that if the height of the dam is reduced, the area of land going to be submerged will be less and the number of displaced persons will also be less. I have made it clear that there is no question of reducing the height of the dam or to review it. It is out of our jurisdiction. But if they tell us about the other problems related to environment and rehabilitation, we can ask the Government to solve them

Two days later, those people said that such a group should be formed as should have a sound knowledge about the Project. There should be a forum where they can discuss about the questions arising from time to time. So, a forum was set up. There was some terminological lacunae in the draft prepared for setting up of the forum. They requested to change those words, language and terminology. It was also changed. But the Narmada Award will remain as it is. Even our group is not empowered to make any type of change in it. Such change can only be made with the unanimous decision of the five parties, that is, the four State Governments and the Union Government.

I am assured that this clarification has removed all the doubts.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Mr. Chairman. Sir, Union Government is one of the concerned five patries. Is it considering to make any change in the Project as to reduce the height of the dam or to extend the period of the Project?

SHRI KASHI RAM RANA (Surat): What assurance has been given and which assurance has been withdrawn?

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: The hon. Speaker has allowed a Calling Attention on this issue, which perhaps may be replied to in the next week. Everything will be made clear at that time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Government has made its stand clear. Now we have to take up an important resolution on uniform Civil Code.

[*Translation*]

16.41 *hrs.*

RESOLUTION RE: UNIFORM CIVIL CODE

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN (Indore): I beg to move:

> "This House urges upon the Government that in order to achieve the objectives enshrined in article 44 of the Constitution and to promote the feelings of unity and brotherhood amongst all citizens of the country, a commission be constituted for framing an uniform civil code."

We achieved independence on 15th August alongwith partition of the country. Since then we have been raising the slogan of unity and integrity of the country and talking of strengthening the nation. But inspite of all this, we are heading towards disintegration on all fronts, whether it is political, social or economic. When we say that India is a nation we do not mean that a particular piece of land constitutes a nation. It includes its people, culture, history, tradition, mutual relationship of the people residing here and a common idea of progress. We imagine and define nation with these notions. With this concept of nation the Constitution makers had enshrined some directive principles under article 44 of the Constitution. There is a provision for a uniform civil code under these directive principles. It was discussed in the Constituent Assembly in 1948. Even

today we have been initiating discussion on this subject. Once an honourable Member also had moved a resolution in order to remove this article from the Constitution. At that time too, it was said this provision interferes into the religion of the people and adversely affect the article 19 of the constitution as also the interests of the minorities. In this manner this issue has been discussed time and again. I would like to reiterate that the same thing was said at that time also. There were some Muslim members in the House at that time. During discussion they had said that the people of different nature live in India and there States with different features. That is why a uniform civil code was not possible in this country. However their plea was immediately rejected by an hon. Member, Shri K. M. Munshi stating that

[English]

> "Religion must be restricted to spheres which legitimately pertain to religion only. The rest of the life must be regulated, unified and modified in such a manner that we may evolve, as early as possible, a strong and consolidated nation."

[Translation]

The purpose behind it is to maintain the unity and integrity of the country. We long for such a progressive nation. Whenever religion is attacked, the question arises as to whose traditions we should follow. Which one is an ideal one ? For someone Babar is their ideal. For others he may be Alauddin Khilji. But selfishness should not come in the way. Ideal is whatever we think ideal. If we have to follow these ideals, I would like to quote Alauddin Khilji. Making such kind of reforms he had once said that he was an ignorant. When it was said that God would not forgive him as his deeds were not in accordance with the 'Shariat', he had said that he was ignorant and he was doing so in the interest of the country. God would forgive him keeping in view his good intention. However, I shall not say that he should be treated an ideal while making law in India. But if anybody has this feeling it should not be termed as an attack on religion. It is also very essential to think as to what is important from our point of view. Because we have to build a united nation and maintain the series of competitive community. From this angle, a common civil code is essential. When it is said that it will amount to an attack on religion as the 'Shariat' does not approve of it, then we ought to ponder over it. When we were under British rule, the Britishers had introduced a criminal procedure code. The Britishers had also introduced the Indian Penal Code which became applicable to all. At that time we had accepted it too.

Referring to what was said by Shri Krishnaswamy Ayyer in the Constituent Assembly, I would say that that was worth considering even today. He had said that we have accepted it. But if we follow the Shariat, it should be followed fully. Shariat also provides for cutting off parts of body as a punishment. In case of theft there is a provision of cutting of hands. If a person do something wrong or stares at a woman with bad intention he should be stoned to death. We would not abide by such provisions and that is painful..... *(Interruptions)*.

The criminal procedure code prepared by them at that time was implemented. We accepted it. It may be quite possible that the intention of the Britishers would have been different, as they had to rule and keep us their slave. They enacted only those laws which were absolutely necessary from administrative point of view. Their second object would have been to strengthen the policy of divide and rule. They had enacted legislation from administrative angle. But they had not touched the uniform civil code. They wanted to keep both the communities divided from religious point of view. But I explain another aspect of it which I deem fit in his matter. At that time Shri A. Krishnaswamy Ayyer had said :

[English]

> "Why our Muslim friends distrust much more national, indigenous Government than a foreign Government."

[*Translation*]

We had not opposed the legislation brought forward by the English at the time of its enactment. We accepted that. Today it appears to me, as if we accepted those things in the Shariat which were favourable to us and rejected those which did not suit us. In this way we believe in a foreign ruler, but we are not ready to trust our Government formed after independence. This Government contemplates to bring harmony, give equal rights and opportunity to all citizens and women so that everybody may make progress uniformally. Women are the strength of this country. In India, woman is not considered only a woman. She is not simply meant for sex. She is considered the symbol of power and creation. Therefore, the women, who is considered a creator and our guide and who is to lead this country on the path of progress, should be given an equal opportunity to play a vital role in the progress of the nation. This should have been the attitude. Keeping this in mind, when some people start discussing and talk of a uniform civil code, criticism starts.

When this issue was being discussed in the Constituent Assembly. Baba Saheb Ambedkar had opined that in India 75 per cent civil code was already uniform. It does not require to do much. Some decisions are required to be taken with regard to the right to succession and marriage. By doing so, the uniform civil code would automatically be implemented. He wanted that the citizens of India should take a decision unitedly in this regard. When the meeting of the Constituent Assembly was going on to make this provision, a voice of dissent was raised at that time too. The nationalists sitting in the meeting thanked Dr. Ambedkar. They appreciated his contribution. Many things were said. It was said that if that provision was made that would be an atrocity on their religion. We should also keep in mind even today the things which had been said by Dr. Ambedkar. Even today we talk of different religions. I have referred to the history as well as the traditions. At that time opposing all such people, Dr. Ambedkar warned not to talk of interference in the religion. In 1935, the administration on a large part of India was running in accordance with Hindu laws. In Kerala we appreciate the prevalent administrative system even today. The law meant for women remained effective till 1937. It means that at that time nobody thought that it would amount to interference in religion. Such type of laws were in practice. I would like to say that the system of society was such that nobody realised that we were governed under the Hindu laws. Nobody thought about conversion of religion. This fact was brought to the notice by Dr. Ambedkar. I am not talking differently. Mr. Chairman, Sir, as the history is evident that we are very much citizens of this country. We love our country. As I have said earlier that we were given a divided nation. After getting independence the same divide and rule policy has been continuing. With the result, we become divided on social front. We do not tolerate each other. We do not trust each other. Why it has happened so ? How these blunders were committed ? Because, we have not given a serious thought to it. Nor have we tried in this direction. The Constitution makers had given us a 'Diva' (lamp) and asked to use that in uniting the society. They had also said that the lamp would be of great use in future. But we have not poured oil of affection in that 'diva' and now the stage has reached when people talk of blowing it out. As I have said that a private bill was introduced at that time also to remove article 44 from the Constitution. But it was strongly opposed and with the result it could not be passed. A woman, named Shahbano who lives in Indore claims for maintenance allowances in a divorce case as her fundamental right. The law permits her. But in the name of religion that woman is deprived of her right and attacked and harassed. She is forced to keep quiet. I would like to say that even in Lok Sabha it is said that the law of Shariat will be implemented. One Minister had to resign. This is the situation in the country even after 40—45 years of independence. Therefore, I have an apprehension. The Government has made the situation worst. If someone introduces the bill to revoke article 44, the Government is not ready to do so.

17.00 *hrs.*

Now we are talking of delinking religion from politics. By saying these words we are misusing the religion, for the sake of politics of vote. My colleagues sitting in front of me refers to rules, directive principles, policies in a different manner apart from the Constitution. The Government does not want to follow these rules in the right manner. The Kashmiries are being humiliated and are being forced to migrate from Kashmir in lakhs. Terrorists kill Hindus and rape a Hindu girl. But the Government does not take any action against them. When we talk of peace, plebiscite is suggested. But the people of ruling party with full strength have never asked them their purpose of seeking plebiscite. ... (*Interuptions*).

Sir, Kashmir is an integral part of India. But I have apprehension that someday the Government might support such proposal. Dr. Ambedkar had suggested to remove the proposal in which it was said that uniform civil code was not possible and it would cause chaos, spread hatred and distort religion. I have brought forward this Bill keeping all these things in view. I was saying that when the debate in this regard was going on in the Constituent Assembly and different kinds of views were put forwarded Dr. Ambedkar, at that time, had said firmly that the said article will remain as it was because he wanted that the common civil code as such might be enacted with the support of all people in the country to enable it to rise as united and strong nation. We have enshrined it in the Constitution from this point of view. But we have never implemented in the right direction.

Sir, it has been said that it is not possible to have common law as people belonging to different castes and religions reside in India. But in India there is unity in diversity. The provisions of income-tax, laws relating to taxation and economics are implemented uniformally. We are implementing them uniformally. As I have said earlier that the Criminal Procedure Code is the same. There are also many other laws relating to civil code that defines the model of mutual behaviour of the people and relation between men and women. It would be better to have a common civil code applicable throughout the country. Nobody should be allowed to humiliate a woman simply by uttering 'Talaq' three times and turned a dedicated lady out from his home. A woman who is brought respectfully in the house after marriage has to try her best to establish family relations with the new family and the new society. But if a minor mistake of her is noticed, she is driven out of the house simply by uttering the word 'talaq'. On the contrary, if she wishes to become free, she cannot do so.

It means that a woman can be treated at men's whims in a particular community. Such law is applicable to a particular society of India. According to the 'Shariat' one should not charge or pay interest. Such kind of law was enforced in Indore and it exists even today at many places that if one belongs to a particular community, he cannot serve in Banks. A youth leader opposed and said that we are entering the twenty first century. Such incidents have taken place in Indore in my presence that persons belonging to a particular community cannot do service in Banks because interest is given and taken in Banks. According to our religion, interest should neither be taken nor be given. Our religious culture demands that we sacrifice our whole life before our Dharam Guru. It cannot be done through rules, it is a matter of culture. Our country is known for such cultural traditions and history but in the villages, taxes are not paid. If one serves in Banks it seems as if his rights have been harmed. When we demand for the justice we are ex-communicated from our caste. 14 such families have been ex-communicated and it was said that nobody would take part in their marriage-ceremonies. If somebody dies in these families they are not allowed to go to graveyard and the assistance of police is sought by them. Thus the educated people are being suppressed. No woman can talk of her rights. If the woman of the country is compelled to keep mum and forced to remain confined to the four walls of the house, deprived of her education and thus could not build up her per-

sonality, we cannot aspire for a bright future of this country and a strong nation. My proposal does neither mean to impose any law meant for the majority of the people on the minority nor does it mean to thrust the rules of one religion on another. It is quite possible that after some time the uttering of the word 'Hindu' may be banned in Lok Sabha also and I may be turned out from the House. When Hindu religion came into force, many problems came in its way... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Two hours have been allotted for this Motion and other hon. Members have also to speak.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: I am just concluding. I want to stress that this Motion is truely important from the social point of view, but under the present circumstances in the country when people are being divided and they are cultivating the feeling of distrust, rather I would like to say that efforts are being made to divide the communities my Motion assumes greater importance in such atmosphere. It is more important in the context of comming generation.

I was talking of the Hindu religion. Of course, it is praiseworthy, because there were several flaws in Hindu laws also and several of them have been amended too. It is correct that this was also opposed. For example, the enactment of Sharda Act was also opposed. Some people had opposed it because it was a tradition in those days. I do not mean to say that traditions should be violated. I simply mean to say that whenever efforts are made to give a good direction to some tradition, difficulties are bound to be faced. Even then the Sharda Act came into being. The Sati Pratha was not prevalent all over the country. It was prevaelnt only in Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. Besides, it was not practised in every house. But after all, it was a bad custom and we enacted law to stop it. Law was enacted to educate women and Amendments were also made to Hindu Laws for giving more rights to them. Today we are seeing that how this society is progressing day by day and women also are extending their helping hands to it. I want that I should not talk about my self-interest only. I have brought this Motion for those women who are being exploited and are sobing and asking for my helping hand to get rid of the yoke of Oppression. Today they are being brain-washed that they do not belong to this country and they do not have faith in this country. I propose that in order to have an organised, united, powerful country and have uniform laws, it is essential to set up a commission.

[*English*]

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (Mayiladuturai): Mr. Chairman, Sir. I rise to oppose this Motion for three reasons. The first reason is, I believe, that this Resolution has been brought at the wrong time; second, I believe that it has been brought for the wrong reasons and third, I believe that it has been brought by the representaive of the wrong party. It is on the basis of these three fundamental reasons that I wish to explain why I rise to oppose the motion.

17.14 *hrs.*

(SHRI SHARAD DIGHE *in the Chair*)

MAJ GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (Garhwal) Would you like to bring this Bill?

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I will reply to Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Bhuwan Chandra Khanduri as I go along. I would request him to listen to what I have to say with a much care, with as unprejudiced mind and with as open eyes as I afforded the leader, the person who moved this Resolution.

I recognise and I do not need to be educated by the representaive of the Opposition that this is a Private Members' Business and therefore this is not a Party Resolution.

MR. CHAIRMAN (SHRI SHARAD DIGHE): I have to make one announcement. Pleased wait for a minute.

17.16 *hrs.*

Announcement by Speaker

CANCELLATION OF SITTING OF LOK SABHA AND CELEBRATION OF 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF QUIT INDIA MOVEMENT

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is an announcement from the hon. Speaker. As has been agreed to at the meeting of the leaders of the Parties and the Groups today, the sitting on Monday, the 9th August, 1993, may be cancelled to enable the hon. Members to participate in the concluding celebrations of the 50th Anniversary of the Quit India Movement and to pay homage to the martyrs of the freedom movement.

The hon. Speaker has also to inform the House that a meeting of Members of both the Houses to mark the occasion will be held in the Central Hall on that day, the 9th August 1993, at 11 a. m. The hon. Members are requested to make it convenient to grace the meeting.

17.17 *hrs.*

RESOLUTION RE : UNIFORM CIVIL CODE—*Contd.*

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar may continue his speech now.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (Mayiladuturai) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I was saying that I did not need to be educated on the fact that this is a Private Member's Resolution. But a private Member does not...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

Shri Rajveer Singh please listen to me also because if you rise to comment, you must be prepared to listen to the other man's point of view also. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (Aonla) : I do not want to comment in your manner. Because the comment you pass is meaningless.

AN HON. MEMBER : Please speak in Hindi.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : I will not speak in Hindi and I would like to speak in English.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : Yo are least bothered about Hindi.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let us come to the subject now.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I seek your protection. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please do not make such a remark, which is not proper. (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA (Jadavpur) : Mr. Chairman, a Member has got every right to speak in any language that he wants.

RROF. PREM DHUMAL (Hamirpur) : Nobody has objected to that...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : No comments on that subject now.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi) : At least now you should speak smilingly.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : I would not speak smilingly.

[*English*]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I said that I oppose this Resolution because it is being moved at the wrong time. I regard this as a wrong time to move this Resolution because of an incident that took place at Ayodhya on the 6th December 1992. Just eight months ago, this country—its civilisation, its culture, its traditions—was subjected to the single most heinous assault known to us in the annals of modern India. The extent to which a section of our country feels that it has been sat upon has to be experienced, has to be understood. My suspicion is that the lady, who moved this Resolution has.....(*Interruptions*)

AN HON. MEMBER : She is an hon. Member.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: All right. My suspicion is that the hon. Member who moved this Resolution, who happens to be a lady, has a very little personal experience of the extent to which the Muslim community of India has had, as a result of the action of, possibly herself, certainly of her Party and without a shadow of doubt, the cohorts of her Party, resorted to in Ayodhya on the 6th December 1992. If the knowledge of the extent of this wound has still not dawned upon her and her colleagues, eight months after the event, then I do not believe that she and her colleagues have any right or any understanding, let me say. Therefore, they have a little right to say that they wish to raise the banner of unity and broterhood in this country through bringing such a Resolution.

This brings me immediately to the second ground on which I am opposing this Motion, which is the reason for which it has been brought forward. In the text of the Motion itself, it is claimed that the Commission to frame a uniform civil code should be set up to promote feelings of unity and brotherhood. If in fact, there was a need to strengthen unity and brotherhood through this particular route, I would have had no difficulty whatsoever in going along with the hon. Member. But at this juncture, when a House, which is composed indubitably of a larger number of non-Muslims than is the proportion of non-Muslims in this country, attempts to move such a motion without deep and detailed consultation with the minority communities of this country, then I fear that far from promoting any sense of unity or any sense of brotherhood, we may be promoting a sense of alienation and a sense among the minorities of being imposed upon.

We were told by the mover of the Motion that a nation is not merely a geographic or political entity, it is a word, an expression which relates to a people as a whole, to the traditions of that people, to the culture of that people and to the interrelationship between the different communities which constitute that people. I entirely agree with the hon. Member. Where I think I disagree with her perhaps is that I see our people as forging a unity out of their diversity of the traditions of this country not being the preserve of any one community, nor the culture of this country has belonged only to the majority community of this country, and I see our nationhood in terms of a composite culture and in that composite culture while there is little doubt that the single broadest and perhaps the single strongest strength is what might broadly be called the Hindu culture. Certainly, the second broadest and the second strongest must be the Islamic culture and yet the manner in which this second and indivisible strength of our composite culture was portrayed by the hon. Member who moved this Resolution is in itself the most basic cause of the tremendous fear that comes upon our minorities when our minorities contemplate the party to which the hon. Member belongs. For example, here, in this House, about a few minutes ago she told us that women are a symbol of strength. I agree. But then she felt that this is a special characteristic of the Hindu religion. It implied and then it became explicit that in her view, women are not a symbol of strength in the Islamic tradtion. I cannot think of a greater insult to hurl at one of our own people than to suggest that the concept of women as a symbol of strength is the preserve of one community in India and does not belong to the tradition of another community of India.

We had from her a presentaion of Islamic jurisprudence which bears no reality to what litle Islamic jurisprudence I have learnt. Let us take, for example the question of marriage in Islam. There is a fundamental difference in the concept of marriage as between most other communities and the Islamic community. In most other communities—this is certainly true of the Hindu community, this is certainly true of the Christian community Marriage is regarded as the sacrament.

There, marriage is regarded as fundamentally indissoluble and it is only in recent times that the possibility of divorce has been introduced into the traditions of these communities. In Islam, on the other hand, the very right of marriage is not a sacrament, but a contract. It is a contract which—at the very moment of being entered into—

envisages the possibility of that marriage not lasting for ever. The whole *Nikah* ceremony is built around that. Now, for us, to sit here and dismiss a 1,400 year old tradition—I am referring to the traditions of Islam since I saw the lady Member in question squinting just now: I am referring to the 1,400 year old tradition of Islam for us to turn to it and portrait as anti-women; as designed only to oppress one gender at the expense of the other; as having no redeeming feature in it with regard to women as a symbol of strength is just the kind of denigration which is extremely deterimental to the processes of consolidating our nation.

When an hon. Member takes two personalities from our history—Babar and Khilji—and refer to them in terms that are less than complimentary, then it must mean that in her concept the Indian history is a history without a medival period; the Indian culture is a culture without an Islamic component and that India's civilization is civilization that can wish away Islam.

We, Sir, are certainly the world's third largest Islamic nation and possibly the world's second largest Islamic nation. At the same time there are more Muslims who live in India than in the entire belt of something like 20 countries stretching from Iran to Morocco. That is why I have had occasion previously in this House to say that India without Islam is inconceivable as Islam without India is inconceivable. These are traditions that are woven into the wrap and the woof of our nation. And yet the party which the hon. Member represents is constantly engaged in an attempt to denigrate the noble contribution which Islam has made to the evolution of our composite culture, our composite tradition and our composite civilization for well over, 1000 years.

I, for one, find it impossible to think of India without the Taj Mahal and while I tend to think of the man who built the Taj Mahal as an Indian, I have no difficulty either in recognising that that Indian was a Muslim. I have no difficulty either—when I am not being needled by the Members of the Opposition—in attempting to speak the Hindi language. But I recognise that the origin of the Hindi language, as we know it today, lies in the *Darga* of Nizamuddin Aulia where Hazrat Amir Khusro started the language of *Hindavi* which has evolved into the language that we know today.

I have no difficulty whatsoever n putting in an *Achkan* or like our former Prime Minister wearing a Jinnah cap because these are part and parcel of our traditions. I have no difficulty in regarding the hon. Member who moved this motion as a part and parcel of India's civilization. But, at the same time, I have no difficulty in regarding—for instance—Shri P. M. Sayeed who comes from a Union Territory which is one hundred per cent Muslim, as being equally an integral part of this country.

I, therefore, find it impossible to praise Hinduism by denigrating Islam. Yes, there is a great deal that needs to be reformed in Muslim society in India just as there is a great deal that needs to be reformed in Hindu society in India. When the Hindu Code Bill was being drawn, when reform in the Hindu system was being undertaken, it was not being undertaken at the instance of the Muslims, it was being undertaken at the instance of the Hindus. It is we who wanted to change our ways and therefore, when we changed our ways, we did it with considerable success, not entire success. I know that from my personal experience because my father had built a Ganesh Mandir next to the Revoli cinema here in Delhi and I thought that when I get married I would go to that temple and get the priests to conduct my wedding in a typical South Indian tradition, something that I had missed in my life by virtue of having lived in North as a South Indian for most of my life. I found that those priests whose living had been ensured by endowment given by my father refused to conduct my mariage, first on the ground that they wanted to know whether my wife was a Brahmin like me or not and second, on the ground that she did not belong to my Hindu religion, but belonged to another religion as they called it, which is the Sikh religion and, therefore, I was compelled to get married under the Special Marriages Act there being no alternative for me. Now, then I want to reform my family I do not go to Mr. Syeed and say, 'please have a word with my mother, the

woman at my back', I speak to Amma myself, I try and reform myself from within. In the same way I am absolutely sure that the Muslims have got the sensitivity, the humanism, the conscience, the awareness, the intelectual ability and most important of all, the tradition to reform themselves as and when they wish to and at their own instance. The honourable lady Member who moved this motion was suggesting that we in our great Hindu tradition do not impose anything on anybody. I think the Muslims in their great tradition do not impose anything on anybody else. The Prophet Mohammad is repeatedly quoted in the Quran as asking his people, those of the Islamic faith, to treat those who do not belong to the Islamic faith in a decent manner. There is, I think, one of the most importatnt documents in the evolution of the Indian tradition. It is the will and testament written by Emperor Babar to his son Humayun, which Humayun saw only after Babar's death, in which Babar urges Humayun to remember that this is a country largely composed of people who do not belong to the Islamic faith and that deep respect for their faith, their tradition and their culture is essential for the good governance of this country and yet, it is that hon. Member herself, perhaps not but certainly her cohorts, who have given currency to an expression which most Muslims, most Hindus, most Indians find utterly offensive--*'Babar ki aulad'*. Sir, it is this mind set that stands in the way of unity and brotherhood. It is not the absence of a uniform Civil Code that is standing in the way of unity and brotherhood. it is not the absence of a uniform Civil Code that prevents the integration of this country, but it is a mind set in which some Indians are regarded as more reformed, more advanced, more progressive and other Indians are looked upon as fatalistic, incapable of progress, incapable of self-improvement, incapable of marching forward unless they are told by the majority community what it is that they are required to do.

Sir, the hon. lady Member referred to a former Minister of a Congress Government.

Sir, I hope I have your permission to give his name, Shri Arif Mohammad Khan, who, she said, had to resign from Government headed by Shri Rajiv Gandhi on the question of the Uniform Civil Code or alternatively, of maintenance being paid to Shrimati Shah Bano or the Supreme Court judgement, all of which I think, are inter-related. I would particularly draw her attention to that speech because there is a tendency on the part of those whose mindset is similar to her, to somehow project Mr. Arif Mohammad Khan's speech here in this House as, somewhat, different to what he actually said. She should kindly look up the records as to what he had said. I would draw her attention to two statements of great importance. One, he said "The Quran is everything". True he is a very progressive Muslim, true he is a Muslim who is one of my closest personal friends despite our political differences. As a Muslim he was my Minister and I had been in a Delegation abroad with him. He had views which are different to that of the Islamic orthodoxy. But, as a Muslim, in this House he said : "The Quran is everything" and the burden of his speech was a different interpretation to the one that was in the discussion on that Bill which was given by Mr. Banatwala. If two Muslims can disagree in this House about what is the Quran while both of them agree that everything is the Quran, should we not leave it to them to resolve that issue ? Are we going to help the process of ours by throwing the weight of the majority community behind the one or the other protagonist ?

Mr. Chiarman, Sir, it is true that in Islam there are a large number of social practices which are codified in the Shariat and in the interpretations of the Islamic Law as it exists. At the same time, there is also codified in Islamic jurisprudence the concept of *Istehaad*. We have nothing similar in Hinduism, which, I do not think, is a good thing or a bad thing. I simply suggest that we do not, in Hinduism or indeed in Christianity, have a codified form of changing a religion based jurisprudence, because in the Islamic communtiy there is a religion based jurisprudence and there is a codified form of changing it which is

called *Istahaad*. And Istahaad is the process of looking within and making reforms from within. It has been, for the last 1400 years, repeatedly used by Muslim theologians, by Muslim jurists, by Muslim Sultans and in modern times, by Muslim dominated Parliaments to change the Islamic Personal Law. It is here that I would rely upon Muslims to use devices that are part and parcel of their own traditions and their own culture which, surely, cannot be less important than, Madam, your traditions or your culture, to bring about such reforms as honest.

But, when we start denigrating the entire institution of Muslim marriage as consisting of nothing more significant than the capacity of some man to say '*Talaq, Talaq, Talaq*' to get rid of his wife, then we are denigrating an entire religion, an entire tradition, an entire culture and an entire jurisprudence. And I think, the mistake that the then Chief Justice Mr. Chandrachud did in delivering his judgement on the Shah Bano case was, not to limit himself to the issue which was before him, but to go beyond and to make comments upon the Islamic religion and the Islamic civilization, in turn, similar to what we have heard from the mover of this Resolution today. It is that which sparked the reaction among sections of our own people who do not feel totally integrated with us. And how can they ? We were just told by the hon. lady Member who moved this Resolution that there is a village in which as I understood, it was her own village—she said that all the Islamic women are told that they do not belong to this country, that they do not belong to this nation and that they belong to elsewhere.

I have not had the good fortune of visiting the hon. Member's village. I would be very happy to go there at her invitation. I hope she will kindly invite me to go there. But I am acquainted with the Muslims in India all the way from Kashmir to Lakshadweep. Something like 99.9 per cent of the Muslims of India are totally convinced that there is no nation for them other than the Indian nation; that there is no country for them other than India and that it is with this country that they are going to live or die. For us to ignore this huge, overwhelming majority of Indian Muslims and portary in a stereo-type fashion some two or three people in the village to which the hon. member belongs as being typical of the community is to do precisely the same kind of injury to them. It will make them wonder whether they belong to us or not.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Member has time and again been stressing on this issue. I, therefore, would like to point out that all the Muslims in my town are made aware of it. They all live cordially. But are misinterpreting it. I have simply explained that how 14 families in my town were boycotted. I had referred to the mentality of the Muslim Community. There is no such feeling in my town. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI P. C. CHACKO (Trichur) : She has not responded whether she is inviting you to Indore or not. Please get it cleared from her.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : Madam, I accept your thesis. I accept what you said. I will go to Indore on my own. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIAR : Madam, I have heard you with rapt attention in the past. Because your Hindi is as good as my English, I was frightened that if I listened to you in original, I might miss the meaning of some words which you said. So, I was relying on the interpretation. There might have been an error there. But if you accept that the bulk of Muslims in India, the vast, overwhelming majority of them think of this as their nation and this country, then, I think the point you made about some Muslims having some doubts about this—or to use your own words, to opt to think otherwise —is not a matter of great relevance. There are any number of Hindus including the numerous people who support your party, who have fled from this country to go and live in California and are putting out advertisements on behalf of the Non-Resident Indians, who made all their money to

fund Hindutva in India but do not have the patriotism to come and live in this country. So, neither patriotism nor the absence of it is the preserve of any one to mean anything. It has nothing to do with the community.

[*Translation*]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : The statement made by Shri Aiyar hurts the sentiments of Indians living in other countries and it is not good to make such statements.

[*English*]

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : I also wish to draw attention to the second statement made by Shri Arif Mohammad Khan while he was speaking in this House here which, I think, is of high importance. Shri Arif Mohammad Khan said that he was completely clear in his mind that the application of Section 125 and 127 of the Criminal Procedure Code to the Muslims of India would not—I stress this—detract, in any manner, from the continued validity of the Muslim Personal Law. It was not his position that the Muslim Personal Law should either be abrogated or should incorporate the provisions of Sections 125 and 127. Shri Arif Mohammad Khan's position was that the two were compatible. This was the view of a Muslim. We should have left it to the Muslims to argue among themselves. Perhaps, they would have come to a conclusion. But, instead of that. there was an attempt to jump the matter ; to start talking about the Muslim Personal Law in the kind of terms that we have had the misfortune of listening to this afternoon. It was made clear in this House not now but in 1973 by the then Minister of State for Home Affairs who happens to be the Chairman of the Joint Parliamentary Committee which is happily not sitting this afternoon and therefore I am able to be with you.

Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha who, moving the 1973 Integrated Criminal Procedure Code, was actually asked in this House whether sections 125 and 127 derogated from Muslim Personal Law. And on behalf of the Government, he gave a categorical assurance that sections 125 and 127 referred to the vagrancy provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code which is applicable to all communities in India and does not in any way affect the Muslim Personal Law. The two, therefore, are not interrelated. The question is whether... (*Interruptions*).

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani) : I was in the Joint Select Committee and I take the entire responsibility in personal terms for the enactment of section 125. That Shri Mirdha stated here is the first part of the sentence that you have stated that it applies to all Indians, not of a particular religion. The wording is, if any man of sufficient means and not any man of means. 'Any man of sufficient means' include children or parents or wife or destitutes. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : I do not think there is any contradiction between us. I refer you to the record specifically in reply to a question from a Member of the opposition, Shri Mirdha gave the clarification that sections 125 and 127 did not in any way detract the Muslim Personal Law. But that is it. What does section 125 or section 127 point out ? I am very said that this Resolution has come before the House before Shrimati Suseela Gopalan's Private Members Bill has come because that I think, is a more relevant issue than the one that has been brought forward just now. What does she say ? She points out that under the Indore Session's Judgement. the total amount of money that was to be paid to Shrimati Shah Bano for preventing her from falling into vagrancy was a sum below Rs. 30 and when the Jabalpur High Court reviewed this matter, they raised the payment due to her to Rs. 179.20 only. I cannot believe that they really thought that by giving her twenty paise, they would save her from vagrancy. The issue that should have been taken up in this House by those who espouse the cause of women and here I am no less behind the hon. lady, despite the fact that I am not a lady, I am absolutely behind her in saying that sections 125 and 127 in their application to all Indians of whatever community, are completely obsolete because the Supreme Court, over which the Chief Justice Chandrachud presided and which indulged in *obiter dicta* that Chief Justice Chandrachud did on the Shah Bano case, never

addressed itself to the question of how much money would save poor Shah Bano from vagrancy. Rs. 179.20 was decreed by the Jabalpur High Court and this much talking judge had nothing whatsoever to say about the quntum of money that should be given to the women who are suffering the danger of vagrancy. Mrs. Suseela Gopalan's Bill which has been pending before us now for several months, addresses itself to this question. It says that the minimum payment to be made should be Rs. 500 and the maximum limit should not be imposed so that if some Birlas or Tatas were to put aside his wife then instead of his being restricted to giving her pocket money of Rs. 179.20 per month, he would have to pay in accordance with his means. This is the real issue. We are not addressing ourselves to the real issue. Instead, we are addressing ourselves to a totally bogus Hindu Muslim issue. You cannot make a speech asking for the establishment of a commission to go into a uniform civil code in which every word of praise is reserved for one community, the Hindu community, and every word of condemnation is reserved for another community the Muslim community. I cannot believe, Sir, that the Madam, the hon. Member will be able to find one member of any minority community who, for the reasons that she has advanced, would wish to see a commission established to enquire into the matter.

This is a highly sensitive matter; it is a highly delicate matter. I plead with the lady, through you, Sir, that ours is not a policy of appeasement; ours is not a policy of vote banks.

On the Shah Bano case, my friend, my mentor, my leader, my then Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi explained once in a dramatic manner how the Muslim Personal Act that he brought in, could not be taken as an active appeasement of the Muslim community. He said that if the argument is right that the country is outraged, then, it means, automatically, that all the Hindus do not support us, so, I lose 85 per cent of my electorate. He said, then, if it is right that the women of Islam are outraged, I lose 7½ per cent of the rest which means I lose 92½ per cent and if it is right that several male members of the Islamic community are outraged, then, I lose another three or four per cent. So, I get down to securing the support of three per cent for this Act and I secure the opposition of 97 per cent of the Indians. How can it be called the politics of appeasement? He explained and I stand by that position that if you create a communal divide by taking a particular Supreme Court judgement and converting it into a Hindu-Muslim issue, then, any responsible Government of this country has to say that even if I lose the support of 97 per cent of the electorate, I must do the right thing to keep this country together and the country was kept together.

The country has not been kept together by destroying the Babri Masjid; the country has not been kept together by pretending that it was a disputed structure; the country, I submit, is not even being kept together by allowing that temporary disputed structure, the so-called temple, to continue to be at that site. This country has been grossly divided since 1989 by the politics of the *rath*. We were told by Shri Atal Behari Vajpayee that when he fought the elections from Balrampur, many many decades ago, that all he had was two jeeps. Now what has he got? He has got two *raths*. The jeeps were all right; he could do with two or three Jan Sangh members. But that *rath* and everything that has happened since then has so destroyed this country that in our hearts, there is an ache. It is that ache which, if the Bharatiya Janata Party were to understand, we may begin to move towards some understanding among ourselves because I have no difficulty with your being a Hindu. In my own fashion, I too am a Hindu and fortunately my Hindu religion permits me to be a Hindu, even if I do not believe in God. So, I have no great difficulty in moving to an accommodation with the B.J.P. on the grounds of being a Hindu. But, if, in order to assert my Hindu nature, if, in order to assert the Hindu character of my civilisation, if, in order to assert the Hindu majority in my nation, I am going to look at my Muslim brothers and sisters with the kind of eyes with which the Mover of this Motion has looked at them, during the course of her half an hour intervention, then, I am afraid, I will never be able to win them over to my side. You may be able to

get some of those who are unfaithful to their own community, from the Muslim community, to join hands with the B.J.P. But, this country is going to be able to survive only if you can reinterpret the *Hindutva* to mean that it is as integral to the Muslim traditions of this country as you pretend it is integral to the Hindu tradition of this country. If you do that, of course, you end up having the same point of view as I have, but I cannot believe that you will do it. You will stick to your own point of view, which is a narrow point of view, which is a destructive point of view, which has caused untold harm to this country already, which holds within its womb the possibility of totally destroying the India that we have built after so much struggle and so much sacrifice.

I oppose this Resolution, now if I may say so in the reverse order, first and foremost because the mover of this Resolution belongs to the party of destruction; secondly because the reasons given by her are all the wrong reasons; and thirdly because this is the worst possible time of all to inflict the insult of a commission to look into this issue to the injury that was caused to this nation and to our Muslim brethren by the actions of the hon. Member's party, the associated organisations and all those gonads and lampoons who broke the Babri Masjid on the 6th of December 1992.

Thank you.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA. Mr. Aiyar has to be thanked for having spoken against destruction of the Babri Masjid; but not on this Resolution.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA (Jadavpur) : Mr. Chairman Sir, I rise to oppose this Resolution not because I oppose the idea of a uniform Civil Code as such, which in fact is a Directive Principle of our Constitution; nor because I do not think that unity and brotherhood among the people of India is not an important issue; but because of the way in which the wording of the Resolution has been made. In the wording of the Resolution, unity and brotherhood among the citizens of the country has been made dependent on the imposition or the introduction of a uniform Civil Code.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Shall we sit beyond 6 o'clock also Sir ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : No.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA : If I am allowed to continue next time, I will resume my seat now.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes, you may continue next time.

Now Statement by the Minister of Information and Broadcasting, Shri K. P. Singh Deo.

17.58 hrs.

[*English*]

STATEMENT OF MINISTER

SATELLITE TELEVISION CHANNEL FOR REGIONAL LANGUAGE PROGRAMMES

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

Hon'ble Members would recall the statement made by me in this house on 24th March, 1993 regarding the starting of satellite channels, using the spare time on the transponders on the satellites of the INSAT system, the programmes of which could be received in all parts of the country through an appropriate dish antenna.

2. Pursuant to my statement, a scheme for allotment of time slots on the Entertainment (Metro) channel, Sports channel, Business News and Current Affairs channel, Enrichment channel and Music channel was formulated by my Ministry. The satellite channels will be introduced from 15th August, 1993.

3. The successful launch of the INSAT 2B, which is a matter of national pride, has encouraged us to provide additional satellite channels to our countrymen for telecasting regional language programmes which could be received in all parts of the country through an appropriate dish antenna.

4. Doordarshan would start from 2nd October. 1993, a pilot satellite service in ten regional languages for two and a half hours to three hours primarily during the afternoon from Monday to Friday. The

languages proposed to be covered in the beginning would be Assamese & other languages of the North East, Bengali, Gujarati, Kannada, Kashmiri, Malayalam, Marathi, Oriya, Tamil and Telugu.

5. The programming on these satellite television channels for regional language programmes would be provided by private parties who would be allotted time slots on these channels.

6. The introtuction of these new channels, besides introducing a greater variety of programmes for the viewers would also open up new outlets at a national level for the vast pool of hitherto untapped talent available in the country, especially at the regionl level. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House stands adjourned to re-assemble on Tuesday. the 10th August. 1993.

18.00 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, August 10, 1993/*Sravana* 19, 1915 (*Saka*).