

# **LOK SABHA DEBATES** **(English Version)**

**Thirteenth Session**  
**(Tenth Lok Sabha)**



*(Vol. XLI contains Nos. 31 to 40)*

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT**  
**NEW DELHI**

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(English Version)

Tuesday, May 23, 1995/Jyaishta 2, 1917 (Saka)

<u>Col./Line</u>	<u>For</u>	<u>Read</u>
Cover page	Tuesday	Tuesday
(1)/14 and last	SHRI SURYA NARAIN YADAV	SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV
21/33	SERI SATYA NARAYAN JATIYA	DR. SATYNARAYAN JATIYA
60/16(from below)	SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAYA	SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA
105/13	SHRI K.H.MUNIYAPPA	SHRI K.H.MUNIYAPPA
229/3	delete 'the work of '	
241/11	repaired	spent



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# LOK SABHA DEBATES

## LOK SABHA

## ANNEXURE-I

Tuesday, May 23, 1995/ Jyaistha 2, 1917 (Saka)  
(The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock)  
[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

#### Krishi Vigyan Kendras

\*663. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made any assessment of performance of the Krishi Vigyan Kendras functioning in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether all the Krishi Vigyan Kendras established till date have started functioning fully;

(d) if not, the names of such Krishi Vigyan Kendras which have not started functioning fully;

(e) the details of hurdles noticed by the Government in their being operational;

(f) the action being taken by the Government to remove these hurdles; and

(g) the time by which the said Krishi Vigyan Kendras will start functioning fully?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) to (g). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

#### STATEMENT

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are given in Annexure-I.

(c) to (e). 183 KVKs sanctioned before the 8th Plan in various parts of the country have been established and activities like training of farmers/farm women, field demonstrations on farm testing/research etc. have been started. At some places, certain category of staff is yet to be positioned due to recurring problem of transfer, ban on recruitment etc. Certain farm equipments in some KVKs is yet to be acquired by them. 78 KVKs sanctioned in 8th Plan are in various stages of establishment (list given in Annexure-II). Major hurdles in making the newly sanctioned KVKs operational include non-availability of 50 acres of representative cultivable land, new pattern of funding, ban on recruitment of staff etc.

(f) and (g). The Council is intensively persuading the host institutions to overcome these hurdles. These Krishi Vigyan Kendra are likely to start functioning as soon as these hurdles get resolved.

10 Quinquennial Review Teams (QRTs) were constituted by the ICAR for assessment of the performance of 183 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) as per details given below :

S.No.	Region	Name of the State covered by QRTs.
1.	I (A)	Hilly Districts of U.P., Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir States.
2.	I (B)	Punjab
3.	II	Assam and West Bengal
4.	III	North-Eastern Hilly States
5.	IV (A)	Plains of Uttar Pradesh
6.	IV (B)	Bihar
7.	V	Eastern Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and Andhra Pradesh
8.	VI	Rajasthan, Gujarat and Haryana
9.	VII	Goa, Maharashtra and Western Madhya Pradesh
10.	VIII	Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Union Territory of Pondicherry.

These Committees have observed after assessment of the functioning of KVKs that during the last five years, these KVKs have concentrated their efforts in organising short term vocational training programmes in Crop Production, Horticulture, Livestock Production, Fisheries, Home Science and other related vocations for the benefit of farmers, farm women and rural youths. Besides, this, large number of extension activities including field demonstrations were also conducted to create awareness and facilitate adoption of modern agricultural technology. Many KVKs have established excellent Demonstration Units and forged harmonious linkages with Research Institutes on one hand and a number of developmental organizations on the other.

The Committees have given specific recommendations on various aspects of functioning of KVKs. These aspects includes mandate of the KVKs, functions of KVKs, survey of villages, training, technical programmes, impact of KVKs, linkages, Local Management Committees, instructional farm, buildings and Demonstration Units, personnel management (recruitment and transfer, incentives and promotions, staff training etc.), financial management, revolving fund, monitoring of KVKs, guidelines for selection of site for new KVKs etc.

In the light of these recommendations, the KVKs are being revitalised by taking appropriate action by the Council and the host institutions.

## ANNEXURE-II

List of 78 KVKs which are yet to be fully functional

S.No.	State	Districts
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Adilabad
2.		Khammam
3.		West Godawari
4.	Arunachal Pradesh	Lohit
5.	Assam	Cachar
6.		Golaghat
7.		Sibsagar
8.	Bihar	Bhojpur
9.		Jamui
10.		Palamau
11.	Bihar	West Champaran
12.	Delhi	Delhi
13.	Gujarat	Bharuch
14.		Surat
15.		Vadodara
16.	Haryana	Ambala
17.		Panipat
18.		Rohtak
19.	Himachal Pradesh	Kangra
20.		Mandi
		Una
21.	Jammu and Kashmir	Leh
22.	Karnataka	Belgaum
23.		Bellary
24.		Kolar
25.		Mysore
26.		Raichur
27.	Kerala	Idukki
28.		Kottayam
29.		Pethenamthitta
30.		Quilon
31.	Maharashtra	Akola
32.		Buldana
33.		Kolhapur
34.		Latur
35.		Nanded
36.		Nasik
37.		Nagpur
38.		Parbhani
39.		Raigarh
40.		Solapur
41.	Madhya Pradesh	Guna

1	2	3
42.		Khandwa
43.		Raigh
44.		Sarguja
45.		Seoni
46.		Shivpuri
47.	Meghalaya	Cherrapunji
48.	Mizoram	Lunglei
49.	Nagaland	Mokokchung
50.	Orissa	Angul
51.		Dhenkanal
52.		Kendrapada
53.	Pondicherry	Keraikal
54.	Punjab	Jullunder
55.		Faridkot
56.		Sangrur
57.	Rajasthan	Baran
58.		Dausa
59.		Rajsamand
60.	Tamil Nadu	Dharmapuri
61.		Kamraj
62.		Madurai
63.		Kottayam
64.		Salem
65.		Kattabaman
66.	Tripura	North Tripura
67.	Uttar Pradesh	Azamgarh
68.		Deoria
69.		Farrukhabad
70.		Lukhnow
71.		Mainpuri
72.		Moradabad
73.		Muzaffarnagar
74.		Pithoragarh
75.		Shahjahanpur
76.	West Bengal	Burdwan
77.		Nadia
78.		Birbhum

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA (Balasore) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank the hon. Minister for Agriculture for giving a detailed statement which he laid on the Table. On the recommendations of the quinquennial review team, the Government is taking proper action; I welcome the Government for this. According to the statement laid on the Table of the House, 183 KVKs are sanctioned before the Eighth Plan in various parts of the country. I want to know from the hon. Minister, out of these 183 KVKs sanctioned so far, how many KVKs have their own buildings, that means, how many building have

been constructed and in how many KVKs the buildings are under construction and in how many KVKs the construction has not started. I also want to know in how many KVKs there is full strength of scientific and technical staff; if not, what are the reasons therefor and how many KVKs have acquired the basic equipment.

MR. SPEAKER : Is this the kind of question you have to put?

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA (Balasore) : I may be excused, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : You cannot be excused.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA (Balasore) : Sir, the hon. Minister has given the reply in detail; that is why, my supplementary question has to be in detail.

MR. SPEAKER : No, I do not expect the Minister to reply to such supplementary question in detail. You can get it in writing, if you want.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA (Balasore) : How many KVKs have full capacity of land, that is, 40 acres to 50 acres of land, how many KVKs have not acquired such amount of land and what are the reasons for that and what action is being taken by the Department for fulfilling the conditions?

SHRI ARVIND NETAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the KVK was first started in 1974. Till the Seventh Plan 183 KVKs were sanctioned for the country. So many conditions are there for sanctioning these KVKs. The hon. Member had referred about the buildings; it is correct that one of the conditions is the construction of buildings.

So, regarding construction of buildings, out of 183 KVKs, 96 KVKs have got full buildings constructed, buildings for 58 KVKs are under construction and 29 KVKs have no buildings.

As regards scientific staff, 111 KVKs have scientific staff in full strength and the rest of them have partial scientific staff.

Regarding land for KVKs, the first condition for these KVKs is that they should have 50 acres of cultivable land. Only 140 KVKs have full land and the rest of the 43 KVKs have got partial land. So, we are pursuing this matter to fulfill these conditions for other KVKs also so that they can work with full strength.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA : Honourable Speaker, Sir, the aims and objectives of opening KVKs in the country are far wide. They are to give training and knowledge to the farmers in horticulture, livestock production, fishery, home science and other related vocational matters. I want to know whether it was the aim of the Government to open a KVK centre in each district. When will this aim of opening at least one KVK centre in each district be fulfilled and what is the target for it? In my State of Orissa, some districts are neglected so far, specially districts inhabited by tribal and

Scheduled Castes people in majority. There is a demand in this regard from my district, Mayurbanj and earlier also, I had put forward this demand before the hon. Minister. I would like to know whether the Government is considering to open a new KVK centre in backward districts like Mayurbanj.

SHRI ARVIND NETAM : It is right that earlier, the Government had decided to open KVKs in all districts in due course but it depends on the availability of funds. So, according to that situation, we are opening new KVKs every year. As I have said in my main reply, 78 KVKs have been sanctioned in the Eighth Five Year Plan and it is still under process.

The hon. Member has asked about his State of Orissa. We have already sanctioned nine KVKs to it out of the 183 KVKs. And out of the 78 new KVKs which we have sanctioned, we are going to cover three districts, namely, Angul, Dhenkanal and Kendrapada. Of course, the hon. Member was referring about Mayurbanj. We will consider it in due course of time.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, two Krishi Vigyan Kendras were proposed to be set up in each district but at many places no Krishi Vigyan Kendra has been set up even in those districts where land was made available for this purpose. Will the Hon'ble Minister please to state what difficulty Government is facing in starting work in Badayun, Bareilly and Shahjahanpur? Whether there are financial constraints or Government assistance is not being made available or the Universities which have been entrusted with this work are not taking up the work of setting up these Kendras? Whether, in view of all this, Government will take a decision to extend financial assistance to non Government sector, so that economic burden on Government is reduced?

SHRI ARVIND NETAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Government intends to set up Krishi Vigyan Kendras in each district and we are taking steps in this direction. This is not true that Government plans to set up two Krishi Vigyan Kendras in each district. As I have stated, 183 Kendras were set up during seventh Plan. We have not been able to set up all the sanctioned Krishi Vigyan Kendras because of certain conditions and constraints but we are trying to meet those conditions and set up these Kendras as sanctioned. They prepare plans on papers and later on say that they don't have any facilities for them. This creates problems for us.

We are trying to remove the difficulties and are asking them to open these Kendras as early as possible.

Sir, we have also involved N.G.Os in this scheme and I want to inform the House that in 179 districts, 101 Centres are being run by Agriculture Universities, 24 by ICAR and 58 by NGOs. In this way we are encouraging them and providing assistance.

[English]

**National Creche Fund**

\*664. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :  
DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the targets fixed for setting up new Creche Centres and Anganwadi-cum-Creche Centres under National Creche Fund;

(b) whether these targets have been achieved;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI) : (a) For the year 1994-95, the target was to sanction 450 creches and 150 Anganwadi-cum-creche centres.

(b) Yes, Sir. The target has been achieved.

(c) and (d). A Statement showing the State/UT-wise details of the creches and Anganwadi-cum-creche centres sanctioned during 1994-95 is enclosed. Creches were sanctioned to all the 13 States from where complete applications with State Governments' recommendations were received.

**STATEMENT**

*Statement showing the Statewise details of Anganwadi-cum-Creche Centres sanctioned to State/UTs and general creches sanctioned to NGOs under National Creche Fund during 1994-95*

S. No.	Name of the State/UTs	No. of Anganwadi-cum-Creche Centres sanctioned	No. of creches sanctioned
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10	40
2.	Assam	4	40
3.	Bihar	11	-
4.	Gujarat	8	-
5.	Haryana	4	40
6.	Himachal Pradesh	2	20
7.	Karnataka	9	40
8.	Kerala	5	-
9.	Madhya Pradesh	11	40
10.	Maharashtra	11	45
11.	Manipur	2	-

1	2	3	4
12.	Meghalaya	2	-
13.	Nagaland	2	-
14.	Orissa	9	40
15.	Punjab	4	10
16.	Rajasthan	7	10
17.	Sikkim	2	-
18.	Tamil Nadu	6	40
19.	Tripura	2	-
20.	Uttar Pradesh	14	45
21.	West Bengal	11	40
22.	Andaman & Nicobar	1	-
23.	Arunachal Pradesh	9	-
24.	Chandigarh	1	-
25.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1	-
26.	Delhi	2	-
27.	Goa	2	-
28.	Daman and Diu	1	-
29.	Lakshadweep	1	-
30.	Mizoram	2	-
31.	Pondicherry.	1	-
Total		150	450

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA (Firozabad) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know from the Government that in the answer it has been stated that targets for setting of new creches and Anganwadi-cum-creches under National Creches Fund has been achieved. What is the break up in regard to rural area and tribal areas and whether or not the poor women working in these centres for 8-12 hours daily are being paid reasonable remunerations?

[English]

SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI : Yes, Sir. The target for the last year was 450 creches and 150 Anganwadi-cum-creche centres which we have already sanctioned State-wise. Creches have been sanctioned to all States from where complete applications with State Governments' recommendations were received.

Regarding the creche funds, we have kept about Rs. 19.90 crore which we obtain from World Bank's assistance in the corpus fund for opening creches because there is a demand for creche centres. Through the interest we derive from that, we are opening such centres.

This year also we have kept the same target, that is, 450 creches and 150 Anganwadi-cum-creche centres. The criterion for selection of creches is: where the children population is more, where the tribal population is more, where there are no Anganwadi centres, we are opening such creche centres.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a matter of deep sorrow and regret that the Hon'ble Minister has in reply to a USQ said that there are financial constraints. If it is so, how this target was achieved? How much total expenditure is incurred on a creche and Anganwadi-cum-creche centre? Whether Government has prepared an expansion scheme in this regard so as to provide maximum benefit to poor families?

[English]

SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI : Yes, Sir. We have prepared a scheme for Creche and Anganwadi-cum-creche centres. We have kept Rs. 18,480 for recurring expenditure and Rs. 4,000 for non-recurring expenditure for creches. We have also kept Rs. 25,200 for giving training to creche teachers to conduct training courses each consisting of 40 creches workers for a duration of 35 days. These centres will be opened through NGOs duly recommended by the State Governments.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, recently Anganwadi women had staged a demonstration in Delhi... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI : Please listen to me. I am giving the answer. This is not from the general funds. This is a fund of Rs. 134 crore which we got as World Bank assistance. Out of this, we have spent Rs. 30 crore for Rashtriya Mahila Kosh and Rs. 19.90 crore are set apart for Creche Fund. The remaining amount was spent for the construction of anganwadi centres, for the construction of godowns, and also for providing utensils, etc. for the centres. We have no shortage of funds. This is not the normal fund. This is the World Bank assistance.

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : ....\* (Not recorded)

MR. SPEAKER : It is not going on record.

[Translation]

DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank the Hon'ble Minister for sanctioning 11 Anganwadi-cum-creche centres and 40 creches for Madhya Pradesh. I would like to know the amount sanctioned for running each centre and how the workers appointed for teaching and bringing up the children in these centres have been trained?

[English]

SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI : In these anganwadi centres, the remuneration or the honorarium paid is different. As far as the creche teachers are

\* Not Recorded.

concerned, we have stated that we will give Rs. 800 for two workers per month. This is the target that we have fixed for these creche teachers. As far as Madhya Pradesh is concerned, we have sanctioned 40 Creche Centres from this Creche Fund

[Translation]

DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA : It is a very difficult job to teach the children and, the teachers are getting a remuneration of Rs. 800 only;

MR. SPEAKER : We have discussed this question several times and once, we discussed it for 45 minutes.

[Translation]

### Fruits' and Vegetables' Production

\*665. SHRI DATTA MEGHE :

SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of Centrally Sponsored Schemes being implemented to boost the production of fruits and vegetables;

(b) the measures taken so far to implement the aforesaid schemes;

(c) whether the Government have any data in regard to area and production of fruits and vegetables during 1993-94;

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

(e) whether the production of fruits and vegetables in the country is commensurate with their demand;

(f) if not, the facts thereof; and

(g) the details of further plans formulated to increase the production of fruits and vegetables in the country?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) to (g). A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

### STATEMENT

(a) A Statement is enclosed.

(b) All the schemes have been approved and funds released for their implementation.

(c) and (d). The latest information available is for 1992-93, and is placed on the table of the Sabha as per Annexure-I.

(e) and (f). The availability of fruits and vegetables is about 45 and 197 grams per capita per day against the recommended dietary requirement of 120 and 280 grams, respectively.

(g) The programmes currently being implemented to increase the production of fruits and vegetables in the country will be continued and further strengthened during the next plan depending upon the availability of funds.

### STATEMENT

*The following schemes are being implemented during the VIII Plan period to boost the production of fruits and vegetables*

Name of Scheme	VIII Plan Outlay (Rs. in crores)
1. Integrated development of tropical temperate and arid zone fruits	74.40
2. Production and supply of vegetable seed.	15.00
3. Development of root and tuber crops	2.50
4. Development of mushroom	10.00
5. Use of plastics in agriculture	250.00
6. Development of beekeeping for improving crop productivity	18.87
7. Scheme under National Horticulture Board :	
(i) Integrated project on management of post harvest infrastructure of fruits and vegetables.	47.00
(ii) Development of marketing of horticulture produce through participation in soft loan	50.00
(iii) Establishment of nutritional garden in rural areas	12.50
(iv) Alternate structure for marketing of fruit juices/fruit based beverages	1.35
(v) Development of horticulture in non-traditional area	3.66

### ANNEXURE-I

*State-wise area and production of fruits and vegetables during 1992-93*

Name of the State	Area in ha.		Production in M.T	
	Fruits		Vegetables	
	Area	Production	Area	Production
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	338512	4766421	148519	1368068
Maharashtra	294014	4313870	201633	3570887
Karnataka	225389	3438046	416958	4662172

	1	2	3	4	5
Bihar		271170	3358983	887309	16200449
Uttar Pradesh (Hills)		176170	461793	79588	687000
Uttar Pradesh (Plains)		305120	2892270	593327	8911199
Tamil Nadu		136908	2369033	53530	959073
Kerala		342000	1931000	202503	2902922
Gujarat		93500	1915000	142000	1556500
Madhya Pradesh		68403	1282264	214049	2046852
West Bengal		133890	1149220	609990	12976880
Assam		98323	1103020	191900	1754355
Orissa		149452	1036000	760660	7745000
Jammu & Kashmir		184621	786986	180300	745000
Punjab		76519	693377	85299	1455300
Tripura		46845	325550	31950	320850
Himachal Pradesh		121247	324855	38680	476000
Meghalaya		25190	232000	25376	237750
Haryana		15303	121390	73581	1029530
Manipur		20705	100000	4663	36470
Rajasthan		20908	94607	59525	302478
Goa		11280	88260	N.A.	N.A.
Arunachal Pradesh		22340	49257	17166	79947
Mizoram		10211	43668	12319	70099
Sikkim		7870	19034	8386	51792
Pondicherry		976	18151	2353	23379
Andaman & Nicobar Islands		1700	16333	3600	14592
Nagaland		5153	9233	8235	66860
Dadra & Nagar Haveli		708	7100	003	002
Delhi		502	4218	47217	735164
Daman and Diu		382	3160	29	290
Chandigarh		125	793	270	5509
Lakshadweep		213	384	240	125
Total India		3205649	32955276	5102675	71006052

[Translation]

SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Statement attached to the answer indicates the outlay for the 8th Plan in respect of production of fruits and vegetables. The prices of fruits and vegetables are so prohibitive that they are beyond the purchasing power of the poor and fresh fruits and vegetables are not available to urbanites. Whether Central Government will coordinate the production schemes of States and encourage each State for augmenting production of fruits and vegetables and whether Government has any such scheme?

My second question is about fruits, particularly about oranges. This fruit is available in abundance during the season but adequate cold storage capacity does not exist. Thus, farmers are deprived of fair price. What scheme Government has formulated to increase storage capacity and ensure remunerative prices to farmers?

SHRI ARVIND NETAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government is providing assistance to states for the production of fruits and vegetable, as has been indicated in the original answer about the assistance given during 8th Plan. Cooperation of State Governments and agriculture Universities is also being sought to increase fruit and vegetable production.

As regards oranges, we always take initiative, as is clear from increased Plan allocation during Seventh and Eighth Plans. Production has also increased. We are making efforts to increase its production—further.

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to add to what Shri Netamji has said. We want to further increase the production of fruits and vegetables as is evident from the fact that where as Rs. 24 crore were in the 7th Plan for horticulture, it has been raised to one thousand crore of rupees in the 8th Plan, an increase by 42 times. We are anxious to provide nutritious stuff to all and have made provisions for this. This aspect has been neglected so far. We had no arrangements for trading, packaging, forwarding, marketing, transportation and cold storage. We are now making all these arrangements. We are setting up many free-cooling stations and cold-storages. We have provided airconditioned vans to carry fruits.

We have a large population. Still, I feel proud to say that we were second in the world in the field of fruit production so far, first being Brazil, but according to FAO report, we are number one this year and Brazil has been relegated to number two position.

So far as vegetable production is concerned, we are second only to China. We are encouraging farmers. I have long details thereof. If you permit me, I can read it out, but it will take too much time. The way we have provided incentives to farmer is an example. Our policy is to provide seed, subsidy and new-technology to farmers and we propose to involve universities also in our endeavour. Naturally, it will take some time because Agriculture is a sector which has different stages such as sowing seeds, plantation, sprouting, fruition and riping, but once its foundation is laid, the future will be bright. Today, we are exporting grapes, mangoes, chikoo, oranges, and other vegetables which were not exported earlier, the reason being 25 to 30 percent fruits and vegetables used to perish for want of adequate cold storage facility. Now, we have made storage arrangements and are processing them so that they fetch more money.

SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, several facilities have been provided for fruit production in Maharashtra. Under employment acceleration scheme also, financial assistance is being provided for planting fruit bearing trees. Marketing arrangements have also made there during the last two-three years. Mango and oranges from Maharashtra are in great demand outside the country. May I know whether Government have

formulated any specific scheme for being implemented by Maharashtra State for export of these fruits because this ensures very remunerative price to farmers and some farmers are exporting these items in their own way by forming cooperatives?

SHRI ARVIND NETAM : Sir, Maharashtra is far ahead in matter of horticulture and I want to congratulate farmers as well as administration of this state. After introduction of liberalisation policy, several countries have shown interest in this area, and some coordination is on particularly with Israel. This has encouraged Maharashtra a lot.

Maharashtra has made maximum use of drip irrigation system which is very beneficial for horticulture. APIDA, which is a coordinating agency between the Ministry of Commerce and our Ministry, is helping in the area of fruit export, and we have made good progress in this regard and I think, with present liberalisation policy, we can expect further progress in this area.

SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA : Sir, the hon. Agriculture Minister has said that, as at present, we are on top among world nations in matter of fruit production but he might also be aware that our contribution in world market is only 5 percent and if so, where do we stand? We are far behind. We have increased our horticulture area, not productivity and unless productivity increases, farmers are not going to get the benefit of fruit and vegetable production. As one of my hon. friends has said, the basic problem before us is that the farmer is not getting reasonable price of his produce and I have personal knowledge of my area that a vegetable grower some times does not get the price of his produce in Delhi market even equal to the amount he spends on freight for bringing it there. I think this is one area which should be taken up on priority basis by the Agriculture Ministry. I would urge the hon. Minister to introduce a long term loan scheme for fruit growers because whatever fruit, may be ...*(Interruptions)*. I want to know whether the Ministry has any long term loan scheme for farmers? The vegetable producers are not being given loans. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what steps are being taken to provide loan to fruit and vegetable producers beside providing marketing facilities? ...*(Interruptions)* I want information regarding fruits and vegetables both.

MR. SPEAKER : You are confusing. You ask a straight question whether funds will be provide for fruit and vegetable production?

SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA : You will not allow me to put supplementaries; my question is very important.

MR. SPEAKER : If you put long question, no answer will be forthcoming.

SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA : I want to ask only one more question. 50 percent of the fruit produced

in our state is destroyed in orchards before it ripens. I would like to know what measures the Agriculture Ministry is taking on this aspect?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : The hon. Member is right in saying that our contribution in export has been negligible so far but you should appreciate that we have increased plan outlay by 42 times...*(Interruptions)*. It made you laugh and I think it angurs well. I know its marketing problem. The farmer does not get fair price for his produce, the consumer has to pay more; there is the middleman who manoeuvres. Therefore, we are concentrating on marketing facilities and arrangements are being made for it. You will appreciate that.

[English]

Under the marketing of horticulture product, the Board is offering two soft loan schemes for development, infrastructure and marketing under which loan up to Re. 1 crore per beneficiary is given.

[Translation]

You know how much work we have done. We want to offer to both sectors, public and private sectors. Under these schemes, we have opened 83 grading packing centres; 42 cold storages; 43 processing units, 132 retail outlets, provided 147 refrigeration vans, but still it is just a beginning...*(Interruptions)* Rajveer Singh is always very anxious, what can I do?

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : He has given all these details in our answer to an earlier question.

MR. SPEAKER : Cold storages are used for marketing. You should understand this.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : I have elaborated the marketing aspect also. We are offering a sum of Re. 1 crore on only 4 percent interest, you would not get such a soft-loan. I have told you about cold-storages, processing...*(Interruptions)* You must appreciate that I do not possess Aladdin's land, but I have the determination of doing things. I am laying the foundation. We also want to give subsidy. I have the details with me but it will take much time to read that out. I shall send details to the hon. Member in writing so that he knows what we are doing.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, what the hon. Minister has said...

SHRI RAJENDRA PRASAD SHARMA : Mr. Speaker, I am sorry the hon. Minister has not answered my question about the steps taken to make loan available to farmers.

MR. SPEAKER : Banks have been instructed about advancing loans to farmers. Loans are also given for producing fruits and vegetables.

SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA : Sir, no loan is given for horticulture.

MR. SPEAKER : A very big amount has been allocated for this purpose. You know the amount allocated is not utilised fully.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV : Mr. Speaker, the hon. Minister makes a jugglery of words. He uses beautiful words such as 'anand dayak' 'Sundertam' but the entire emphasis is on fruits and vegetables export.

MR. SPEAKER : 45 times more funds have been allotted for fruits. It should be a matter of joy.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV : Mr. Speaker, the answer given to my question is totally misleading, it can mislead the House. We need not compare ourselves with Brazil. We have to bear in mind our own position. We should not remain in fools paradise that we are number two in fruit production. This is not based on facts. We need 120 grams fruit per day per person to keep healthy but as against it we are producing 45 grams only, i.e. only 40 percent. The minimum per capita requirement of vegetable is 280 grams and we are producing only 197 grams. What measures were taken for their development during the entire plan-period? You are giving funds for coldstorage, for marketing facility, but you have allocated a mere Rs. 15 crore for fruit and vegetable seed production, Rs. 2.50 crore for the development of basic fruits and Rs. 12 crore for rural areas where vegetables and fruits are produced and only Rs. 3.50 crores for the development of traditionally fruit growing areas which should have been given more because most of the fruits are grown in some particular areas. Whether Government have any scheme to ensure fruit and vegetable supply to the people as per their requirement and whether some special scheme is proposed to be formulated for increasing their production? Government is spending on building coldstorages, marketing, but what is being done for their development?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : Sir, Chandra Jeetji is my elder brother. I cannot say anything. It needs comprehension. What I am stating is true. Without marketing facility everything will go wrong. The farmer will stop production if he fails to get good price. We provided assistance for wheat, for paddy, oilseeds and the farmers filled our godawns. If we fail to give money to them, they will stop producing. I am doing all this for the farmer providing subsidy to him. Entire money is being given for increasing production. All efforts are being made to augment production. We shall export only when we have surplus. We are exporting only the surplus. We have a population of 92 crore while Brazil is a small nation. We have to strike a balance between income and expenditure. We have to allocate more for this. We are developing infrastructure, it is not misleading, it is not a dream, and even if it is a dream we are trying our best to realise this dream; the farmer should get good return and you nutritious product. We are spending on Krishi Vigyan Kendras, Research

Stations and all that. They are meant for farmers. The farmers will produce more only when they get more for his produce.

SMT. SHEELA GAUTAM : Sir, mango is the king of fruits and its crop is extremely good but insecticides, fertilisers etc. are not available in good quantity and quality. What steps is he taking to make available all these things?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : Sir, this pertains to State Government and we will see what we can do.

SMT. SHEELA GAUTAM : Sir, insecticides and fertilisers are not available. The fruit is infested by insects. What is the Government doing in this regard?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : No, no. This does not arise out of the question.

[Translation]

SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, 25 percent of the fruit and vegetable production gets perished. Government is making efforts to provide cold storage and processing facilities. But processed fruits are not tested in India as Shri Chandra Jeet Yadav has said, there is deficiency in nutrient value. I would like to know from the Hon'ble Minister whether Government is making efforts to see that Agriculture Ministry processes fruits involving Public Distribution System in it?

MR. SPEAKER : What will they do? Whether the marketing committee has any fruit distribution programme?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : We are setting up marketing centres for this purpose.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Mr. Speaker, North Bihar which is a low lying area is the only 'Makhana' (parched lotus seeds) producing area in the country, even in the entire world. It grows in water and is exported throughout the world. I had tried modernisation and extension of it. I tried it in Hyderabad. If he desires I can send experts from my area but they are illiterate. I want it should be grown wherever irrigation water is available. I tried it in Kanpur also....

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please come to the question now.

[Translation]

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : I am coming to that. I tried it in Kanpur and Ludhiana.

MR. SPEAKER : It is not the question of 'I' You put questions.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : I am putting question. It has a great nutrient value and it does not require cold storage. Whether he will try its production in various

parts of the country and also help increase its production in North Bihar because the people of the area are poor and backward?

Sir, all the trees except old ones have been planted by me at my residence. I had made a complaint that the roots of mango trees are infested by insects.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Jha, I will disallow your question if you do not come to the point.

[Translation]

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : May I know whether insecticide was not administered in the roots of those trees? Because of the nonavailability of the same, two big mango trees die. Whether the Hon. Minister will look into it?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : We have Research Institutes and also Bihar University there. I shall write to them and you approach them. You may also approach Bihar State Government.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : It is the question of resources.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : The Research Institutes have been set up there to see all this. They promote region-wise production of those things which can be grown, keeping in view the climatic conditions and which can give more income. All these aspects are looked after by the Research Institutes.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Sir, Hyderabad is not in Bihar and you will have to look into this.

[English]

DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR (Nasik) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am glad that the Government is giving a lot of subsidy for the pre-cooling units and cold storage facilities and all other things. But to improve the yield per hectare, there has to be a research. Three years ago, hon. Agriculture Minister had declared three National Research Centres for Maharashtra viz. (1) National Research Centre in Grapes in Pune, (2) National Research Centre in Onions and Garlics, Nasik and (3) National Research Centre in Oranges, Nagpur.

Three years have passed but the activity has not yet started...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am not allowing this question.

[Translation]

SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA : Mr. Speaker, I am myself a farmer. The Hon. Minister has said that 4 percent subsidy as well as loans are being given to farmers.

MR. SPEAKER : This is not meant for everything. It is meant only for cold storage.

SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA : I am talking of farmers. We Plant Lybrid Fruit trees which take 20-24 months to bear fruit and during this period of 24 months farmer's land remains untilled. What will the farmer do during these 24 months? He is not getting subsidy, he is not getting loan. This is the reason, farmers avoid plantation of fruit bearing trees. Whether any incentive scheme has been formulated to encourage farmers to grow fruits and vegetables? Last year, he had promised subsidy in fertilisers but the same has not forthcome till date.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : This has already been replied to. But I have no objection if the Minister wants to reply again.

[Translation]

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : As far as subsidy is concerned we provide grant upto Rs. 20,000 for developing a nursery, upto Rs. 10 lakhs for pisciculture, upto Rs. 1000 for farmers' training, upto Rs. 660 thousand per hectare for area expansion and Rs. 1200 to Rs. 3000 per hectare for improving productivity. All these efforts are intended to increase production and it will take time to take a proper shape. Same is the objective of Krishi Vigyan Kendras. They impart education, provide technology and remove the difference between theory and practical problems.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You should understand that the money which is allotted is not being used.

[Translation]

### Foodgrains Stock

\*666. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the existing rules for keeping maximum stocks of foodgrains for storage in the godowns of the Food Corporation of India;

(b) whether the offtake of foodgrains through the Public Distribution System has declined as well as the prices of foodgrains have registered an increase due to the retention of maximum foodgrain stocks by the Corporation;

(c) whether the Food Corporation of India has been finding it difficult to handle these stocks; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the effective measure taken by the Government in this regard?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) to (d). A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

### STATEMENT

(a) There are no rules/norms prescribing the maximum levels of stocks to be maintained in the Central pool of foodgrains operated by the FCI. The existing Government policy, at present, provides for the maintenance of the minimum buffer stocks at different times of the year.

(b) The allocations of wheat and rice to the States/UTs from the Central Pool and the actual offtake in the last two years was as under :

	(in lakh tonnes)			
	Wheat		Rice	
	A	O	A	O
1993-94	95.57	58.64	124.15	88.85
1994-95	108.09	48.29	133.16	79.75

A - Allocation

O - Offtake

Prices of wheat and rice have registered only a marginal increase of 2.2 per cent and 8.8 percent respectively on 6th May, 1995 as compared with that as on 6.5.1994. The decline in offtake against the Central allocations is attributed to the following :

- (i) Easy availability of wheat and rice in the open market because of good harvests in three consecutive years.
- (ii) Reasonable open market price of wheat and rice as compared with PDS prices.
- (iii) Comfortable stocks with the farmers and traders.

(c) and (d). The stock of wheat and rice held in the Central Pool as on 1.4.1995 was 26.8 million tonnes against the buffer norms of 14.5 million tonnes. The total storage capacity of FCI is of the order of 27.4 million tonnes. Even though the stocks levels are quite comfortable, it is not correct to say that the FCI is finding it difficult to handle these stocks.

Among the important steps taken by Government and the FCI are enhancing storage capacity; open sale of wheat and rice and the Government permission to export upto a ceiling of 4.5 million tonnes. Besides, special schemes have been formulated for channelling foodgrains to the targetted groups.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir in my question, I had asked for the reasons for 50 percent decline in the off take of wheat and rice against the Central allocation and the Government in its answer has said that their has been a very good harvest during the last three years and the farmers have comfortable stocks with them and the open market price of wheat and rice favourably compares with fair price. If that is

so, what is the justification for increase in prices? Secondly, if they have comfortable stocks and the off take is less, then what quantum of these grains has been exported during 1993-94 and 1994-95.

SHRI AJIT SINGH : The Government has not increased the issue price of rice and wheat since February 1994 and in open market also, the price of wheat has registered only a marginal increase of 2 percent and that of rice 8 percent as in May 1995 as against the prices prevailing last year.

About storage, we have sufficient storage capacity but as you know, procurement takes place only in 2-3 States. We are trying to increase storage capacity to meet the requirement of simultaneous procurement. We are also encouraging private parties. We have the Central Warehousing Corporation. Adequate storage capacity is also available with State Governments.

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : I wanted to know, if the Government has sufficient stocks and the offtake is less, what quantum of these grains has been exported? The grains are rotting in store stocks and the people are being supplied this rotten stuff through Fair Price Shops. He has said that their has been good crop for the last consecutive three years and the grains are stocked with the Government for want of adequate offtake. Would he ensure that it is not kept in storage? May I know, what quantity of grains has been exported?

SHRI AJIT SINGH : You know the Government is making efforts in this direction and it has been decided to export 4-5 million tonnes of wheat and rice and further efforts are on in this regard.

SHRI SATYA NARAYAN JATIYA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the offtake of rice allocated from the Central Pool to States and the Union Territories is much less. In 1994-95, offtake was almost half of the allocation and full allocation was not lifted in 1993-94, 1994-95. The problem is that the farmers do not get support price in time and the consumers also do not get wheat on fair price. I want to know, at what price and in what manner, the surplus between allotment and offtake is disposed of?

SHRI AJIT SINGH : We make allotment as demanded by States. The offtake for PDS depends upon Civil Supply Corporations. As far as the surplus is concerned, we have been selling it in the open market. I do not have the exact figures of sale but I can say, we have presently double the stock which we normally should have. Therefore, we are making efforts for their export.

MR. SPEAKER : What is the procurement and sale price of foodgrains which remain surplus?

SHRI AJIT SINGH : The procurement price of wheat is Rs. 360 and the issue price is Rs. 402. The open market price differs from state to state. The States which are far off such as Punjab...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : He wants to know the price at which you sell the surplus in the open market.

SHRI AJIT SINGH : The market price differs from state to state. It is different in Maharashtra and different in Gujarat. The FCI Committee decides the prices every month.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : They would certainly like to know why the foodgrains are sold at a very low price in the open market and they are entitled to know it.

SHRI AJIT SINGH : They are being sold at very low prices.

MR. SPEAKER : That is exactly what he implies.

[Translation]

SHRI AJIT SINGH : It he Complaining that these are being sold at low prices.

MR. SPEAKER : The foodgrains are sold in open market at a very low price on the plea that the same is unfit for human consumption and the Government is suffering losses due to this.

[English]

He wants to imply that. It is a very loaded question and if you do not have the information, you send it to him later on, please.

MR. SPEAKER : You ascertain the information and convey to the hon. Member.

[English]

SHRI MURLI DEORA (Bombay South) : The hon. Minister replied that the Government has given permission to export four-and-a-half million tonnes of foodgrains. There has been news that the Government has contracted two million tonnes of wheat for export to China. I would like to ask the hon. Minister what is the price realisation from the exports. What is the difference between the indigenous price and the export price which they fetch from the exports?

[Translation]

SHRI AJIT SINGH : We review export prices every month, it is reviewed by a high powered committee of F.C.I. Presently, it has been decided that export prices should not be lower than market price...(Interruptions). There is no truth in your information that a contact has been signed with China.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum) : Sir, the problem lies with the reply. In the reply it is stated : "Reasonable open market price of wheat and rice as compared with PDS prices." If it is put in a reverse manner it will become : "unreasonable PDS

prices compared to the open market prices." But the point is, how come that you have a lower per capita availability of foodgrains in the country.

I have raised it in the discussion on the Finance Bill and yet your withdrawal from the public distribution system is below what you have disbursed. How does it happen?

You made a Statement also that the stocks with the farmers are enlarged. If all this put together, does it mean that the poorer sections of the population are taking fewer meals a day than in the past?

Secondly, please state to us the three prices, namely, the PDS price, the open market price and the export price. We want to know this from you.

[Translation]

SHRI AJIT SINGH : Per-capita availability has not come down. We have had a production of 18.5 million tonnes. Therefore, to say that availability...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dum dum) : There will be a privilege motion against you because that is the Statement given in the Economic Survey ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please do not threaten the Minister like this.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dum dum) : The population has increased ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It is not correct.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dum dum) : I am trying to explain to him ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : This is not the way.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dum dum) : Per capita availability has come down ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI AJIT SINGH : The hon. Members wants to know three types of prices. The P.D.S. central issue price of wheat is Rs. 402 and open sale price ranges from Rs. 410 to Rs. 455.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : What about the export price?...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI AJIT SINGH : The export price is not less than the open sale price.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : You do not know what is the export price? ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI AJIT SINGH : Export price depends whether contract.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : He has proved that he is selling at low price...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : He is explaining that they are not going to export at a price which is lower than the open market price in the country.

(Interruptions)

SHRI AJIT SINGH : The FCI will not sell at a price which is lower than the open market price. No private contractor wants to sell it at lower price. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dum dum) : The open market price is Rs. 408 compared to the PDS price of Rs. 402...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It cannot go on like this.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : I want to know whether that Statement goes on record...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Everything you say goes on record.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Is he going on record that per capita availability...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You should know that everything you say goes on record unless I say it is off-the-record.

SHRI D.K. NAIKAR (Dharwad North) : Sir, the hon. Minister has given a reply to part (c) and part (d) of the question that the total capacity of storage is to the extent of 27 million tonnes and that is comfortable for him. Now, I want to know whether the procurement is to the extent of storage capacity or in excess. If it is in excess, then what is the provision of storage capacity?

Also is he going to take on hire basis or on rental basis?

MR. SPEAKER : He has already replied to that question. He has said already that they have enough capacity.

Mr. Minister, if you want to repeat the answer, you can.

[Translation]

SHRI AJIT SINGH : Sir, the procurement states do not have enough storage capacity. Therefore, we take godowns on rent from private parties, we encourage

them to build storage capacity. Then the state agencies have their own storage capacity and the Central Warehouses are also there.

SHRI RATILAL VARMA : Mr. Speaker, the wheat, which remains stocked in F.C.I. godowns for a long period and is treated with insecticides becomes unfit for human consumption, and as a result, the P.D.S. refused to lift such stocks. Whether the hon. Minister is aware of it and if so, what is the name of that state?

SHRI AJIT SINGH : Sir, we do not release for sale to public any foodgrains which are rotten or unfit for human consumption. There are states such as Karnataka which said that they do not need wheat. The stocks are checked by Inspectors before they are lifted. If the grains are not fit for consumption they can take them from other godowns of the F.C.I... (Interruptions) The two-three year old rotten wheat is used for cattle feeding.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now this is exactly the point about which you should be careful.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : He is saying that it is sold for cattle feeding.

[English]

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : Sir, actually we are facing problems of plenty. The Government deserves congratulations for the situation where we have total self-sufficiency in foodgrains. The problem of low offtake perhaps is not due to what the Minister has replied. The real problem is that through our PDS we are not offering what the people need.

Therefore, my specific question to the Minister is whether he would revamp the Public Distribution System to include coarse grains which are used by the people.

For example, maize, bajra and jowar are not given to the people through the PDS. And people are not picking wheat. Also in the case of rice, the people consume coarse rice, which is not available in the Northern States. The surplus rice from the Northern States is a superfine rice, which is not liked by the people of the South.

There is even a proposal before the Government to import coarse grain rice and export superfine rice. Would the Minister clarify these two points — whether the PDS will be revamped to include coarse grain and whether coarse grain foodgrain rice will be made available.

[Translation]

SHRI AJIT SINGH : The procurement of coarse grains is almost negligible because it is consumed in the producing states itself. We have the procurement scheme, but we do not get these grains. Therefore, question of their distribution does not arise. It is true

that we supply common rice through P.D.S. and in case Government does not have common rice stock, fine and super-fine quality rice is supplied at the same price.

[English]

SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO (Bapatla) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, before the Assembly Election in the State of Andhra Pradesh, the hon. Prime Minister announced 10kg. of free rice to the pchool-going children for March. The estimates of which come to, at that time also, five lakh tonnes per annum. This has been announced by the hon. Prime Minister just before the election. I would like to know whether the Government is going to allot that rice to Andhra Pradesh or not.

SHRI RAM NAIK : If the Congress comes to rule, then only it will be given.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Naik, you will not be replying to the question.

SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO : This announcement was made by the hon. Prime Minister.

[Translation]

SHRI AJIT SINGH : Sir, we are allotting the quantum requisitioned by states. I can give you the figures of Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH : Sir, through you, I want to know the total percentage, quantity and value of foodgrains that is declared unfit for human consumption because Government have large stocks with them which remain stored for a long time and as a result, get rotten.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : What percentage of the foodgrain is declared as unfit for human consumption?

[Translation]

SHRI AJIT SINGH : I do not have these figures with me at present, but the incidence of wastages has come down during the last few years.

SHRI RAMPAL SINGH : Mr. Speaker, I want to know from hon. Minister what are the reasons for such a huge difference between allocation and offtake as is indicated in his reply. As he said, allocations are made on receipt of requisition from states. Then, why do not they lift the stock allocated to them? Should we take it that the reason is sub-standard and supply. What are the reasons for this?

SHRI AJIT SINGH : This has been replied to in the original answer. It was because of good harvest for three consecutive years. Government procures 15 to 20% goes to traders. Foodgrains are available in open 20% only 60% is held back by farmers market, Hence, decline in offtake. Still, whatever quantity states demand, we supply them.

[English]

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI (Sambalpur) : Now the Minister has told that two million tonnes of rice will be exported to different countries. May I know whether he knows that Nepal has signed a contract with the Government — the Ministry of Food or any other Public Sector Undertakings? What is the rate of that rice at which Nepal is purchasing? Are they purchasing it through the Food Corporation of India or through any other Public Sector Undertakings? I would also like to know whether, on this, the Government or the Public Sector Undertakings have earned any profit. Or there is something else?

MR. SPEAKER : What is 'something else' — profit or loss? That something else is 'loss'.

[Translation]

SHRI AJIT SINGH : Subject to confirmation. I think, the contract with Nepal was signed for supply of rice at P.D.S. rates..(Interruptions)

[English]

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : They have purchased at the rate of Rs. 740/-...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI AJIT SINGH : Economic cost of F.C.I. A 30 thousand tonnes' contract was signed with Nepal.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Mr. Speaker, whether the wheat imported by Government from the U.S.A. and Canada on higher rates was till lying in godowns or has it been distributed, because it has not been liked by farmers at several places? What is the position with regard to that wheat?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I do not know whether he knows it.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI AJIT SINGH : Some wheat is stored in Gujarat..(Interruptions). It has been sold out at other places...(Interruptions)

12.00 hrs.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj) : Sir, my question is very simple. We have just heard from the hon. Minister that the difference between the PDS issue price and the open market price of wheat is only Rs. 6/- per quintal. Now, it appears to me and I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether, in view of the very small difference between the two prices, the PDS system is at all justified to exist because the peoples' purchasing power is the real consideration. We know

that there is no problem of plenty in the country, there is a problem of poverty. The people do not have money to pay for their food. If the difference is only 6 paise per kilogram then what is the point of maintaining the PDS system with all its paraphernalia and all its cost?

MR. SPEAKER : No, no. If the PDS system is not there, people will suffer.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : It has become an indirect boon for the Administration.

MR. SPEAKER : Please do not plead for that. It is a very dangerous area.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj) : I am pleading for the price to be reduced.

[Translation]

SHRI AJIT SINGH : Sir, one third Blocks out of the total number the Blocks covered under P.D.S. have come under Revamped P.D.S. and foodgrains are distributed there at Rs.50/- less than the P.D.S. price. This system covers tribal and backward areas.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

### Leasing of S.L.Rs.

\*661. SHRI P.C. CHACKO : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Northern Railway has introduced some scheme of leasing of SLRs of some trains for certain Railway stations;

(b) if so, the details thereof with eligibilities and formalities required to participate in this scheme;

(c) whether the individuals/organisations joining this scheme will have some monetary benefits;

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

(e) whether the Government are contemplating any proposal to encourage individuals/organisations, particularly from Kerala to participate in the scheme; and

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

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) to (f). In order to augment its revenue, the Railways have introduced a scheme of leasing of under-utilised SLR space. Northern Railway has issued allotment for leasing SLR space in 11 trains. Out of this, 1 is already operational. The space is leased out through advertisements in newspapers. Any individual/organisation can participate in the scheme. The

allotment is made to the best bidder. The scheme has been introduced in all Railways including southern Railway which covers Kerala State.

### Women's Conference in Beijing

\*662. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether National Women Organisations were consulted before preparation of the draft paper for U.N. sponsored Women's conference to be held in Beijing in September, 1995; and

(b) if so, the suggestions given by different National Women Organisations and prominent Non-Government Women Organisations is the matter?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The draft country paper for the Fourth World conference on Women was prepared through a consultative process involving, inter-alia, National Women's organisations.

(b) The suggestions given by these organisations on the draft country paper were in the form of inputs to draft chapters on issues of poverty, health, education, environment, violence, advocacy, decision making processes, constitutional and legal rights, new economic policies, the National machinery for women and alternative framework for evaluation. Some of them are also members of the National Preparatory Committee set up for the Conference.

### Talent Search Programme

\*667. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Sports Authority of India is organising Talent Search Programmes regularly in all the States of the country to catch young talents and impart proper training to them;

(b) if so, the number of such talent searched during each of the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) types of training and facilities provided to the selected persons?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The requisite information regarding Talents searched and being trained during the last three years is indicated Statewise as per Statement attached.

(c) The Sports Authority of India provides coaches to the adopted school in identified disciplines. The selected children admitted in these schools are provided

free boarding, lodging, tuition fees, books, sports kits, uniform etc. Schools are also given one time infrastructural grant of Rs. 5 lakhs each for creation of new/improvement of old infrastructural facilities. Schools are also provided some grants for various activities connected with sports.

### STATEMENT

S.No.	Name of the State	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
1.	Delhi	53	57	44
2.	Madhya Pradesh	32	48	46
3.	Rajasthan	42	31	24
4.	Uttar Pradesh	103	98	81
5.	Chandigarh	60	59	52
6.	Haryana	89	97	101
7.	Punjab	21	23	24
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	7	-	-
9.	Himachal Pradesh	-	6	6
10.	Andhra Pradesh	81	88	67
11.	Karnataka	38	39	44
12.	Tamil Nadu	39	64	41
13.	Kerala	32	55	27
14.	Goa	9	-	23
15.	Maharashtra	105	85	107
16.	Gujarat	30	23	13
17.	Bihar	72	48	126
18.	Orissa	46	42	42
19.	West Bengal	161	177	178
20.	Sikkim	18	30	27
21.	Meghalaya	31	22	26
22.	Manipur	21	26	31
23.	Nagaland	22	25	9
24.	Assam	62	59	78
25.	Tripura	9	30	20
26.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	9	31
All India Total		1185	1241	1268

### Natural Lakes

\*668. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU :  
KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether one of Aisa's biggest fresh water lake has been reduced to a drain of stinking water;

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

(c) whether the Government have any plans to safeguard natural and fresh water lakes and other such bodies of water;

(d) if so, the details thereof indicating the names of lakes covered thereunder, State-wise;

(e) whether any separate administrative units have been formed therefor; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). As stated in the Directory of Wetlands published by the Government of India in 1990, Kolleru is the largest natural freshwater lake in India. The lake is affected by encroachments, aquaculture, pollution and prolific aquatic weed growth.

(c) and (d). The Government of India has a scheme for the Conservation and management of Wetlands which includes lakes, marshes, swamps etc. Under this scheme 17 wetlands have been selected for intensive conservation and management. A statement indicating the names of wetlands State-wise is laid on the Table of the House. A National Lake Conservation Plan (NLCP) has also been formulated for the conservation of urban lakes which are under serious pressure due to pollution, encroachments, siltation and prolific growth of weed. A State-wise list of lakes selected under NLCP is also laid on the Table of the House.

(e) and (f). The State Governments have constituted Steering Committees for the formulation and implementation of the management action plans. In some States, Lake Development Authorities have also been set up for management of the lakes.

#### STATEMENT-I

*State-wise list of wetlands selected for conservation and management*

Wetland	State
1	2
1. Kolleru	Andhra Pradesh
2. Wular	Jammu & Kashmir
3. Chilka	Orissa
4. Loktak	Manipur
5. Sambhar	Rajasthan
6. Ashtamudi	Kerala
7. Sasthamkotta	Kerala
8. Harike	Punjab
9. Kanjli	Punjab
10. Ropar	Punjab
11. Ujini	Maharashtra
12. Renuka	Himachal Pradesh

1	2
13. Chandratal	Himachal Pradesh
14. Pong Dam	Himachal Pradesh
15. Kabar	Bihar
16. Nalsarovar	Gujarat
17. Deeper Beel	Assam

#### STATEMENT-II

*State-wise list of lakes identified under National Lakes Conservation Plan*

Lake	State
1. Dal	Jammu and Kashmir
2. Bhoj	Madhya Pradesh
3. Sagar	Madhya Pradesh
4. Hussain Sagar	Andhra Pradesh
5. Nainital	Uttar Pradesh
6. Kodaikanal	Tamilnadu
7. Ooty	Tamilnadu
8. Suchindra tank	West Bengal
9. Powai	Maharashtra
10. Udaipur Lake System including Pichola	Rajasthan
11. Sukhana	Chandigarh
12. Adra	West Bengal
13. Salt lake	West Bengal
14. Santragachi	West Bengal
15. Rabinadra	West Bengal
16. Subash Sagar	West Bengal
17. A cluster of Water bodies near Haliater	West Bengal
18. Water bodies in Garden Reach Area	West Bengal
19. A cluster of water bodies in North of Belhoria railway station around Ghola	West Bengal
20. Mirik	West Bengal
21. Senchal	West Bengal

#### Deficiencies in Technical Education

\*669. SHRI R. SURENDRA REDDY :  
DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have reviewed the functioning and programmes of All India Council for Technical Education;

(b) if not, when the functioning of AICTE is likely to be reviewed;

(c) whether Government propose to open technical education centres in rural areas for the dissemination of technology at grassroot level;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government have any scheme to encourage Non Resident Indians to invest in the field of technical education; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) AICTE has become independently operational only in 1993. A review of its working will be appropriate only after a few years.

(c) and (d). The Scheme of Community Polytechnics is being implemented in 334 polytechnics for training in technology relevant to needs of rural areas.

(e) and (f). Proposals of NRIs as of others are considered by the AICTE for approval subject to fulfilment of AICTE norms.

#### Declaration of National Monument

\*670. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS :  
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria adopted to declare any historical buildings as a national monument;

(b) whether Government have received requests from the State Governments for declaring some more historical buildings and temples as national monument;

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

(d) the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) Monuments/Sites/Remains, found to be of immense historical, archaeological and artistic value are considered for protection as of national importance as per the Ancient Monuments, Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958, provided these are more than hundred years old.

(b) Yes, Sir. Requests to declare monuments as of national importance have been received from various quarters including the State Governments.

(c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(d) The proposals so received are at various stages of processing.

#### STATEMENT

##### Monuments/Sites Archaeological Remains under Consideration for Central protection

#### Andhra Pradesh

- (i) Inscribed boulder (inscription in Brahmi), Sri Kosagundale Lakshmi, Narasimhaswamy Temple, Kottapet, District Rangareddy.
- (ii) Gollaladudi, Palampet, District Warangal.

#### Bihar

- (i) Andhrathari and Paston, Dist. Madhubani.
- (ii) Konch, District Gaya.
- (iii) Jalpurgarh, District Gaya.
- (iv) Nagwagarh, District Gaya.
- (v) Duhagarh and Chitragarh, Dist. Gaya.
- (vi) Jalmangalgarh, Dist. Bijuvarai.

#### Delhi

- (i) Gordon Highlanders Column, Delhi.

#### Daman & Diu

- (i) Artillery Building at Moti Daman, Daman.
- (ii) Fire Temple at Diu.

#### Goa

- (i) St. Anne Church, Talaulim, Goa.

#### Gujarat

- (i) Dholvira.
- (ii) Lothal.

#### Haryana

- (i) Ancient site, Rakhigarhi, Dist. Hissar.
- (ii) Brick temple, Kalayat, District Kaithal.
- (iii) Stups at Asandh, District Kasual.
- (iv) Pre-historic site at Anangpur, District Faridabad.

#### Himachal Pradesh

- (i) Parsuram temple, Nirmand, District Kulu.
- (ii) Laxmi Narain temple, Nirmand, District Kulu.
- (iii) Ambica mata temple, Nirmand, District Kulu.
- (iv) Dakhni Mahadev temple, Nirmand, District Kulu.
- (v) Visheshwar Mahadev Temple, Nirmand, District Kulu.
- (vi) Siva temple, Mangarh, District Sirmour.
- (vii) A.O. Hume Residence, Simla
- (viii) Sishur Monstery, village Shishur, District Lahaul & Spiti (Tribal Area) Gurughantal Monstery, Tupchilling Keylong, District Lahul & Spiti (Tribal Area).

**Jammu & Kashmir**

- (i) Jassota fort, Jammu, District Kathua.
- (ii) Chingas Saria, Khanpur, District Rajauri.
- (iii) Panjanasa temple, Rajauri, district Rajauri.
- (iv) Sakhi Maidan temple, Punchh Punchh.
- (v) Nyma Fort & Monastery, Chengthan, District Leh.
- (vi) Havle Fort & Monastery, Chengthan, Leh.
- (vii) Diskit Monastery, Hubra, District Leh.
- (viii) Hunder Monastery, Hubra, District Leh.
- (ix) Tikhar (Tagore) fort, District Leh.
- (x) Yensa (Tagore) fort, Hubra, District Leh.
- (xi) Phe Monastery, Zamskar Kargil.
- (xii) Wanla Gumpaha, Leh, Khattse.
- (xiii) Tonde Gumpaha, Zamskar Kargil.
- (xiv) Bardan Gumpaha, Zamskar Kargil.
- (xv) Zangle Fort, Zamskar Kargil.
- (xvi) Karshan Gumpaha, Zamskar Kargil.
- (xvii) Rock out sculptures of Maitreya, Kartsekhar, Suru Valley Kargil.

Proposal for protection of above monuments has been submitted by Archaeological Survey of India to Government of Jammu & Kashmir for defacto transfer in favour of Government of India.

**Karnataka**

- (i) Kalmesvara temple, Halshi, District Belgaum.
- (ii) Ramlingeswara temple, Halshi, District Belgaum.
- (iii) Bhu-Varaha temple, Halshi, District Belgaum.
- (iv) Suvameswara temple, Halshi, District Belgaum.
- (v) Venkatapati well, Kanakagiri, District Raichur.

**Kerala**

- (i) Uma maheswara temple, Iranikulam, District Thrissur.
- (ii) Vadakkunatha temple, Trichur, District Thrissur.
- (iii) Rama temple, Katavalur, District Thrissur.

**Madhya Pradesh**

- (i) Protection of Dhaurar mound, Khajuraho.
- (ii) Painted rock shelters at Ahmedpur hills, District Vidisha.
- (iii) Rock inscriptions Hinglajmatha, Narsinghgarh.
- (iv) Mound near Basai, District Datia.
- (v) Rock Shelters, Bhanpura, District Mandsaur.
- (vi) Kalade Palace, Ujjain.
- (vii) Amereshwar Mahdev temple, Chasoo Teh, Sita Mahu, District Mandsaur.
- (viii) Seventeen mounds at Khajuraho.

- (ix) Gorup of mounts at Thouhan, District Guna.
- (x) Ancient mound at Nadner, district Sehore.
- (xi) Narshngh garh fort, District Rajgarh.
- (xii) Katra Vihar, District Rajgarh.
- (xiii) Hirapur Khadan site, District Hoshangabad.

**Maharashtra**

- (i) Vitthal Rukmani temple, Goregaon, Raigarh.
- (ii) Mahadeo temple, Dharmapur, District Beed.
- (iii) Putali Barao, Sridhkhed raja, Budhana.
- (iv) Thatte Nagar, Aurangabad.

**Orissa**

- (i) Annakuteswara Mahadev temple, Latadeipur, District Dhenkanal.
- (ii) Kapileswar Mahadev temple, Hatuary, District Dhenkanal.
- (iii) Chandrasekhar Jew temple, Kapilas, District Dhenkanal.
- (iv) Ashta sambhu temple, Kualo, District Dhenkanal.
- (v) Anantasayan Vishnu, Sarang, district Dhenkanal.
- (vi) Buddhist remains, Aragarh hill, District Khurda.
- (vii) British cemetery, Balasore, District Galeswar.

**Punjab**

- (i) Ancient site of Stupa, Sanghol
- (ii) Mughal Bridge, Sultanpur Lodhi, Kapurthala.

**Rajasthan**

- (i) Maharajanada Purani Chhanni, dholpur.
- (ii) Taragarh fort, Bundi.

**Tamil Nadu**

- (i) Alagiya Narasimhaswamy temple, Ennayiram.
- (ii) Brahmapuriswara temple, Brahmavesam.
- (iii) Patlaeswara temple, Brahmadesam.
- (iv) Apatsahayeswara temple, Sendamangalam.
- (v) Dhenupairiswara temple, Madambakkam, Chengai Anna.

**Uttar Pradesh**

- (i) Ancient site, Baragaon, Chunnar, District Mirzapur.

**West Bengal**

- (i) Gokulchand temple, Gokulnagar, District Bankura.
- (ii) Asiatic Society, Calcutta.
- (iii) Indian Museum, Calcutta.

### Indo-Israel Agreement

\*671. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government has recently signed any Memorandum of Understanding with Israel in the field of education culture;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the benefits likely to be derived as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) to (c). India has entered into a Cultural Agreement on 18th May, 1993 with Israel soon after diplomatic relation between the two countries was established and a Cultural Exchange Programme was signed on 27th September, 1993. Besides these, in the field of Education three separate Memoranda of Understanding were signed between (i) University Grants Commission and the Israel Academy of Science and Humanities, (ii) University of Hyderabad and Bar-Ilan University, Tel Aviv, and (iii) Banaras Hindu University and Tel Aviv University to promote exchange of information and establishment of direct contacts between these Institutions.

The Cultural Exchange Programme envisages exchanges in the field of education, art and culture, sports, mass media and exchange of visit of experts, writers and editors for furtherance of cooperation between the two countries. This will help strengthen the ties between the two countries.

[Translation]

### Transportation of Goods

\*672. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :

SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the revenue earned by the Railways from the goods traffic during the last three years;

(b) whether Railways have suffered heavy losses in transportation of goods during the last three years;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the target fixed by Railways for the transportation of goods during the last three years;

(e) the number of times Railways failed to achieve their targets during the last three years; and

(f) the action taken by the Government to meet the losses suffered by the Railways?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) Revenue earned by the Railways from goods traffic during the last three years is as under :

(Fig. in crores of Rs.)	
Years	Actuals
1992-93	10903.04
1993-94	12557.36
1994-95	13613.72 (Provisional)

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e). Targets fixed by Railways and achievements during the last three years are as under:

(Fig. in Million Tonnes)		
Year	Revised Target	Actual
1992-93	350	350.05
1993-94	362	358.72
1994-95	373	364.73 (Provisional)

(f) No loss has been suffered.

[English]

### Rehabilitation of Sardar Sarovar Project Oustees

\*673. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether about 1500 hectares of prime forest land in Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra has been released for rehabilitation of Sardar Sarovar Project oustees;

(b) whether the decision has been taken in spite of the availability of equivalent non-forest land;

(c) if so, the reasons therefore; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) A proposal for diversion of 1500 hectares of forest land for rehabilitation of Sardar Sarovar Project Oustees in Dhule district of Maharashtra was approved by this Ministry on 22.2.1994.

(b) to (d). The State Government certified that no suitable Government land was available in a big compact block in Dhule district for resettlement of Sardar Sarovar Oustees.

### Privatisation of Railway Services

\*674. SHRI RAM KAPSE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have granted permission to companies in the private sector to run certain Railway Services in India;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;  
 (c) the reasons for granting the permission; and  
 (d) whether tenders were invited for the work?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). A Statement is laid on the table of the Sabha.

#### STATEMENT

Global bids were invited by the Ministry of Railways in May 1994 for ownership, marketing and management of Palace-on Wheels type Tourist Train Services on popular tourist circuits to provide transport infrastructural support for the National Tourism Synergy Programme of the Department of Tourism to attract five million tourist by 1997-98. On a scrutiny of the 23 bids received, it has been decided to award contracts for 5 Tourist Trains on four circuits to the following parties :

Circuit	Name of the Party
(1) Delhi-Jaipur-Agra-Gwalior-Jhansi (Khajraho-Varanasi-Lucknow-Delhi)	(1) M/s. Sterling Holiday Resorts India Pvt. Ltd., Madras.
(2) Bombay- Aurangabad (Ajanta/Ellora)-Nanded-Secunderabad- Hyderabad- Pune-Bombay	(2) M/s. S.S. Patil, Secunderabad.
(3) Goa (Madgaon)-Mangalore-Mysore (Belur/Halebid)-Hospet(Hampi)-Bangalore-Goa (Madgaon)	(3) M/s. East West Travels & Trade Links Ltd., New Delhi.
(4) Bangalore-Mysore -Madras- Kodaikanal Road-Kanyakumari-Trivandrum-Cochin-Mettupalayam(Ooty)-and Bangalore	(4) M/s. Sterling Holiday Resorts India Pvt. Ltd. Madras. and  (5) M/s. L.S. Patil, Secunderabad.

#### Integrated Fisheries Project for Women

\*675. SHRI RATILAL VARMA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of places where Integrated Fisheries Project for women has been started in the country, State-wise;

(b) the number of women engaged in the Project annually, State-wise;

(c) the financial assistance provided by the Government, if any, for this purpose during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government have any proposal to establish such more projects, particularly in Gujarat; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR) : (a) No Integrated Fisheries Project has been established exclusively for women.

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

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Question does not arise.

#### Sugar Industry

\*676. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Economic Survey has highlighted the need to review the existing controls on sugar industry;

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

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) It has been indicated in the Economic Survey that it is time to review if such extensive controls on sugar are still required and if greater efficiency cannot be achieved by relaxing some of these controls.

(b) and (c). There is no proposal under consideration to change the present policy of partial control with a dual pricing system for distribution of sugar.

As regards licensing policy for the sugar industry, it is presently being reviewed by the Government.

#### Private Sector's participation in Sports

\*677. SHRI K.G. SHIVAPPA :

SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made any special efforts to encourage private sector participation for promotion of sports; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government has provided for 100% tax exemption under Section 35-AC of the Income Tax Act

to the private sector for taking up projects for promotion of sports. 12 projects with estimated cost of Rs. 28 crores have been approved under the provisions of this Scheme. Further a number of meetings have been held with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) for greater involvement of the private sector in promotion of sports.

As a result of continuous dialogue several private sector groups have already involved themselves in projects for promotion of sports such as Tennis Academy at New Delhi, Gymnastic Centre at Allahabad, Basketball Academy at Indore, Chess Academy at Calcutta etc.

Private sector has also come forward for sponsorship of major sports events and elite sportspersons.

#### Training in Fisheries

\*678. DR. AMRIT LAL KALIDAS PATEL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have established Fisheries Training Centres for imparting practical training in fisheries to young students;

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

(c) if not, whether the Government propose to establish such centres in each State in the near future;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) by when these Centres are likely to be established along-with the funds and other facilities proposed to be given for training in fisheries to Unemployed Youth and students?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR) : (a) Training Centres have been sanctioned by the Government of India under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, for imparting practical training in fisheries. The Central Institute of Fisheries Nautical Engineering and Training established by the Government of India provides training for operation and maintenance of marine fishing vessels. Besides, State Governments have also established training centres for training in fisheries to various categories of students and fish farmers.

(b) Information is provided in the enclosed Statement in respect of training centres sanctioned for establishment/upgradation under Centrally Sponsored Schemes.

(c) Question does not arise.

(d) and (e). Question do not arise.

#### STATEMENT

S.No.	Name of the State	Name of the Scheme				Total
		Fresh-water Aquaculture	Brackish-water Aquaculture	World bank assisted Shrimp & Fish culture Project	Fisheries Training and Extension	
	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1	1	-	-	2
2.	Assam	1	-	-	-	1
3.	Goa	-	1	-	-	1
4.	Gujarat	-	1	-	-	1
5.	Haryana	1	-	-	1	2
6.	Himachal Pradesh	1	-	-	2	3
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	1	-	-	2	3
8.	Karnataka	1	1	-	2	4
9.	Kerala	-	1	-	-	1
10.	Madhya Pradesh	1	-	-	1	2
11.	Maharashtra	1	1	-	-	2
12.	Manipur	1	-	-	-	1
13.	Meghalaya	-	-	-	1	1
14.	Mizoram	1	-	-	1	2
15.	Nagaland	1	-	-	1	2
16.	Orissa	1	1	1	-	3

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
17.	Punjab	1	-	-	2	3
18.	Rajasthan	1	-	-	-	1
19.	Tamil Nadu	-	1	-	-	1
20.	Tripura	1	-	-	1	2
21.	Uttar Pradesh	1	-	-	-	1
22.	West Bengal	1	1	1	1	4
Total		17	9	2	15	43

### Indian Railway Construction Company

\*679. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Railway Construction company (IRCON) is running into losses;

(b) if so, the amount of losses incurred during the last three years;

(c) the reasons for the losses; and

(d) the steps taken to make the Company viable?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) No, Sir.

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

### Sale of Fertilizers

\*680. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount allocated to the State Governments for sale of decontrolled fertilizers at concessional rates to the farmers during 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95, State-wise;

(b) the actual amount utilised by each State Government;

(c) whether a large number of complaints regarding misuse of funds during 1993 were received by the Union Government;

(d) if so, the names of States from where such complaints were received; and

(e) the action taken by the Government against those held responsible?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR) : (a) and (b). Funds amounting to Rs. 339.73 crores during 1992-93 and Rs. 517.34 crores during 1993-94 were released to States/UTs towards concession on sale of decontrolled phosphatic and potassic fertilizers to the farmers. In addition, funds amounting to Rs.13.93 crores were released to six States/UTs during 1994-95 to clear the outstanding liabilities of 1993-94. Details of funds released to States/UTs and reportedly utilised by them are indicated in the attached statement. For the year 1994-95, payments worth Rs. 514.02 crores were made directly to Fertilizers Manufacturers/Importers (MOP) on the basis of reports of certified sales received from States/UTs.

(c) to (e). Reports about alleged misuse of funds in Bihar and West Bengal were received. These State Governments have been requested to conduct detailed investigations and submit report.

### STATEMENT

*Funds released and utilised on sale of decontrolled phosphatic and potassic fertilizers with concession to the farmers.*

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	Name of State/ Union Territory	1992-93		1993-94		1994-95
		Funds released	Funds utilised	Funds released	Funds utilised	Funds released on acct. of sales in 1993-94
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2668.00	2633.38	7697.80	7525.12	-
2.	Karnataka	1753.00	1752.99	4832.635	5125.78	293.135
3.	Kerala	984.00	984.00	1521.575	1521.575	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4.	Tamil Nadu	3432.00	3432.00	5999.99	6306.50	306.51
5.	Pondichery	55.00	57.88	107.00	118.06	13.94
6.	Andaman & Nicobar Is.	0.46	-	1.24	-	-
7.	Gujarat	1460.00	1469.00	3645.70	4020.477	374.63
8.	Madhya Pradesh	1825.00	1825.00	3192.50	3192.50	-
9.	Maharashtra	1682.00	1682.00	6220.85	6620.215	399.165
10.	Rajasthan	1469.00	1469.00	1974.40	1974.40	-
11.	Goa	9.00	8.43	18.655	18.60	-
12.	Daman & Diu	0.40	0.40	0.55	0.55	-
13.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	2.00	-	-	NR	-
14.	Haryana	2013.00	2013.00	1058.275	972.85	-
15.	Punjab	4431.00	4157.00	2515.25	2627.00	-
16.	Uttar Pradesh	6539.00	5008.00	4943.825	6329.17	-
17.	Himachal Pradesh	35.00	30.88	60.80	61.59	-
18.	Jammu & Kashmir	101.00	138.00	276.95	119.19	-
19.	Delhi	11.00	3.64	-	5.02	-
20.	Chandigarh Admn.	-	-	0.275	-	-
21.	Bihar	2172.00	1100.00	1166.00	1474.00	-
22.	Orissa	436.00	301.39	761.715	884.03	-
23.	West Bengal	2807.00	2807.00	5469.475	5169.02	-
24.	Assam	46.00	34.80	144.90	152.97	-
25.	Tripura	19.00	19.00	45.70	38.65	-
26.	Manipur	2.66	1.66	48.54	2.00	-
27.	Meghalaya	3.00	3.00	12.40	17.96	5.56
28.	Nagaland	2.18	2.18	2.70	2.70	-
29.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.00	0.93	1.03	NR	-
30.	Sikkim	3.50	3.20	7.20	7.08	-
31.	Mizoram	1.66	1.66	5.875	3.89	-
Total		33972.86	30939.42	51733.805	54290.897	1392.94

### Import of Consumer Goods

6716. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken steps to control the improper and indiscriminate import of consumer goods; and

(b) the changes that are likely to be considered in the existing laws for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

### Production of Pepper

6717. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any decline in the production of Pepper during 1994-95;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the extent to which the production of Pepper has been declined during 1994-95 in comparison to 1992-93 and 1993-94; and

(c) the targets fixed for the production of Pepper during 1995-96?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) Final estimates of production of Pepper for 1994-95 have not yet become due from the States. However, on the basis of available assessment, the likely production of Pepper during 1994-95 may not be lower than the last two years.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The targets for production of Pepper are not fixed on year to year basis.

#### Procurement by FCI

6718. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether huge expenditure incurred on procurement, sale, maintenance and storage of wheat and rice by the Food Corporation of India has resulted in increase in the prices of foodgrains in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the functioning of the Food Corporation of India is likely to be reviewed by the Government in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. The procurement by Food Corporation of India is done on Minimum Support Price announced by the Central Government. The foodgrains procured by FCI are issued at the Central Issue Price fixed by Government which includes only procurement price (MSP) and procurement incidentals (taxes, levies, labour charges and transportation up to FCI godown). The expenditure on storage shortages interest and freight to consuming areas is borne by the Central Government in the form of food subsidy.

(c) The Government of India constantly reviews the functioning of the Food Corporation of India from time to time.

[Translation]

#### Introduction of Astrology

6719. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :

SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :

SHRI BALRAJ PASSI :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce Astrology as a subject in the school and college syllabus keeping in view the fact that principles of astrology are absolutely scientific;

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

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) No, Sir.

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

[English]

#### Drilling of Oil

6720. DR. R. MALLU : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has ever had an interaction with ONGC on the minimum safeguards to be undertaken while drilling for oil;

(b) if so, the details of such discussion;

(c) the outcome thereof;

(d) whether there was any consensus between your Ministry and the ONGC on ecological issues; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Environmental protection and safety measures are discussed with ONGC in the meeting of the Expert Committee for each project relating to oil drilling whenever these proposals are submitted for appraisal from the environmental angle. Based on the discussions and the Environmental Impact and Risk Assessment Reports etc., necessary pollution control measures and environmental safeguards are stipulated to ONGC for compliance.

(d) and (e). Normally, there is no disagreement on ecological issues. However, if warranted, site specific studies are also undertaken to examine long term environmental impacts and risk associated with the proposed activities so as to suggest remedial measures to minimise adverse environmental impacts from a particular project.

#### Import of Railway Wagons and Spare Parts

6721. SHRI M.G. REDDY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of money spent on the import of railway wagons, coaches, spare parts, locomotives etc., during 1991-92; and

(b) the value of orders placed with the public sector manufacturing units in West Bengal during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) No imports of railway wagons, coaches and locomotives were made during 1991-92. During this period, an amount of Rs. 425.7 crores including

import duties etc., was spent on imported stores comprising rolling stock parts and fittings, electrical & engineering stores, general stores as also complete units of components for rolling stock.

(b) For spare parts information is not maintained State-wise. However, for complete Rolling Stock Units, orders worth Rs.120 crores approx. were placed in 1991-92 on Public Sector Units in West Bengal.

#### **Dolphin Conservation Scheme**

6722. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have financed a Dolphin Conservation scheme for the Ganges;

(b) if so, whether any preliminary or final report has been received;

(c) if so, the main conclusions of the report; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to increase the population of dolphins in the Ganges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH):

(a) and (b). A research project 'Bioconservation of the Gangetic Dolphin (*Platanista Gangetica*)' was awarded to Patna University, Patna. The draft final report has been submitted by the Principal Investigator.

(c) The Principal Investigator has estimated 1000-1500 numbers of this species in the selected segment of the river in Bihar state and has recommended detailed survey in the unsurveyed areas as well as in the tributaries of the river Ganga;

(d) The Principal Investigator has been given an extension of one year to carry out an extensive survey in the mainstem as well as tributaries of the river. A 50 Km stretch of the river between Sultanganj and Kahlgaon has been declared sanctuary for the conservation of gangetic dolphin.

[Translation]

#### **Export of Foodgrains**

6723. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Bhartiya Khadya Nigam Seedhe Niryat Ka Apna Daava Poora Nahi kar Paaya", appeared in the Hindi Daily 'Jansatta' dated April 10, 1995;

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

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to undertake the export through the Food Corporation of India?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir. Government has seen the news items.

(b) and (c). An export ceiling of 5.00 lakh tonnes was released in 1994-95 for export of non-Durum wheat. The FCI was also authorised to export non-Durum wheat from kits stocks within the said export ceiling of 5.00 lakh tonnes. However, no export by FCI could take place as the price of FCI wheat was not internationally competitive. During 1994-95 the FCI was also authorised to export 30,000 tonnes of rice to Nepal on a no-profit no-loss basis and accordingly, the FCI had entered into a contract with the Nepal Food Corporation on 23.2.95 for supply of 30,000 Tonnes of superfine rice during the period from 1.3.95 to 31.5.95. The Nepal Food Corporation had lifted 2,000 tonnes of rice upto 31.3.1995.

During 1995-96, the FCI has been authorised to export/sell for the purpose of export upto 2.5 million tonnes of non-Durum wheat (within the export ceiling of 2.5 million tonnes) and 2.00 million tonnes of fine and superfine rice. FCI has also been authorised to export wheat and rice within these limits. A High Level Committee has been set up to examine aspects of export by FCI and/or sale of wheat and rice by FCI for export purposes.

[English]

#### **Stoppage at Bahadurgarh and Kishanganj**

6724. SHRI DHARAMPAL SINGH MALIK : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide stoppage of 'Navyug' and 'New Delhi-Sriganganagar Express' at Bahadurgarh and Kishanganj Railway Stations in Northern Railways;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) There is no proposal at present.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Operational exigencies and lack of justification.

[Translation]

#### **Letter of Intents to Sugar Mills**

6725. SHRI N.J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the number of letter of intents sanctioned to establish new Sugar Mills during 1994-95;

(b) the details thereof, State-wise, locations-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up these Sugar Mills in private sector or cooperative sector;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which these mills are likely to be established?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) to (e). During the sugar year 1994-95 (October-September), upto 31.3.1995, one letter of intent has been issued by the Ministry of Industry to M/s. Indo-Gulf Fertilizers and Chemicals Corporation Ltd., for the establishment of a new sugar mill at village Begrajpur, District Bijnor (Uttar Pradesh) in the Private Sector. Generally, it takes about 3 to 4 years to set up a new sugar factory.

### Education Through Panchayat

6726. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the manner in which primary education is being entrusted to Panchayats after coming into force Seventy-third and Seventy-fourth amendments in the Constitution and the manner in which it is being implemented in various States;

(b) whether any review is being made by the Union Government in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) to (c). In pursuance of the 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments, a Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) Committee formulated guidelines on decentralised management of education, at district, panchayat samiti and panchayat levels. The report of the Committee was endorsed by the Chief Ministers' Conference held in New Delhi on 15th February, 1994 and it has also been commended to the State Governments and UT Administrations for appropriate adaptation and effective implementation keeping in view their specific situation. Copies of the report are available in the Parliament Library.

[English]

### Gauge Conversion

6727. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey on Bhavnagar, Rajkot, Baroda, Ahmedabad Division for conversion of Narrow Gauge and Metre Gauge lines into Broad Gauge lines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the outcome thereof;

(d) the amount incurred thereon;

(e) the time by which the works are likely to start;

(f) whether any survey for electrification on above lines has already been conducted or likely to be conducted;

(g) if so, the details thereof and time by which the works are likely to start; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) to (e). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) Does not arise.

(h) Electrification projects are undertaken on techno-economic merits and operational requirements on a net work basis. As electrification projects are capital intensive, only those broad gauge routes over which the traffic density is high and the return on investment is not less than the minimum prescribed are considered for electrification.

### Women's Development Programme

6728. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any assessment of the Women's Development Programme (WDP) has been made at any stage;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof, State-wise'

(c) whether with the abolition of the service of the Sathins or grassroot workers by some States this programme has suffered a great set-back;

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to rejuvenate this programme; and

(e) the approximate amount of financial assistance provided by the Central Government to the various States for the implementation of this programme during the current Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI) : (a) Yes, Sir. Three assessments of Women's Development Programme have been conducted by State Government of Rajasthan since its inception in the year 1984.

(b) On the basis of the assessments, various innovations have been introduced in the programme such as (i) extending the programme outreach with effective implementation of Women's Development Programme by mobilising women through group formation, (ii) linking the initial ground work of awareness generation with economic development of women,

through self help group formation, formation of DWCRAs groups, arranging for better marketing tie up, implementation of Mahila Samridhi Yojana, Rashtriya Mahila Kosh, NORAD, STEP Schemes etc., and (iii) establishing better coordination with DWDAS (in the Government set up) and District Idaras (in the NGO set up).

(c) The services of Sathins or grass-root under the Women's Development Programme have not been abolished. Therefore, the question of a set-back in the programme does not arise.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) No financial assistance has been provided to the State Government by the Central Government during the current Plan period on this account.

#### Mathura Oil Refinery

6729. SHRI AMAL DATTA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state;

(a) the concentrations of gases such as Sulphur Dioxide, oxides of Nitrogen and Carbon Di-oxides in Agra;

(b) the procedure which is being followed to determine the safety levels of Air Pollutants in Agra;

(c) the contributions to these corrosive gases by the Mathura oil Refinery; and

(d) the pollution control technology, if any, are proposed to be adopted to minimise the level corrosive gas emissions from Mathura Oil Refinery to save the Taj Mahal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH):

(a) According to the air quality monitoring carried out by the Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board, the annual average concentration of sulphurdioxide and oxides of nitrogen at the Taj Mahal for the year 1991 are 23.16 and 10.3 micrograms per cubic metre of air respectively. Carbon dioxide concentration is not measured.

(b) The Central Pollution Control Board has prescribed the National Ambient Air Quality standards. The ambient air quality standard prescribed for Agra is based on an adequate margin of safety to protect the public health, vegetation, property and monuments of historical importance.

(c) The Mathura Refinery continuously monitors the sulphur dioxide concentration in all its refinery stacks. These emissions are well below the limit prescribed by the Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board. According to a modelling assessment made by the India Meteorological Department, the Mathura Refinery contributes marginally to the ambient sulphur dioxide concentrations at Agra.

(d) The Government of India has initiated a ten point package programme to save Taj Mahal from the effects of air pollution. The components of the package programme adopted to minimise the air pollution from Mathura Refinery include :

- Intensification of environment management to be made by the Mathura Refinery.
- Clean fuel to be arranged for Mathura Refinery.
- Hydrocracking technology to be set up for Mathura Refinery.
- Identification of alternative strategies for environmental management in consultation with Asian Development Bank.

#### Railway Stations

6730. SHRI DHARMABHIKSHAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to improve public facilities as well as condition of Railway Stations in Nalgonda district;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) to (c). Improvement to facilities and condition of railway stations is a continuous process and the same is undertaken wherever so warranted by traffic requirements and on age-cum-condition basis, subject to availability of funds. Accordingly, works of extension of existing platform and provision of a new platform at Nalgonda; provision of platform shelters at Bibinagar & Bhongir; extension of platform at Aler and paving of platform at Bhongir have been taken up.

Whenever so warranted, similar works will be undertaken at other stations also.

#### Loss of Coal in Transit

6731. SHRI PARAS RAM BHARDWAJ : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Railways have at any stage made an assessment of loss of coal by pilferage while in transit from the coalfields to its destinations;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) the preventive measures that have been taken to cut down such losses and how far it involved the Railway Staff and Railway Protection Force en route?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) Coal is booked at owner's risk and hence there is no mechanism of assessment of loss due to pilferage in transit.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) However, the following preventive measures have been adopted to cut down/prevent pilferage of coal from wagons in transit :

1. Escorting of block loads of coal from coal fields to various destination points by armed RPF is undertaken as far as possible.
2. Crime intelligence staff of the RPF are detailed to collect intelligence about the activities of coal thieves.
3. Beat-cum-patrolling duties have been introduced in big yards.
4. Frequent raids and searches are conducted by the RPF and Police in vulnerable areas.
5. Surprise checks are being conducted in vulnerable sectors and black spots to catch the criminals red-handed.
6. Dog squads are used to patrol vulnerable yards and affected sections.

During the calendar year 1994, forty three Railway employees were arrested and prosecuted for their involvement in pilferages of coal. No RPF staff was arrested in coal thefts during this period.

#### **Tilak Bridge**

6732. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Central Railway has delayed the slab-laying work on Tilak Bridge at Dadar Railway Stations;

(b) the reasons for delaying the work;

(c) the time by which the work is likely to start; and

(d) whether any time-bound scheme has been chalked out by the Government to complete the work?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). This 'deposit' work being carried out by Central Railway was started in Sept. '94 after the full cost was deposited by Bombay Municipal Corporation in March '94. Work is expected to be completed by 30.6.1995.

[Translation]

#### **Oil-Spill**

6733. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the loss suffered on account of oil-spill from the oil tanker of Denmark in the sea along the coast of Andaman Islands in 1993;

(b) whether any survey has been conducted in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof indicating the extent of loss suffered;

(d) whether in order to compensate the loss any correspondence was made with the Government of Denmark and Japan;

(e) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c). There was a spillage of oil due to a collision between Danish Super Tanker "Maersk Navigator" and Japanese ship "Sank Honour" on 21 January, 1993 at sea, North of Sumatra. As a result of this accident, the spilled oil drifted into Indian waters near Andaman Island. On the basis of the study carried out by National Institute of Oceanography, Goa and other organisations, the loss estimated was 1500 to 2250 tons of exploitable living marine resources in the Andaman Sea which in financial terms was computed to the tune of Rs. 6.75 crores. An additional amount of Rs. 13.6 crores was spent by various Government agencies for the clean-up operation.

(d) and (e). No correspondence has been made with the Governments of Denmark and Japan as the compensation of loss was to be paid by the P & I Club of the Shipowners. The above mentioned claims have already been filed with the P & I Club.

(f) Does not arise.

[English]

#### **Gauge Conversion**

6734. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a survey for construction of Board Gauge line from Pancharanta-Joghghopa to Silchar through Meghalaya has been conducted;

(b) if so, the main features of the survey report;

(c) the time by which the work is likely to start; and

(d) the total distance of this line from Pancharanta-Joghghopa to Silchar?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) No, Sir. The survey has been dropped.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) 500 kms.

#### **Electrification of Railway Lines**

6735. SHRI P. KUMARASAMY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the length of Railway Lines in Tamil Nadu;

(b) the total length of Railway Lines in the State electrified during 1993-94 and 1994-95;

(c) the percentage of Railway Lines in the State which have not been electrified so far; and

(d) the amount allocated for the purpose during 1995-96 and the names of Railway Lines identified in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) The total length of railway lines in Tamil Nadu is 4021 Route kilometres comprising 1332 Route kilometres in Broad Gauge, and 2689 Route kilometres in Metre Gauge.

(b) Nil.

(c) 82.55%.

(d) Electrification work of Erode-Walayar section is in progress and Rs. 26.00 crores have been allocated during the year 1995-96.

### Cotton

6736. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have achieved any break-through as regards improved variety of Cotton seeds and thereby improve per acre Cotton yield in the country through National Cotton Research Institute/ Extension Organisations of the States and results achieved so far;

(b) the present status in regard to the quality and per hectare yields of Cotton and how do they compare with other countries;

(c) whether the Government are intending to have joint venture for import and adoption of technology to improve substantially Cotton yields in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) Through the sustained efforts of the National Agricultural System (comprising of Central Institute for Cotton Research, All India Co-ordinated Cotton Improvement Project, State Agricultural Universities and State Departments of Agriculture) many high yielding and good quality varieties/hybrids namely Suvin, MCU-5, LRA-516, G.N. Ageti, H-777, LH-900, F-846, H-4, H-6, H-8, NHH-44, PKVHY2, DCH-32, AKH-4 and many more were evolved. These are extensively cultivated in all the three cotton growing zones of the country. Production and protection technologies were also developed to improve the productivity under the varied agro-climatic situations.

(b) Commercially cultivated cotton varieties/hybrids have the quality range between 20-120s counts and are meeting the requirement of textile industry. The per

hectare yield of Cotton in India and other major cotton growing countries of the world are as follows:

Country	Yield (Lint kg/ha)
India	280
U.S.A	793
China	750
Pakistan	470
Uzbekistan	851

The low yield level in our country is mainly due to the fact that nearly 70% of the cotton area is under scarce and undependable rainfall conditions.

(c) and (d). About 500 Kg. of hybrid cotton seed is being imported from Israel for extensive testing for adoptability and yield potential.

### Mid-Term Review of Eighth Five Year Plan

6737. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a mid-term review of Eighth Five Year Plan in respect of Railways has been made;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the review indicated shortfall in achieving the freight target;

(d) if so, the factors responsible for this; and

(e) the steps taken to achieve the target set for freight earnings?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The highlights of the mid-term review are :

- The targets for revenue earning freight traffic would remain the same *i.e.* 418.4 m.t.

- The passenger originating figures have been revised to 4,194 million from 4,472 million based on actual trends.

- Improvement in productivity of assets would continue to be thrust area.

- Gauge conversion of MG track to BG has been increased from 6,000 kms. to 8,100 kms.

- Electrification of railway lines has been revised from 3,000 kms. to 2,700 kms.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Close liaison with core sector is being maintained in order to achieve the freight target for VIII Plan. Besides various marketing strategies are being

adopted to capture high value traffic which include quotation of station to station rates, door to door containerised services, agglomeration of piecemeal traffic through Freight Forwarders, leasing of SLR/Brake Van space, running of more trains etc.

### Super Bazar

6738. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA :  
SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN :

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Super Bazar Employees Association/ Unions went on strike or staged dharna at Connaught Circus, Super Bazar, during April, 1995;

(b) whether the Government have recently received representation from some Members of Parliament on behalf of Joint Committee of Super Bazar Employees Associations of employees about their long standing demands;

(c) if so, the demands of Associations, since when these are pending and the present status of the demands;

(d) the action/measures, if any, taken by the Government in this regard; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) Super Bazar Super Karamchari Union, an unregistered body, staged a hunger strike/dharna in front of Super Bazar main gate from 4.4.95.

(b) No representation on behalf of any Joint Committee of Super Bazar Employees Association has been received.

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

### Degree Classes

6739. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal for starting Degree Classes in the Railway Junior College at Vijayawada in South Central Railways;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Degree Classes will commence from the coming academic year for the benefit of children of Railway Employees?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) There is no proposal at present.

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

[Translation]

### Payment of Kendriya Vidyalayas

6740. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that in the absence of regular payment by some Public Sector Organisations some Kendriya Vidyalayas are on the verge of closure;

(b) if so, the number and the details of such Kendriya Vidyalayas; and

(c) the steps taken to avert such situation and the results thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) to (c). No, Sir. However, certain public sector organisations had expressed their difficulty in meeting the financial liability in respect of the Kendriya Vidyalayas sponsored by them and functioning in their campuses.

Accordingly it has been decided to :

(i) Convert the Kendriya Vidyalaya at Tuli under Nagaland Paper and Pulp Company and Kendriya Vidyalaya at Napanagar under NEPA Ltd., Madhya Pradesh from Project Sector to Civil Sector.

(ii) Merge two Kendriya Vidyalayas functioning at Ranchi under Heavy Engineering Corporation (HEC) and finance it by K.V.S.

(iii) Finance the KV under Hindustan Photo Film, Doty and the KV under Indian Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Ltd. at Rishikesh by KVS for the academic year 1995-96.

### Construction Work in Alwar District

6741. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAYA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether no work like setting up of industry, building construction etc. can be undertaken on the Protected land in the Alwar District of Rajasthan which falls in the National Capital Region without the approval of his Ministry;

(b) if so, whether said decision of his Ministry is against the scheme of the National Capital Region; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c). Central Government have regulated the carrying on of certain activities including setting up of

new industry, building construction etc. in the specified areas of Aravalli Range which are causing environmental degradation in the region, governed under the Notification dated 7th May, 1992 under Section 3(1) and 3(2) (v) of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

Accordingly, any developmental scheme in the notified areas of Alwar District including that which falls under National Capital Region needs to be taken up with the prior approval of the Central Government, in the interest of environmental conservation in the ecologically fragile Aravalli Region.

[English]

### Sugar Mills

6742. DR. P.R. GANGWAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of proposals for setting up sugar mills in Uttar Pradesh received by his Ministry for environmental and forestry clearances;

(b) the details of sugar mills which have been granted approval and the details of rejected projects alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of pending projects alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to clear these project early?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). As per the Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, S.O. 60(E) of 27/1/94, as amended on 4.5.94, sugar industry does not require environmental clearance from this Ministry. However, a proposal from U.P. State Sugar Corporation Ltd. for expansion of their Doiwala Sugar Mill from 900 TCD to 2500 TCD was received for environmental clearance. Approval was granted in January, 1992 as environmental clearance from the Central Government is required under the Doon Valley Notification, S.O. 102 (E) dated 1.2.89.

(c) No Proposal is pending.

(d) Does not arise.

### Water Supply to Greater Bombay

6743. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYA SADUL :  
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :  
SHRI RAM NAIK :  
SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bombay Municipal Corporation had submitted the Environmental Impact Assessment Report, prepared by NEERI, Nagpur to the Government in 1993

for the purpose of developing sources for water supply to Greater Bombay with the financial assistance of the World Bank;

(b) whether as per operational directives of the World Bank, it is obligatory to get the Environmental Clearance before the project is presented to the World Bank for assistance;

(c) whether the Environmental Clearance Certificate has since been issued to the Bombay Municipal Corporation;

(d) if not, the reasons for delay; and

(e) the time by which the environmental Clearance Certificate is likely to be issued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e). The proposal was referred by the Municipal Corporation of Greater Bombay in Feb. 1993 to the Ministry of Environment and Forests without incorporating the requisite environmental management plan. The project proponents were informed about requirements. Decision on the project would be possible only on receipt of the environmental management plan.

[Translation]

### Privatisation of Railway Work

6744. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have laid down any criteria for awarding the contracts of works reserved for private sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether big contractors and capitalists have been the major beneficiaries of this policy;

(d) whether the Government propose to evolve a policy wherein contracts of such works are assigned to the Educated Unemployed Youth in the country;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. No work contract is exclusively reserved for private sector except white-washing contract upto a value of Rs. 25,000/- only where some preference is given to the Cooperative Societies.

(c) and (d). No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) Every individual or firm possessing requisite credentials for the work to be awarded can participate in the tenders by following the laid down procedures for the same.

[English]

#### Indian Council of Philosophical Research

6745. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Indian Council of Philosophical Research had constituted a review committee;
- (b) if so, the findings of the committee;
- (c) whether any steps have been taken to implement the recommendations of the committee; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) to (d). Indian Council of Philosophical Research (ICPR) had constituted a Review Committee. The Council discussed in detail the report of the Review Committee at the Annual General Meeting on December 8, 1994 referred it back to the Committee for a reconsideration. The Review Committee met again on May 2, 1995 and its report is awaited.

#### Shortages of Material in Super Bazar

6746. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Statutory auditors and internal auditors have pointed out shortages of materials worth several lakhs of rupees in Super Bazar;
- (b) whether any investigations have been made in this regard;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor and the action taken by the Government to recover the shortages?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) to (d). Physical verification of stocks is undertaken by Super Bazar annually and on surprise basis. There was a shortage of Rs. 24.84 lakhs during the year 1993-94 which have been incorporated by the Statutory Auditors in their audit reports. Besides recovery from the salary of the concerned officials, cases of stock shortages are also processed for disciplinary action and inquiries are conducted according to the quantum of stocks shortages.

#### Economic and Social Condition of Women

6747. DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh submitted a project proposal for external funding from

European Community to improve the economic and social condition of women in 10 Districts of the State; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) The project proposal submitted by the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has been examined and the State Government has been asked to modify the proposal for providing some additional inputs.

[Translation]

#### Pollution in Kharun River

6748. KUMARI UMA BHARTI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the water of Kharun and Shivanth Rivers in Madhya Pradesh has got polluted and is no more worth drinkings;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether complaints have been received regarding dying of fishes and spread of skin diseases due to polluted water of Kharun River; and
- (d) if so, the efforts being made by the Governments for cleaning the polluted water?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) to (c) An accidental breach in the storage lagoons of primary treated wastewater from Kedia Distillery Raipur had polluted water of river Kharun.

- (d) The Madhya Pradesh Pollution Control Board had ordered the closure of the industry besides directing it to put bunds on Khapri Nalla and to pump back the effluent from Khapri Nalla to the premises of the industry for land application.

#### Promotion of Hindi Language

6749. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of voluntary Hindi institutions functioning in the country, particularly in rural areas to promote and propagate Hindi language and develop it as a link language;
- (b) whether these organisations are provided grants by the Union Governments; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) to (c). A list of voluntary Hindi institutions functioning in the country, including those in rural areas to promote and propagate Hindi language and develop it as a link language and details of assistance given to them during the financial year 1994-95 is given in the statement attached.

## STATEMENT

		(In Rs.)
S.No.	Name of State/Sanstha	1994-95
1	2	3
<b>ASSAM</b>		
1.	Bajali Pragati Sangh Pathshala (Assam).	23,155/-
2.	Dr. Kashi Ram Sharma Rashtrabhasha Vidyapeeth, Nalbari.	-
3.	Rashtrabhasha Vidyapeeth Nalbari.	34,532/-
4.	Badabazar Rashtrabhasha Vidyalaya Barpeta.	23,250/-
5.	Solmari Hindi Vidyapith, Assam.	19,530/-
6.	Assam State Rashtrabhasha Prachar Samiti, Jorhat.	5,15,923/-
7.	Bapuji Hindi Mahavidyalaya Odalbakra.	22,695/-
8.	Purva-Barshatri Rashtrabhasha Mahavidyalaya, Loharkatha.	37,800/-
9.	Kalguru Vishnurava Rashtrabhasha Hindi Vidyalaya, Udalbari.	36,383/-
10.	Lokpriya Gopinath Bardolai Rashtriya Sanstha, Kamrup.	28,725/-
11.	Siyalkuchi Hindi Vidyalaya, Kamrup.	38,445/-
12.	Ramdiya Rashtrabhasha Mahavidyalaya, Kamrup.	43,800/-
13.	Marwari Hindi Pustakalaya Fansi Bazar, Guwahati.	50,850/-
14.	Loharghat Rashtrabhasha Hindi Vidyalaya, Kamrup.	15,450/-
15.	Nagaon Pustakalaya, Nagaon.	11,025/-
16.	Rashtrabhasha Vidyapith, Silchar.	11,250/-
17.	Asom Rashtrabhasha Seva Sangh.	10,125/-
18.	Asom Pragati Sanskritik aur Samaj Unayan Kendra, Guwahati.	-
19.	Uttar Purvanchal Rashtrabhasha Prachar Samiti, Uttar Lakhimpur.	3,30,277/
20.	Subansiri Seva Samiti, Uttar Lakhimpur.	2,63,812/-

1	2	3
21.	Asom Rashtrabhasha Prachar Samiti, Guwahati.	15,82,402/-
22.	Parichalak Committe Hindi Vidyapeeth, Tejpur.	21,150/-
23.	Bamundi Hindi Vidyalaya, Kamrup.	21,000/-
Total		31,41,579/-
<b>ANDHRA PRADESH</b>		
1.	Hindi Prachar Sabha, Hyderabad.	1,11,680/-
2.	Andhra Pradesh Hindi Prachar Sabha, Hyderabad.	4,56,857/-
3.	Bharat Abhuday Pathshala Shiksha Samiti, Hyderabad.	25,389/-
4.	Nagar Hindi Varg Sanchalak & Adhyapak Sangh, Hyderabad.	1,38,478/-
5.	Arya Kanya Vidyalaya, Hyderabad.	5,748/-
6.	Iwan-e-Qawateen, Hyderabad.	10,050/-
7.	Hindi Niketan, Eluru.	11,850/-
8.	Hindi Prachar Samiti, Narayanapet.	33,783/-
9.	Shree Laxmi Hindi Vidyalaya, Nellore.	-
10.	Adarsh Hindi Mahavidyalay, Narsapur.	16,118/-
11.	Adarsh Mahila Sansthan, Rajamahendri.	6,625/-
12.	Adarsh Hindi Mahavidyalaya, Vishakhapatnam.	26,700/-
13.	Shree Venkateshwar Hindi Vidyalaya, Gudiwada.	-
14.	Hindi Sadan, Bhimavarm.	16,222/-
15.	Shree Vijaylaxmi Hindi Mahavidyalaya, Tadepalligudem.	-
16.	Rashtrabhasha Vyapak Vyawastha Samiti, Amritlur.	25,200/-
17.	Sur Smarak Mandal, Hyderabad.	33,900/-
18.	Dinkar Hindi Mahavidyalaya, Saripalli.	7,800/-
19.	Dakshin Bharat Hindi Prachar Sabha, (Andhra) Hyderabad.	13,00,545/-
Total		22,26,841/-
<b>ORISSA</b>		
1.	Hindi Shiksha Samiti, Cuttack.	20,675/-
2.	Varnamala.	43,125/-
3.	Purushottam Hindi Prachar Sabha, Ganjam,	31,500/-
4.	Orissa Rashtrabhasha Parishad, Puri.	2,49,952/-

1	2	3
5.	Utkal Prantiya Rashtrabhasha Prachar Sabha, Cuttack.	2,01,915/-
	Total	5,47,167/-
<b>DELHI</b>		
1.	Kendriya Sachivalaya Hindi Parishad, Delhi.	5,25,000/-
2.	Bhartiya Anuvad Parishad, Delhi.	1,17,525/-
3.	Nagri Lipi Parishad, New Delhi.	2,10,225/-
4.	Akhil Bhartiya Hindi Sanstha Sangh, New Delhi.	5,50,000/-
5.	Vishwa Sahitya Sanskriti Sansthan, New Delhi.	-
6.	New Delhi Sandhyakalin Sansthan, New Delhi.	40,897/-
	Total	14,43,647/-
<b>UTTAR PRADESH</b>		
1.	Nagri Pracharini Sabha, Varanasi.	5,00,000/-
2.	Jairam Sanskrit Vidyalaya, Rishikesh.	41,663/-
3.	Hindi Sahitya Sammelan, Prayag.	-
	Total	5,41,663/-
<b>PUNJAB</b>		
1.	Hindi Sahitya Parishad, Ludhiana.	22,500/-
	Total	22,500/-
<b>RAJASTHAN</b>		
1.	Hindi Prachar Prasar Sansthan, Jaipur.	9,375/-
2.	Rupayan Sansthan, Jodhpur.	2,00,000/-
	Total	2,09,375/-
<b>KARNATAKA</b>		
1.	Mysore Hindi Prachar Parishad, Bangalore.	13,56,994/-
2.	Karnataka Hindi Prachar Samiti, Bangalore.	7,15,743/-
3.	Karnataka Mahila Hindi Seva Samiti, Bangalore.	9,87,229/-
4.	Shree Jaibharati Hindi Vidyalaya, Bangalore.	57,165/-
5.	Adarsh Hindi Vidyalaya, Bangalore.	53,625/-
6.	Guru Hindi Shikshan Mandir, Bangalore	37,154/-
7.	Saraswati Hindi Vidyalaya, Bangalore	21,975/-
8.	Shri Onana Jyoti Education Society, Bangalore.	32,190/-
9.	Bhartiya Sanskriti Vidyapeeth, Bangalore,	35,700/-

1	2	3
10.	Shrinidhi Shikshan Sanstha, Bangalore.	33,060/-
11.	Rashtriya Hindi Vidyapeeth, Dharwad.	28,491/-
12.	Mysore Hindi Shikshan Sanstha, Mysore.	34,447/-
13.	Hindi Vidyapeeth, Hubli.	68,775/-
14.	Adarsh Vidyapeeth, Hubli.	25,875/-
15.	Janta Shikshan Samiti, Hubli.	44,475/-
16.	Hindi Shaikshanik Seva Samiti, Bijapur.	87,690/-
17.	Hindi Prachar Sangh, Mudhol.	1,27,200/-
18.	Gandhi Hindi Vidyapeeth, Kundgol.	34,215/-
19.	Bharti Hindi Vidyapeeth, Bhadravati.	38,505/-
20.	Janta Seva Sadan, Haunsabhavi.	25,987/-
21.	Zila Hindi Premi Mandal, Bellary.	38,272/-
22.	Karnataka Hindi Prachar Sabha, Gulbarga.	48,037/- +24,019/-
		(1993-94 2nd instalment)
23.	Shree Saraswati Education Society, Shiddlaghatta.	45,217/- +22,609/-
		(93-94 2nd instalment)
24.	Nehru Vidyapeeth, Dharwad.	14,670/-
25.	Manas Education Society, Tumkur.	47,985/-
26.	Geeta Education Society, Hubli.	26,175/-
27.	Bombay Hindi Vidyapeeth, Karnataka (North)	31,175/-
28.	Hindi Gyangiri Gangotri Parishad, Bellary.	-
29.	Dakshin Bharat Hindi Prachar Sabha (Karnataka), Dharwad.	21,46,762/-
	Total	62,91,966/-
<b>LAKSHADEEP</b>		
1.	Dakshin Bharat Hindi Prachar Sabha.	17,137/-
	Total	17,137/-
<b>PONDICHERRY</b>		
1.	Dakshin Bharat Hindi Prachar Sabha, Pandicherry.	81,750/-
<b>KERALA</b>		
1.	Hindi Prachar Kendra, Trichur.	26,100/-
2.	Gandhi Smarak Gram Seva Kendram, Allepey.	91,950/-
3.	Hindi Premi Mandal, Vechoor.	45,863/- + 22,932/-
		(93-94)
4.	Gandhiji Smarak Hindi Prachar Mandal, Keerikad.	32,010/-

1	2	3
5.	Hindi Vidyapeeth, (Kerala), Trivandrum.	1,45,725/- + 69,113/- (93-94)
6.	Hindi Vidyapeeth, Payannur.	71,175/-
7.	Keral Hindi Prachar Sabha, Thiruvananthapuram.	9,58,425/-
8.	Hindi Vidya Bhawan, Kannur.	
9.	Jagannath Hindi Mahavidyalaya, Tellicherry.	
10.	Keral Hindi Sahitya Mandal, Cochin.	37,200/-
11.	Dakshin Bharat Hindi Prachar Sabha (Kerala), Ernakulam.	7,04,250/-
Total		22,04,743/-

## GUJARAT

1.	Gujarat Vidyapeeth, Ahmedabad.	1,66,500/-
2.	Gujarat Pranteeya Rashtabhasha Prachar Samiti, Ahmedabad.	39,847/- +19,924/- (2nd instalment 93-94)
3.	Bombay Hindi Vidyapeeth, Gujarat.	76,230/-
Total		3,02,501/-

## TAMILNADU

1.	Hindi Vidyabhavan Samiti, Tuticorin.	23,475/-
2.	Murthuzavia Education and Cultural Foundation of South India, Madras.	61,575/-
3.	Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Academy of Oriental Languages and Culture, Madras.	31,575/-
4.	Punjab Association, Madras.	43,912/-
5.	Lajpathroy Memorial Politechnic of Commerce, Madras.	7,950/-
6.	Sibhaswami Hindi Vidyalay.	8,610/-
7.	Aggarwal Vidyalay and College, Madras.	15,000/- + 7,500/- (Instalment of 1993-94)
8.	Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust Tamilnadu.	6,803/-
9.	Bhasha Sangam, Madras.	32,550/-
10.	Welfare Association for Rural Mass, Madras.	-
11.	Akhil Bhartiya Sewa Dal.	18,712/-
12.	Dakshin Bharat Hindi Prachar Sabha (Tamilnadu) Trichi.	23,23,419/-
13.	Dakshin Bharat Hindi Prachar Sabha, Madras. (City Scheme).	3,93,750/-
14.	Dakshin Bharat Hindi Prachar Sabha, Madras. (P.G. Centre).	31,97,200/-

1	2	3
15.	Dakshin Bharat Hindi Prachar Sabha, Madras. (Rashtriya Hindi Anusandhan Pustakalay).	1,04,850/-
Total		62,76,881/-

## NAGALAND

1.	Nagaland Bhasha Parishad, Kohima.	24,000/-
Total		24,000/-

## MIZORAM

1.	Mizoram Hindi Prachar Sabha, Aizawl.	1,38,750/-
Total		1,38,750/-

## MEGHALAYA

1.	Hindi Prachar Mandal, Shillong.	38,925/-
2.	Meghalaya Rashtabhasha Prachar Samiti, Shillong.	78,900/-
Total		1,17,825/-

## WEST BENGAL

1.	Saratchandra Hind Vidyalay, Midnapur.	15,600/-
2.	Rashtabhasha Shiksha Niketan, Calcutta.	13,425/-
3.	Hindi Prachar Samiti, Bholpur.	37,350/-
4.	Sunderban Hindi Maha Vidyalaya.	14,550/-
5.	Rashtabhasha Prachar Samiti, Malda.	22,650/-
6.	Paruldanga Hindi Shiksha Kendra.	5,250/-
7.	Hugli Zilla Rashtabhasha Prachar Kendra.	27,150/-
8.	Uttar Bangh Hindi Shiksha Samiti, Siliguri.	42,840/-
9.	Navdweep Rashtabhasha Hindi Shiksha Vidyalay, Nadia.	21,750/-
10.	Bhartiya Bhasha Prachar Samit, Hubli.	41,182/-
11.	Chandrabhushan Upadhyay Rashtabhasha Parishad, Bankura.	37,650/-
12.	Hawra Zilla Rashtabhasha Prachar Samiti, Hawrah.	21,026/-
13.	Indian Folklore Society, Calcutta.	
14.	Institute of Indian and Foreign Languages and Hindi, Calcutta.	20,465/-
15.	Uttar-24 Paraganas Zilla Rashtabhasha Prachar Kendra.	37,200/-
16.	Baghadanga Rashtabhasha Vidyalay, Baghadanga.	20,250/-
17.	Gyan Bharathi Hindi Parishad.	29,130/-
18.	Nadia Zilla Rashtabhasha Prachar Samiti.	14,805/-

1	2	3
19. Lok Chetana, Hawrah.	-	
20. Sri Barabazar Kumar Sabha Pustakalay, Calcutta.	18,000/-	
21. Barabazar Pustakalay, Calcutta.	-	
22. Bhasha Sansad (Anuvad Patrika) Calcutta.	1,32,300/-	
23. The Institute of Engineers, Calcutta.	-	
24. Rashtrabhasha Prachar Sabha, W.B. Hawrah.	41,186/-	
25. Tilak Pustakalay, Raniganj.	-	
26. Authpur Rashtrabhasha Prachar Kendra	14,411/-	
27. Ram Mohan Library, Calcutta.	4,294/-	
28. Rashtrabhasha Alochana Sansad.	-	
29. Bapuji Hindi Prachar Sabha.	8,850/-	
30. Rashtrabhasha Hindi Shiksha Parishad, Midnapur.	14,850/-	
31. Rashtriya Hindi Academy, Rupambara, Calcutta	-	
<b>Total</b>		<b>6,56,164/-</b>

**MAHARASHTRA**

1. Bombay Hindi Vidyapith, Bombay.	10,95,525/-
2. Bombay Hindi Sabha, Bombay.	1,88,100/-
3. Bombay Prantiya Rashtra Bhasha Prachar Sabha, Bombay.	1,04,775/-
4. Rashtrabhasha Prachar Samiti, Wardha.	2,62,316/-
5. Maharashtra Rashtrabhasha Sabha, Pune.	2,09,475/-
6. Maharashtra Hindi Prachar Sabha, Aurangabad.	1,09,147/-
7. Maharashtra Hindi Grandhalay and Vachnalay, Aurangabad.	7,500/-
8. Sri Panchmurthy Education Society, Nagpur.	42,900/-
9. Vidarbha Rashtrabhasha Prachar Samiti, Nagpur.	1,33,500/-
10. Bombay Tiruvalluvar, Manram, Bombay.	50,000/-
<b>Total</b>	<b>22,03,238/-</b>

**GOA**

1. Gomantak Rashtrabhasha Vidyapith, Margao.	62,720/- + 62,721/- (for 1993-94)
2. Bombay Hindi Vidyapith, Goa Pradesh.	1,02,217/-

1	2	3
3. Dakshin Bharat Hindi Prachar Sabha, Goa Pradesh.	1,64,550/-	
<b>Total</b>		<b>3,92,208/-</b>

**MANIPUR**

1. Uripok Hindi Mahavidyalaya, Imphal.	30,675/-
2. Yairipok Hindi and Sanskrit Prachar Sansthan, Manipur.	19,800/-
3. Akhil Manipur Hindi Teachers Association, Imphal.	16,500/-
4. Manipur Hindi Shikshak Sangh, Imphal.	37,500/-
5. Manipur Hindi Parishad, Imphal.	76,125/-
6. Manipur Hindi Prachar Sabha, Akampat.	1,56,750/-
7. Manipur Rashtrabhasha Prachar Samiti, Imphal	141,750/-
8. Naga Hindi Vidyapith, Imphal.	31,027/-
9. Hindi Ashulipi Aur Mudralekhan, Imphal.	31,650/-
10. Nirou Tribal Hindi Prachar Parishad, Manipur.	16,125/-
11. Wanghii Rashtrabhasha Vidyalay, Imphal.	25,125/-
12. Hindi Prachar Parishad, Kakchung.	40,500/-
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,23,527/-</b>

**BIHAR**

1. Hindi Vidyapith, Deoghar.	2,20,893/-
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,20,893/-</b>

*[English]***Expenditure on Catalytic Converters**

6750. SHRI JANARDAN MISRA :  
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether installation of Catalytic Converters in vehicles would be made mandatory for the use of Lead Free Petrol;

(b) if so, whether the Government are aware that the expenditure on vehicles is likely to increase a lot on account of this;

(c) if so, whether the Government are going to adopt some measures so that the expenditure on vehicles does not increase;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH):

(a) The Government has notified that with effect from 1.4.1995, only those new four wheeler petrol vehicles, which are fitted with catalytic converters would be registered in the four metropolitan cities of Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras. These vehicles are to use only unleaded petrol, which is being supplied from 1.4.1995 in selected retail outlets in these cities. The petrol pumps selling unleaded petrol are fitted with special dispensers which can dispense only unleaded petrol to vehicles fitted with catalytic converters.

(b) The cost of a catalytic converter fitted vehicle would be slightly higher than an ordinary vehicle.

(c) and (d). The Government has reduced the Customs Duty on import of catalytic converters from 65% to 25% from the budget year, 1995-96. Further, the Government has asked the manufacturers to equalise the cost of catalytic converter fitted four-wheeler petrol vehicles with the cost of ordinary vehicles by cross-subsidisation. The Government has also kept the price of unleaded petrol at par with the cost of the regular petrol containing lead, inspite of the fact that the costs of refining unleaded petrol is higher.

(e) Does not arise.

#### Water Cess

6751. SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have enhanced the Water Cess;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) to what extent the increase in Water Cess will augment the financial resources of Central and State Pollution Control Boards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH):

(a) and (b). The Government has approved a proposal to enhance the existing water cess rates, approximately three-fold, under the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Cess Act, 1977 which envisages levy of cess on water consumption by industries and local authorities with a view to augment the financial resources of the Central and State Boards. This increase had been sought to provide the additional infrastructure required to fulfil the growing responsibilities of the State Pollution Control Boards. Further, the earlier level of cess rates had not proved to be sufficient enough to motivate consumers to conserve water, which is increasingly becoming a scarce natural resource in the country and to make income generated by such rates to be commensurate with the cost of effluent treatment in order to (i) to control pollution of water and (ii) to promote its conservation.

(c) The State Pollution Control Boards have collected Rs. 31,00 crores in 1993-94; with the proposed rates this would be approximately Rs. 78.00 crores.

#### Cooperative Policy

6752. DR. ASIM BALA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to give any concession to safeguard the cooperatives following the entry of Multinationals;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the policies of the Government to safeguard the cooperatives in view of New Economic Policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) to (c). There is no specific proposal under consideration, to give any concession to cooperatives following the entry of multinationals, so far. However, the policies of the Government envisage giving support to cooperatives in a liberalised economic environment, as and when necessary.

#### Mosquito Repellant Mats

6753. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the chemicals used in the manufacture of mosquito repellant mats are harmful to human beings;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) whether the Government have also conducted any study on the adverse effects of the chemicals used in preparation thereof on human beings; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) No, Sir. Only those chemicals are granted registration for use in the manufacture of mosquito repellant mats which satisfy the prescribed safety parameters.

(b) and (c). Questions do not arise.

(d) and (e). Before registration of any chemical pesticides, the Registration Committee constituted under the Insecticides Act, 1968 examines the data generated as per prescribed guidelines, which inter-alia include human exposure/health monitoring studies and only after satisfaction regarding the safety, these chemicals are allowed for use.

[Translation]

### Dairy Industry Development

6754. SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA :  
SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether certain demands were made to the Government for the development of Dairy Industry at the Twenty-Sixth Conference on Dairy Industry organised in the country;

(b) if so, whether one of the demands was to establish a separate financial institution in the country which may own up financial responsibility for development of Dairy Industry in the country;

(c) if so, whether Government have ascertained the possibilities of implementation of this demand; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

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

[English]

### Joint Action Committee

6755. DR. SUDHIR RAY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3252 on April 25, 1995 and state :

(a) the criteria that separates a recognised federation of associations of employees of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan from the unrecognised ones;

(b) whether Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan has accepted sixteen points out of the twenty-five point Charter of Demands of the Joint Action Committee of KVS Associations of Employees, after negotiations held with its delegation in February 1994 at the Commissioner level;

(c) if so, whether the same have been implemented; and

(d) if not, the reasons for the delay?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) As per information furnished by the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS), KVS (Recognition of Service Associations), Regulations, 1995 do not have any provision to recognise federation of association of employees. These regulations provide for recognition of Service Association of employees of distinct category only.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). Implementation of the demands accepted by the KVS, is a continuous process and it is the endeavour of the Sangathan to see that no delay occurs in the process.

### Bankura-Damodar River Railways

6756. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering a proposal for nationalisation of Bankura-Damodar River Railway in West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

### U.G.C. Act

6757. SHRI P.C. CHACKO : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether in order to make changes in fee structure of Colleges and Universities from time to time University Grants Commission propose to amend some provisions of the U.G.C. Act, 1956 and implement Punnayya Committee Report; and

(b) if so, the impact thereof on the careers of poor students aspiring to pursue higher studies?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) The UGC has proposed certain amendments to the U.G.C. Act to enable it to regulate the fee structure in the institutions within its purview in the light of the Supreme Court judgement pertaining to the charging of capitation fee by certain institutions.

As regards the Punnayya Committee Report, the UGC has informed that the Report of this Committee on 'UGC Funding of Institutions of higher education', together with the views of the UGC thereon, has been sent to the Vice-Chancellors of Central, State and Deemed Universities as also to the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations for consideration an adoption of the recommendations relevant to them.

(b) The Punnayya Committee has, inter-alia, recommended that the Central Universities should award freeships to meritorious students belonging to the socially and economically weaker sections of the society or admit such students at concessional rate of fee. The Commercial Banks are already providing need-based finance to the eligible students under the 'Educational Loans' Scheme.

### Agricultural Research

6758. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the investment in the agricultural research and extension programmes during 1994-95;

(b) the break up of such investment in the Irrigated, Rainfed and Dryland Farming;

(c) the percentage-wise proportion of these sectors in terms of cultivable land to the total cultivated land in the country;

(d) the percentage proportion in terms of output of these sectors; and

(e) the future plan for investment in agricultural research?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) The investment made by DARE/ICAR in Agricultural Programmes in the Indian Council of Agricultural Research in 1994-95 are to the order of Rs. 495.63 crores - Rs. 275 crores under plan and Rs. 220.63 crores under non plan. These estimates do not include the investment made by the states & Union Territory and other departments.

(b) The conservative break-up of the investment made by the ICAR under different sectors are as under:  
(Rs. in Crore)

Year	Irrigated	Rainfed	Dryland
1994-95	151.17	307.29	37.17

(c) The percentage by proportion of these sectors in terms of cultivable to cultivated land in the country is 25.71, 40.49 and 18.44% for Irrigated, Rainfed and Dryland areas respectively.

(d) the percentage proportion in terms of out put in these sectors have been computed from the the data available from the Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture. These are 56.12% for irrigated, 33.26% for rainfed and 10.61% for dryland Sectors.

(e) The Eighth Plan allocation for the Department of Agricultural Research and Education is Rs. 1300.00 Crore. The annual plan allocation of the Council in 1995-96 is Rs. 310.00 Crore. The non-plan requirements are made on year to year basis.

[Translation]

### Sugar Mills

6759. SHRI LALL BABU RAI : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of sugar mills in the country at present and the number out of them under public sector and private sector, state-wise;

(b) the number and the type of allied industries set up by them so far, State-wise; and

(c) the amount invested in these industries and the number of persons likely to get employment therefrom, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) As on 31-1-1995, there were 435 installed sugar mills in the country, the State-wise and sector-wise details of which are given in the statement attached.

(b) and (c). Ministry of Food does not maintain this information.

### STATEMENT

*Statement Showing the state-wise, sector-wise installed Sugar Mills in the country (As on 31-01-1995).*

S.No.	State	Private	Public	Coop- erative	Total
1.	Punjab	6	-	16	22
2.	Haryana	1	-	10	11
3.	Rajasthan	1	1	1	3
4.	Uttar Pradesh	45	35	31	111
5.	Madhya Pradesh	5	1	3	9
6.	Gujarat	-	-	18	18
7.	Maharashtra	6	-	104	110
8.	Bihar	15	15	-	30
9.	Assam	-	1	2	3
10.	Orissa	4	-	4	8
11.	West Bengal	1	1	-	2
12.	Nagaland	-	1	-	1
13.	Andhra Pradesh	13	6	18	37
14.	Karnataka	10	3	18	31
15.	Tamil Nadu	15	3	15	33
16.	Pondicherry	1	-	1	2
17.	Kerala	1	-	2	3
18.	Goa	-	-	1	1
19.	Dadra Nagar Haveli	-	-	-	-
20.	Manipur	-	-	-	-
	All India total	124	67	244	435

### Meet on Food

6760. SHRI MANJAY LAL : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are taking any steps to organise a conference and an exhibition of the bodies

and organisations like International Wheat Council, International Sugar Council and World Food Council etc. related to Food;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) to (c). No Sir. The Ministry of Food has no proposal as of now, to organise such a conference and exhibition.

#### Delicence Trading of Coarse Grains

6761. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :  
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA :  
SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal is under consideration of the Government to delicence the trading of coarse grains;

(b) if so, the details thereof and steps taken to solve the problem of foodgrains traders; and

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

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) to (c). Keeping in view the comfortable food situation in the country, the Central Government have recently decided to remove coarse grains from the purview of licensing. Consequently, on 10th May, 1995 all the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have been requested to amend/rescind the relevant licensing orders to give effect to this measure.

[English]

#### Sports Project Development Area Scheme

6762. SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the target fixed for setting up Sports Project Development Area Centres has not been achieved;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A total of 78 Sports Project Development Area Centres were targetted to be established by the end of the Eighth Plan period. Out of these 34 Centres have been established. The Scheme is at present under review.

#### National Dairy Development Board

6763. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the poor implementation of Oilseeds and Dairy Programmes and diversion of funds by the National Dairy Development Board;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Questions do not arise.

[Translation]

#### Leakage of Milk

6764. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :  
SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether leakage of milk takes place during transportation of milk from the Main Milk Store of Mother Dairy in Delhi to the Milk Booths;

(b) if so, the percentage of milk leakage agreed to by the Mother Dairy;

(c) the loss of milk and the loss of revenue suffered daily as a result of the leakage; and

(d) whether any expert opinion has been sought about the justification of the leakage and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) No, Sir.

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

[English]

#### Training of Indian Coaches

6765. SHRI C.P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA :  
SHRI HARIN PATHAK :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any scheme for sending Indian Coaches abroad for undergoing training in specialised programmes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Indian Coaches are being sent abroad for undergoing training

under the Cultural Exchange Programmes/bilateral agreements with other countries as well as the Scheme of Scholarships for Training of Specialists and Outstanding Sportspersons. During the last two years, under the Cultural Exchange Programmes/bilateral agreements eight Indian Coaches have been sent abroad for undergoing training in specialised programmes in sports disciplines like Basketball, Volleyball, Handball, Hockey and Swimming in countries like USA and Germany.

### Integrated Pest Management

6766. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether in a recent analysis by the Central Insecticides Laboratory of various samples of vegetables taken from Delhi Market showed significant levels of pesticides residues;

(b) if so, whether similar survey has also been conducted in other parts of the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to replace chemicals pesticides and popularise Integrated Pest Management in different States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) Pesticide residues detected in some of the vegetable samples drawn from Delhi and analysed in Central Insecticides Laboratory (CIL) were below the prescribed tolerance limits.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. The results of the survey are as under :

Location	No. of samples collected and analysed	No. of samples showing presence of pesticide residue	No. of samples above tolerance limits
Mathura	4	2	Nil
Faridabad	4	Nil	-do-
Palwal	5	4	-do-
Mohana	5	4	-do-
Chhailusa	4	3	-do-
Bombay	3	Nil	-do-

(d) The Government is taking following steps to minimise the use of chemical pesticides and popularise IPM in different states :

- (1) Organise Season Long Training Programmes and Farmers' Field Schools in

different states to train master trainers, Agricultural Extension officers and farmers for the adoption of IPM approach.

- (2) Education through publicity materials and mass media like Television, Radio, Press etc. regarding hazards associated with chemical pesticides vis-a-vis eco-friendly approach of IPM.
- (3) Facilitate the registration of biocides and neem based formulations.
- (4) Release of Central Grants-in-aid to the States/UTs for setting up of Biological Control Laboratories in order to make biocontrol agents available locally.
- (5) Imposition of ban/restrictions on the use of some of the chemical pesticides.

### Wheat Scheme

6767. SHRI HARIBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have given any financial assistance to the Gujarat Government for implementation of the scheme to distribute wheat at Rs. 2/- per kg. and also to supply Bajra/Makka etc. at the cheaper rate to ration card holders who are living below the poverty line in the States;

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

(c) the population likely to be benefited by implementation of the said scheme?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Details of the scheme proposed by the Government of Gujarat have not been received by the Central Government.

### Coloured Cotton

6768. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA :  
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cultivation of 'coloured cotton' has been successfully experimented in Andaman and Nicobar Islands;

(b) if so, the present position about the cultivation of 'Coloured Cotton' and its extension to other areas of the country;

(c) whether the Government have formulated any scheme for cultivation of 'coloured cotton' in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh and other cotton grower States;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the impact on the export potential of Cotton?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Coloured Cotton is not cultivated commercially in other areas of the country.

(c) to (e). No, Sir.

#### NCDC Assistance for Cooperative Spinning Mills

6769. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Karnataka Government has sent a proposal for NCDC assistance for setting up of Co-operative Spinning Mills at Hubli;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the date on which the proposal was sent;

(c) the stage at which proposal stands at present; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government for early establishment of the Mills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) and (b). The National Co-operative Development Corporation (NCDC) had received a proposal from Government of Karnataka in September, 1992 for consideration of financial assistance for setting up the Sanjay Co-operative Textile Mills Ltd. at Hubli.

(c) and (d). The NCDC is not giving term loan assistance to new co-operative spinning mills except under the internationally assisted projects/programmes. As there was no support forthcoming from international assistance, this project could not be considered and the mill has been advised to tie up term loan from All-India Financial Institutions like IDBI, IFCI, ICICI etc. The NCDC is yet to receive any communication from the State Government in this regard.

#### Railway Land

6770. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme of utilisation of Railway Land for Commercial use; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) and (b). A proposal has been drawn up for utilizing airspace over railway land and structures with a view to generate additional internal resources and provide better facilities for the passengers.

[Translation]

#### Inadequate Storage Facilities

6771. SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE :

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the storage facility is not sufficient to cater the needs of farmers due to which most of the farmers are unable to store their foodgrains; and

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

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) and (b). A scheme under Ministry of Rural Development for establishment of a National Grid of Rural Godowns was started in 1979 in which Ministry of Rural Development has been providing central assistance in the form of subsidy for constructions of rural godowns to the State Government/UTs. The scheme aimed at provision of scientific storage facilities at the farm level, particularly for small and marginal farmers to safeguard them against distress sales immediately after the harvest and to reduce losses due to substandard storage. The scheme has now been transferred to state sector as per decision of National Development Council.

Under this scheme an amount of Rs. 43.78 crores was provided as central assistance to various state Governments/UTs for setting up of 4835 rural godowns with a total storage capacity of lakh tonnes. As on 31.3.1995, 3834 rural godowns with a total storage capacity of 21.31 lakh tonnes have been completed.

Ministry of Rural Development has not got conducted any survey regarding adequacy of storage facilities to cater the needs of farmers.

NCDC under the Ministry of Agriculture and Co-operation provides financial assistance for creation of scientific storage facilities to cooperatives in accordance to the requirements assessed by state Governments and on their recommendations. The Corporation, since its inception has provided financial assistance to cooperatives upto 31st March, 1994 for construction of 55327 rural and 9447 marketing godowns capacity 136.91 lakh tonnes of which 52679 rural and 9190 marketing godowns capacity 131.33 lakh tonnes have been completed.

#### Soil Conservation

6772. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount allocated to Maharashtra during each of the last two years for soil conservation;

(b) the amount actually utilized by the Government of Maharashtra; and

(c) the progress made so far in the implementation of Soil-Conservation Scheme in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) to (c). The Union Ministry of Agriculture is implementing a project entitled Soil Conservation in the Catchments of River Valley Projects (RVP) under which funds released and amount utilised during each of the last two years in the State of Maharashtra is as under :

Year	Amt. released (Rs. in lakhs)	Amt. utilized
1993-94	109.00	95.95
1994-95	700.00	316.19

So far area covered under the scheme is 73950 ha.

The Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment is implementing Drought Prone Areas Programmes under which Rs. 604.35 lakhs and Rs. 665.40 lakhs was earmarked for land development activities including soil conservation works during 93-94 and 94-95 respectively. Under the Integrated Wasteland Development Projects of the Department of Wasteland Development, soil and water conservation is one of the components for which there is a provision to meet upto 20% of the cost. No separate allocation and expenditure exclusively for soil conservation activities is worked out.

Ministry of Environment and Forests in implementing schemes namely integrated afforestation and Eco-development project and Areas Oriented Fuelwood and Fodder projects under which expenditure upto 16% of the total provision may be incurred on soil conservation works. No separate allocation and utilisation of funds exclusively for soil conservation activities is worked out.

[English]

#### Consumer Activities

6773. SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the formation of an alliance of Consumer Activities called VCAN - (Voluntary Consumer Action Network), under aegis of CUTS (Consumer Trust Society), Calcutta;

(b) the aims and objectives of VCAN and the partner organisations;

(c) whether the Government have any proposal to support the activities of Voluntary Consumer Action Network;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) The name of the said alliance does not figure in the Directory of Consumer Organisations

compiled by Department of Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution System although we are aware of the Consumer Trust Society (CUTS), Calcutta. They have not given the details so far.

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

[Translation]

#### Distribution of Sugar

6774. DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have stated the transportation of Sugar through trucks to streamline the Sugar Distribution System;

(b) if so, the date from which the Union Government have started this system and the names of the places from where sugar is being brought by trucks;

(c) whether the Sugar Distribution System has not been improved despite this arrangement; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) to (d). Under the guidelines issued by the Central Government for fixing margins for retailers and wholesalers of levy sugar for the Public Distribution System (PDS), transportation is allowed either by rail or by road. There is no proposal for restricting transportation of levy sugar only by trucks. Such arrangements are made as per the convenience of the State Governments. No specific complaint has been received from any State Government/UT Administration in this regard.

[English]

#### Fashion Show on Board the Train

6775. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Train turns into Catwalk", appeared in the 'Times of India' dated April 7, 1995;

(b) if so, the fact thereof and the details of the projected fashion shows on board the train; and

(c) whether similar fashion shows are also proposed to be allowed on various other trains?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Railways were approached by a private agency M/s. Solid Action, New Delhi with a request to permit film shooting of a Fashion show on board 2005 Shatabdi Express running between New Delhi and

Chandigarh/Kalka. Permission for the same was granted on specific terms and conditions. All the formalities and precautions were observed before giving permission. In addition, a surcharge was also taken from the party.

(c) No request has been received from any agency on date for a similar event. On receipt of any request, each case will be examined separately on merits.

#### Damage to Foodgrains

6776. SHRI RAM NIHOR RAI :

SHRI SHIV SHARAN VERMA :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government stored the foodgrains in open areas due to lack of storage facilities;

(b) whether a large number of quantity of foodgrains became unworthy for human consumption;

(c) if so, the total quantity and value of such unworthy foodgrains during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise; and

(d) the details of the preventive measures taken/likely to be taken in near future to avoid such situations?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) At the Macro Level, the existing storage capacity is adequate to store the available stocks of foodgrains. The FCI is holding 20.9 Million Tonnes of foodgrains against its total storage capacity of 27.3 Million Tonnes. Only 2.8 Million Tonnes foodgrains are stored in open (CAP) mostly in the procurement regions. The open storage is invariably transitory storage i.e. till wheat stocks are despatched to consuming regions and paddy is milled into rice. Large inflow of foodgrains during a short span of 2 months of procurement takes almost a year for despatch to various consuming states due to limited availability of Railway wagons. Hence the transitory storage becomes inescapable.

(b) No, Sir, only a meagre quantity of foodgrains as compared to the volume of huge stocks handled became unworthy for human consumption due to natural causes like heavy rains, floods, cyclones etc.

(c) The quantity and value of such foodgrains during the last 3 years, year-wise and State-wise are given in the Statement attached.

(d) The preventive measures taken/likely to be taken by FCI are given below :

(i) Construction of godowns on scientific lines which are rodent and damp proof.

(ii) Foodgrains are stored on scientific principles and regular pest control measures viz., prophylactic and curative treatments for the control of stored grain insect, pests are taken regularly, alongwith periodical aeration and ventilation of stocks.

(iii) Movement of foodgrain stocks is done in covered wagons.

(iv) Efforts are being made to increase machine stitching of grain bags to avoid spillage etc. during multiple handling and transportation. Due to paucity of covered godowns, storage in open under CAP (Cover and Plinth) is resorted to with all necessary precautions.

(v) Disciplinary action are initiated wherever it is established that the foodgrains have been damaged due to negligence of the staff.

#### STATEMENT

S.No.	State	Quantity (in MTs)	Value (in Rs.)
1.	Bihar	1543.322	26,02,387.17
2.	Orissa	296.195	5,74,352.45
3.	West Bengal	8058.536	1,90,69,853.06
4.	Assam	1135.730	26,26,977.00
5.	NEF	258.929	7,62,912.00
6.	Delhi	487.984	8,90,244.00
7.	Haryana	288.090	5,50,984.33
8.	H.P.	1.057	1,934.00
9.	Punjab	1160.691	30,07,504.98
10.	Rajasthan	54.995	1,03,403.00
11.	U.P.	1327.319	24,79,532.74
12.	A.P.	1082.405	26,01,613.59
13.	Kerala	601.975	17,72,312.60
14.	Karnataka	230.236	5,35,262.53
15.	Tamil Nadu	638.544	3,59,049.77
16.	Gujarat	398.687	8,38,500.00
17.	Maharashtra	1647.121	39,20,451.80
18.	M.P.	658.371	17,82,756.63

#### Year 1992-93

S.No.	State	Quantity (in MTs)	Value (in Rs.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Bihar	348.249	9,67,867.42
2.	Orissa	73.472	2,04,494.44
3.	W. Bengal	663.337	18,59,387.84
4.	A.P.	365.279	8,47,596.15
5.	Kerala	600.615	17,67,823.30
6.	Karnataka	401.646	13,11,761.90
7.	Tamil Nadu	745.851	19,52,381.00
8.	Gujarat	382.433	10,20,763.00
9.	Maharashtra	1723.737	42,21,611.98
10.	M.P.	497.167	13,63,562.00
11.	Assam	248.303	8,06,296.00
12.	NEF	676.978	22,79,095.00

1	2	3	4
13. Delhi		249.814	5,38,956.00
14. Hayana		335.808	7,28,858.12
15. H.P.		0.321	690.00
16. J and K		756.317	19,52,429.00
17. Punjab		1399.239	60,84,347.41
18. Rajasthan		165.187	3,61,728.00
19. U.P.		173.810	4,19,647.25

**Year 1993-94**

S.No.	State	Quantity (in MTs)	Value (in Rs.)
1.	Bihar	765.418	19,24,712.89
2.	Orissa	634.780	22,92,602.46
3.	West Bengal	1387.794	46,56,271.73
4.	Assam	525.878	18,45,427.00
5.	NEF	363.744	12,98,075.00
6.	Delhi	2997.463	1,03,46,271.00
7.	Haryana	1652.859	37,46,253.30
8.	J and K	4623.678	1,53,03,176.00
9.	Punjab	25663.333	9,66,79,215.72
10.	Rajasthan	156.588	3,59,468.00
11.	U.P.	457.070	9,16,601.59
12.	A.P.	283.132	7,53,818.77
13.	Kerala	248.494	9,08,735.04
14.	Karnataka	344.913	12,73,762.28
15.	Tamil Nadu	795.928	24,50,001.97
16.	Gujarat	2022.532	59,44,834.00
17.	Maharashtra	2611.307	81,57,209.00
18.	M.P.	251.812	8,31,510.00

**Consumer Awareness**

6777. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is fact that study undertaken on the working of Consumer Courts in the country has revealed that most of the population was not aware of the Consumer Protection Act;

(b) whether as per the study even persons with the knowledge of the Act were found ignorant about the procedure of filing a complaint in a Consumer Court;

(c) whether the Government contemplate to intensify their efforts in promoting general consumer awareness in the country; and

(d) if so, steps being taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) to (d). The Indian Institute of Public Administration has conducted a survey, entrusted to it

by this Ministry, in five States (Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal). In each State, only two Districts were selected. According to the conclusions arrived on the basis of random sampling, a total number of 1168 persons were contacted, out of which 976 are reported to be unaware of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986. A total number of 1051 were not aware of the procedure for filing complaints in Consumer Courts. The Government has taken a number of steps to give wide publicity to the Consumer Redressal Fora set up under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986. The Ministry has printed booklets, brochures, etc., on Consumer Protection Act, 1986 which are distributed free of cost. Some of these publications give the procedure for filing complaints. The Ministry is also broadcasting a weekly A.I.R. Programme, "Apne Adhikar", from all the commercial broadcasting stations in all the regional languages which impart knowledge about consumer redressal fora. Similarly, the Ministry is publishing a quarterly journal entitled "Upbhokta Jagaran" which is being distributed to all the voluntary consumer organisations, libraries, etc. free of cost. As a result of the efforts of Government and non-Government consumer organisations, awareness programmes will certainly spread to the grass-root level all over the country in course of time.

**Agricultural Human Resource Development Project**

6778. SHRI B. RAJARAVIVARMA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Tamil Nadu has submitted any proposal for approval seeking an amount of Rs. 94.56 crore from World Bank for the implementation of Agricultural Human Resources Development Project in the State; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) Sir, Tamil Nadu is one of the States in which World Bank assisted Agricultural Human Resource Development Project is being implemented. The share of the Tamil Nadu Government under the project is equivalent to Rs. 83.50 crores.

(b) The legal documents relating to the Project Agreements have already been signed between the Government of India and the International Development Association on 11th April, 1995.

[Translation]

**Regularisation of Labourers**

6779. SHRI SWAMI SURESHANAND : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of labourers regularised during the last three years; and

(b) the number of persons belonging to Scheduled Castes among them?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

#### Passenger Facilities

6780. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA :

SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of names of trains in which passengers have been provided with better drinking water and lightening facilities; Zone-wise;

(b) the details of other facilities provided in these trains; and

(c) the details of other trains in which such facilities are proposed to be provided during the current year, Zone-wise?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIF) : (a) A Statement is attached.

(b) Newspapers are supplied to the passengers travelling in First AC and AC sleeper coaches of Rajdhani Express trains and passengers travelling in some Shatabdi Expresses. Bed rolls are supplied to all passengers having sleeping accommodation in Rajdhani Expresses without realising any charges. Public Address System has been provided on all Shatabdi Express and Rajdhani Express trains.

(c) Supply of bed rolls is being extended to all the passengers in AC 2-Tier coaches of other trains.

#### STATEMENT

(a) The number and names of Rajdhani and Shatabdi Express trains in which drinking water in bottles and improved illumination through fluorescent tube lights is provided to the passengers are given below :

#### RAJDHANI EXPRESSES

S.No.	Train	
(i)	2951/2952	New Delhi-Bombay Central
(ii)	2953/2954	Nizamuddin-Bombay Central (August Kranti Rajdhani)
(iii)	2301/2302	New Delhi-Howrah (via Gaya)
(iv)	2305/2306	New Delhi-Howrah (Via Patna)
(v)	2421/2422	New Delhi-Bhubaneswar
(vi)	2423/2424	New Delhi-Guwahati
(vii)	2431/2432	Hazrat Nizamuddin-Madras/Trivandrum

(viii)	2429/2430	Hazrat Nizamuddin-Bangalore
(ix)	2425/2426	Hazrat Nizamuddin-Jammu Tawi

#### SHATABDI EXPRESSES

(i)	2001/2002	New Delhi-Bhopal
(ii)	2003/2004	New Delhi-Lucknow
(iii)	2005/2006	New Delhi-Kalka
(iv)	2007/2008	Madras Central-Mysore
(v)	2009/2010	Bombay Central-Ahmedabad
(vi)	2011/2012	New Delhi-Chandigarh
(vii)	2013/2014	New Delhi-Amritsar
(viii)	2015/2016	New Delhi-Jaipur
(ix)	2017/2018	New Delhi-Dehradun
(x)		New Delhi-Kathgodam Special

In addition all airconditioned coaches in other trains are provided with fluorescent tube lights.

#### Gauge Conversion

6781. SHRI SHAILENDRA MAHTO : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the time when the conversion of Metre Gauge Line into Broad Gauge line from Giridih to Ranchi, via Koderma Hazaribagh town was started;

(b) the progress made so far; and

(c) the time by which the work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) No railway line exists from Giridih to Ranchi via Koderma Hazaribagh town.

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

[English]

#### Voluntary Organisations

6782. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether voluntary organisations working in the consumer field have suggested amendments in the Consumer Protection Act, 1986;

(b) if so, the amendments suggested; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The suggestions mainly relates to enlarging the scope of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 so as to make it more effective for protecting the rights of consumers.

(c) On the recommendations of the Central Consumer Protection Council, the Government has set up a Working Group to look into the suggestions and make its recommendations.

### Water Testing Laboratories

6783. DR. AMRIT LAL KALIDAS PATEL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has sent any proposal for setting up of water testing laboratories in each district of Gujarat;

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

(c) whether such proposals have been received from other States; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (d). The State Governments have not sent any proposal for setting up water testing laboratories. However, the Central Government has taken steps to supplement the efforts of the State/Union Territories for establishing water testing laboratories in each district of the country during the Eighth Five Year Plan. 17 water testing laboratories have been sanctioned in Gujarat out of a total of 310 water testing laboratories which have been sanctioned all over the country.

### Rice Scheme

6784. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether a few State Governments have introduced Rs. 2/- per kg. Rice and cheap foodgrain scheme;

(b) if so, the States that have approached the Union Government for assistance to introduce the scheme;

(c) if so the amount of assistance proposed by the Union Government to those States for implementation of this scheme; and

(d) if not, reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). As per information available, the Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and Gujarat have introduced/announced schemes regarding distribution of rice and wheat respectively at Rs. 2/- per kg. On the request of Andhra Pradesh, the State's monthly quota of rice for PDS has been increased from 1.90 lakh tonnes to 2.10 lakh tonnes from February 95 and the State Government has been advised to aim to contribute

adequate quantities of rice for the Central Pool during 1994-95 Kharif Marketing Season. In case of Gujarat also, the monthly allocation of wheat has been increased on an adhoc basis from 53,500 tonnes to 75,000 tonnes for 4 months from May, 95. The foodgrains will continue to be issued to Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and Gujarat interalia at the Central Issue Prices applicable to PDS and RPDS and no additional subsidy would be borne by Central Government in the food subsidy budget on account of introduction of these schemes by Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat Governments for distribution of rice and wheat respectively at Rs. 2/- per kg.

[Translation]

### Agro-Mechanisation Promotion Scheme

6785. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the approximate number of farmers who have been provided assistance under Agro-Mechanisation Promotion Scheme during 1993-94;

(b) the district-wise number of farmers benefited in the Uttarakhand region of Uttar Pradesh; and

(c) whether the Government propose to take any action to provide such benefits to more farmers of the above area keeping in view their poor financial condition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) A sum of Rs. 10.00 crores was provided to the State Governments for subsidising 3333 number of small tractors during 1993-94, there by benefiting equal number of farmers, or their groups.

(b) Four farmers in Nainital district and one farmer in the Dehradun district have been provided assistance under the scheme.

(c) Besides assistance for the purchase of tractors, Governmental incentives are also available to the farmers of this area, under other Schemes, for the purchase of agricultural implements.

[English]

### Annual Survey on Environment

6786. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to launch a scheme for conducting a survey on Environmental issues facing the country annually;

(b) if so, the time by which the said scheme would be launched; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c). A report on the State of Forests in India is published once every two years. Steps are being taken to publish this annually. While no such report is published presently on other environmental issues, the possibility of doing so is being examined.

### Exploitation of Working Women

6787. SHRI TARA SINGH :

SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to bottlenecks in Central Acts and laws for the welfare of women, the exploitation of working women in various parts of the country is increasing;

(b) if so, whether any study has been conducted by the Government or any Voluntary Organisation in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and steps taken by the Government to check this trend?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI) : (a) Government is aware of the various forms of exploitation which the working women are likely to face in the country and views this matter with concern. Government is aware of the need for continuous monitoring of the implementation of various laws in the country. The Women's Labour Cell in the Ministry of Labour deals with the formulation of policy to remove the handicaps under which women labourers work, to strengthen their bargaining position, to improve their wages and working conditions to enhance their skills and open up better employment opportunities for them. Ministry of Labour also particularly monitors the Equal Remuneration Act, 1976. A Central Advisory Cell has been set up for overseeing the implementation of Equal Remuneration Act. Similar Committees have been set up by most of the States/UTs.

(b) and (c). No, Sir. No such study has been conducted. More over the Constitution of India not only grants equality to women but also empowers the State to adopt measures of positive discrimination in favour of women. The State has enacted women specific and women related legislation like Equal Remuneration Act, 1976, a number of labour laws such as the Factories Act, 1948, the Maternity Benefit Act, 1961, the Beedi and Cigar Workers (conditions of Employment) Act, 1966, Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, Immoral Traffic (Prohibition) Act, 1956, Dowry (Prohibition) Act, 1961. Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986 and the Commission of Sati (Commission) Act, 1987 etc. to protect women

against social discrimination, violence and atrocities and impose obligations on employers with regard to providing special facilities for women and preventing any form of discrimination.

Government is implementing programmes of (a) Support Services such as Working Women's Hostels, Creches, Family Counselling Centres etc. and (b) Awareness Generation for Women an dissemination of information regarding their rights through Legal Literacy. Efforts are also made through print and electronic media to project positive image of women in society and to bring about changes in societal attitudes towards women.

Further, National Commission for Women set up under the National Commission for Women Act, 1990 is also charged with the responsibility of overseeing the implementation of the various laws dealing with safeguards for women including working women.

### Build own Lease Transfer

6788. SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAOSAHEB TOPE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the projects proposed to be covered under BOLT scheme;

(b) the response it received from private entrepreneurs; and

(c) whether the targets for the same have been achieved?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) Details of the projects tentatively selected to be undertaken under Build-Own-Lease-Transfer (BOLT) Scheme are as under :

Schemes	Unit	Estimated Cost (Rs. Crore)
1	2	3
<b>A. PROJECTS</b>	<b>Approximate Distance (Km.)</b>	
<b>1. GAUGE CONVERSION :</b>		
a. Mudkhed-Adilabad	162	108.0
b. Agra-Bandikui	150	67.0
c. Jodhpur-Marwar	104	58.0
d. Wankaner-Maliya Miyana	80	51.0
e. Viramgam-Mehsana	65	50.0
f. Achnera-Mathura	35	20.0
<b>2. DOUBLINGS :</b>		
a. Paradeep-Cuttack-Nerugundi	83	200.0
b. Kanpur-Etawah (3rd Line)	139	153.0



### Sewage Plants

6790. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up sewage plants in all industrial settlements of Delhi for pollution control;

(b) whether a trial project is being implemented in this connection with the help of the Delhi Municipal Corporation;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if so, the amount earmarked in the Eighth Plan for this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH):

(a) The Government has not proposal to set up sewage plants in all the industrial settlements in Delhi. However, the industries have to treat their effluents to comply with the prescribed standards.

(b) and (c). The Central Pollution Control Board has sanctioned a project for carrying out a study with the help of Delhi Municipal Corporation for treatment of waste water through pisciculture and production of duckweed.

(d) A sum of Rs. 13,60,100/- has been earmarked for this project in the Eighth Five Year Plan period.

[English]

### Working Women Hostels

6791. SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA):  
SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the targeted number of Working Women Hostels was not sanctioned during 1994-95;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor, the targets fixed and the achievements made during the said period; and

(c) the efforts made by the Government to meet the requirement of such hostels?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. The targets were fully achieved. 53 additional hostels were sanctioned during 1994-95 for 4594 working women against a target of 50 hostels for 2500 working women.

(c) Till the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan, 627 hostels had been sanctioned with a capacity of 40662 working women, under the Scheme of Assistance for

Construction/Expansion of Hostel Building for Working Women with Day Care Centre for Children. An outlay of Rs. 35 crores has been provided for the Scheme in the Eighth Five-Year Plan (1992-97), in order to create additional hostel accommodation for 12,500 working women. 113 hostels for 8845 working women have been sanctioned upto 31.3.1995 in the Eighth Five-Year Plan, making a total of 740 hostels sanctioned so far for 49507 working women. The State Governments and Union Territory Administrations have been advised to encourage and assist Non-Governmental Organisations in taking up the programme.

### Gauge Conversion

6792. SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN :  
SHRI P. KUMARASAMY :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of sections of Metre Gauge Railway Lines in Tamil Nadu converted into Broad Lines during 1993-94 and 1994-95;

(b) whether the Government have identified some more sections for Gauge conversion during 1995-96 and 1996-97;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the amount allocated for the purpose;

(e) whether Tamil Nadu has got largest percentage of Metre Gauge Tracks in the whole country; and

(f) if so, the steps taken by the Railways to increase allocation of funds for Gauge conversion?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) The Metre Gauge railway lines in Tamil Nadu converted to Broad Gauge is as under :

1993-94	Madras Beach-Tambaram
1994-95	Nil

(b) to (d). Gauge Conversion work is in progress on Tambaram-Tiruchchirappalli (313 kms.), Dindigul-Tiruchchirappalli (93 kms.) and Tiruchchirappalli-Nagore-Karaikal (200 kms.) lines. During 95-96 an allocation of Rs. 37.00 crs., Rs. 16.00 crs. and 2 crores respectively have been provided for these projects.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Funds and materials are being provided to the Railways as per the requirements.

### Taxes on Foodgrains

6793. SHRIMATI DIPIKA H. TOPIWALA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to reduce the taxes on foodgrains;

(b) if so, whether the matter has been taken up with the Ministry of Finance; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government and outcome thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) to (c). No tax on foodgrains has been imposed by Central Government. However, some State Governments have imposed taxes and levies on foodgrains procured for Central Pool to the extent of even 10%. State Governments of Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Orissa and Union Territory of Chandigarh Administration were requested to restrict the total tax element within 5% of the support prices of foodgrains. While the Government of Haryana has expressed inability to reduce the taxes and levies on foodgrains, the Union Territory of Chandigarh has reduced the tax percentage to 7% by lowering the market fee from 2% to 1%. Punjab, Rajasthan and Orissa have not reduced the level of taxes so far.

The matter has not been taken up with the Finance Ministry so far.

#### Passenger Facilities

6794. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the stations in Adra Division of S.E. Railways at which the facilities of waiting room, restaurant, drinking water and toilets are not available; and

(b) the time by which the action is proposed to be taken to provide such facilities at these stations?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[Translation]

#### Train between Varanasi and New Delhi

6795. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether passengers have to abandon their journey between Varanasi and Delhi/New Delhi via Allahabad due to non-availability of reservation from these stations;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to introduce a new train from Varanasi to New Delhi via Allahabad in view of the larger public interest; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) to (c). 2381/2382 Poorva Express is available for journey between Varanasi and Delhi/New Delhi via Allahabad thrice a week. However, it is

proposed to introduce a new express train between New Delhi and Varanasi/Muzaffarpur via Allahabad during 1995-96.

[English]

#### Allocation of Levy Sugar

6796. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE :

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of levy sugar made available to States for Public Distribution System during the last three years;

(b) the quantity of levy sugar allotted to various State Governments during this period, Year-wise, State-wise;

(c) whether there is complaint from the Government of Maharashtra for non-receipt of full allotment of levy sugar during this period;

(d) if so, the measures taken by the Government to supply the balance quota to the Maharashtra State; and

(e) the time by which the position of sugar on the fair price shops is likely to be improved?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) and (b). Under the present policy of partial control, monthly allocations of levy sugar to most of the States/UTs are being made on the basis of uniform norms of ensuring minimum 425 grams per capita monthly availability for the projected population as on 1.10.1986. These norms are effective from 1.2.1987. However, some States/UTs are being allowed allocations at higher scales in view of the special circumstances prevailing there. Accordingly, about 3.35 lakh tonnes of sugar is being allocated as levy for distribution under the Public Distribution System for the entire country. In addition to the above Government releases about one lakh tonnes per annum as festival quota which is allocated to the States/UTs in proportion to their monthly levy allocations. An adhoc increase of 5% in the monthly levy quota of all States/UTs allowed since August, 1991 keeping in view the higher availability of sugar at that time, has been withdrawn with effect from the levy sugar allocation of April, 1994 in view of the decline in the production of sugar during the last two consecutive sugar seasons, i.e. 1992-93 and 1993-94.

A Statement showing the States-wise monthly quota of levy sugar and yearly festival quota being allocated during the last three years on the aforesaid basis is given in the Statement attached.

(c) and (d). The Government of Maharashtra during June, 1994 had reported that they could not lift levy sugar to the tune of 15,393.9 M.T. from January upto May, 1994 within the specified validity period. It was, however, decided that a quantity of 3,500 M.T. be

reallotted to the State Government to meet the short-fall and the remaining quantity was treated as lapsed. The State Government of Maharashtra was informed accordingly.

(e) As regards distribution of levy sugar through the fair price shops, it is the responsibility of the concerned State Governments.

### STATEMENT

*Levy Sugar Quota, Additional 5% Ad-Hoc increase and Festival Quota*

(Figures in Tonnes)

S.No.	State/UTs.	Monthly Normal quota	Monthly 5% Ad-Hoc increase (Allowed from Aug. 91 to March, 1994)	Festival quota for each year
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1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	25281	1264	7614
2.	Andaman Nicobar	247	12	74
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	314	16	94
4.	Assam	9617	481	2896
5.	Bihar	33459	1673	10078
6.	Chandigarh	372	19	112
7.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	51	3	14
8.	Delhi	8721*+1200**=9921	436	2316
9.	Goa	500	25	150
10.	Daman	24	1	12
11.	Diu	15	1	
12.	Gujarat	16194	810	4878
13.	Haryana	6386	319	1924
14.	Himachal Pradesh	2019	101	608
15.	Jammu & Kashmir Kashmir	2884+252@=3136	144	868
16.	Karnataka	17769	888	5350
17.	Kerala	11953	598	3600
18.	Lakshdweep	71	4	22
19.	Madhya Pradesh	25031	1252	7536
20.	Maharashtra	29938	1497	9014
21.	Manipur	694	35	208
22.	Meghalaya	662	33	200
23.	Mizoram	261	13	78
24.	Nagaland	426	21	128
25.	Orissa	12393	620	3730
26.	Pondicherry	305*	15.2	64

1	2	3	4	5
27.	Karikal	73	3.7	18
28.	Mahe	15	0.7	4
29.	Yanam	7	0.4	2
30.	Punjab	7945	397	2392
31.	Rajasthan	16914	846	5092
32.	Sikkim	165	8	50
33.	Tamil Nadu	22547	1127	6790
34.	Tripura	1001	50	302
35.	Uttar Pradesh	52926	2646	15936
36.	West Bengal	25888	1294	7796
Total		334520	16654	99,950

\* Includes increase in quota of 1032 tonnes in Delhi and 108 tonnes in Pondicherry made from May, 1990 onward.

\*\* Increased from July, 1993.

@ Increased from February, 1994.

### Admission in Public Schools

6797. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the donations, contributions to building funds, gifts, endowments and capitation fees linked with the admission of a student to a recognised public school in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to check this malpractice?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATIONS AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) to (c). As per information furnished by the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi, no such complaint has come to their notice. In case, specific complaints are received, action as per provision of Section 24(2) of Delhi School Education Act, 1973 is initiated by way of special inspection. They further informed that instructions were issued to all the unaided recognised schools not to charge donations.

### Natural Disaster

6798. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have prepared Contingency Plans for natural disaster;

(b) if so, whether any emergency Disaster Plan has been formulated after the Latur earthquake; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) A Model Contingency Action Plan for meeting the situation caused by natural disasters has been prepared and circulated to all the State Governments.

(b) and (c). Formulation of a Comprehensive Disaster Management Plan for the State of Maharashtra is part of the Earthquake Rehabilitation Project being implemented with World Bank credit in the earthquake affected areas of Maharashtra. The Project is scheduled for completion by 30th June, 1997.

#### Drip Irrigation

6799. SHRI K.H. NUNIYAPPA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have stopped the subsidy being provided to the farmers for drip irrigation for irrigation an area of more than two acres Karnataka;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and since when the subsidy has been stopped;

(c) whether the Government have received any request from the State Government to review the matter; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) and (b). Subsidy approved for drip irrigation was limited to a maximum area of one ha (2.5 acres) per beneficiary upto 94-95. This limit has now been removed.

(c) The State Government had requested to enhance the area limit under drip irrigation from one ha. (2.5 acres) to 4 ha. (10 acre).

(d) The Government of India has removed the area limit of one ha. with effect from 1.4.95 for a period of one year. The farmer can avail the subsidy for his entire land holdings that can be owned under the relevant State Land Ceiling Laws.

#### Centrally Sponsored Schemes

6800. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :  
DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of various Centrally sponsored schemes implemented in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years for Development of the Agriculture;

(b) the amount allocated during the above period, year-wise and scheme-wise; and

(c) the achievement made under these schemes, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) and (b) : A statement indicating the important Central/Centrally Sponsored Schemes implemented in Andhra Pradesh and the amount released to the State Govt. in respect of these schemes during the last three years is annexed.

(c) The implementation of the Schemes has helped in substantial increase in the yield per ha. of major crops during 1993-94 over 1990-91.

#### STATEMENT

S.No.	Name of Scheme	(Rs. in lakhs)		
		Amount released to Andhra Pradesh		
		1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
1.	Catchments of River Valley Project (RVP)	337.00	300.00	329.00
2.	National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas	1238.00	1462.00	636.55
3.	Balanced and Integrated use of fertilisers	11.00	5.25	14.15
4.	National Pulses Development Programme	90.42	126.00	24.64
5.	Oilseeds Production Programme	855.50	1436.55	1452.10
6.	Integrated Programme for Rice Development (IPRD)/ Integrated Cereal Development Programme in rice Based Cropping system Areas (ICDP-Rice)	810.19	808.06	9.00
7.	Special Foodgrains Production Programme on Maize/Milletts (SFPP-Maize/Milletts)	102.03	65.00	No scheme
8.	Intensive Cotton Development Programme	196.50	Nil	Nil
9.	Development of Cashewut	47.79	83.52	158.80
10.	Development of Tropical Arid and Temperate Fruits	15.88	80.89	125.74
11.	Development of Spices	25.36	60.37	98.63
12.	Use of Plastics in Agriculture	160.00	350.00	451.75
13.	Oil Palm Development Programme	338.68	717.06	1165.56

#### Transportation of Coal

6801. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to introduce Cash and Carry System for transportation of coal; and

(b) if so, the time by which the system is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) and (b). On the Indian Railways prepayment of freight charges for transport of goods, including coal, is an option available to a rail-user. Recently too, this condition had been imposed on transport of coal to certain Power Houses and State Electricity Boards, who had accumulated substantial freight outstandings, with a view to prevent further increase in their freight outstandings. However, on receipt of representations from some Power Houses etc. the condition of pre-payment of freight charges had been withdrawn. As and when the need arises, the condition of pre-payment of freight in respect of coal for defaulting Power Houses/Electricity Boards is imposed.

#### Extension of Train

6802. DR. (SHRIMATI) K.S. SOUNDARAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to extend Howrah-Tirupathi or Puri-Tirupathi Express upto Madurai;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken to facilitate the passengers of West Bengal and Orissa to visit Madurai and Kanyakumari?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) to (d). Due to operational & resource constraints it is not found possible to extend Howrah-Tirupati or Puri-Tirupati Express upto Madurai. Passengers from West Bengal & Orissa travelling towards Madurai & Kanyakumari have to changeover enroute at their convenience.

#### Train between Trivandrum and Madras

6803. DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to introduce a new train from Trivandrum to Madras via Nagarcoil;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Due to operational and resource constraints

#### Construction of R.O.B.

6804. SHRI RAMAKRISHNA KONATHALA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the applications pending before from private investor or from Andhra Pradesh Government for construction of Road Over Bridge

alongwith their location and cost of each such R.O.Bs. with the present status of private participation for construction of R.O.B. in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) the time by which these bridges are likely to be constructed?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) No application is pending with Railway. Information about applications pending with Andhra Pradesh Government is not available with the Ministry of Railways.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Meat Production

6805. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether millions of male buffalo calves are allowed to die in dairies due to starvation and neglect;

(b) whether there is vast potential for buffalo meat production to improve the economy of the country; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to tap and promote business based on animal products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) the imbalance in male : female ratio of buffalo calves suggests that male buffalo calves are neglected.

(b) Yes, sir.

(c) As per The Statement attached.

#### STATEMENT

(I) The Government of India is providing financial assistance to tap and promote business based on animal products through the following scheme/projects.

- (i) Development of pork, sheep, goat, buffalo and poultry processing meat plants through State Cooperatives and Undertakings.
- (ii) Preparation of techno-economic feasibility report on projects related to meat, meat products, carcass utilisation centres and modernisation of slaughter houses.
- (iii) Training of artisans and managers in hygienic production and processing of meat and meat products.
- (iv) Research and development programmes useful for commercial production, processing and export of hygienic meat and meat products.
- (v) Development of technology and infrastructure for export oriented livestock product units.
- (vi) Improvement/modernisation of slaughter houses, carcass utilisation centres and hide flaying units.

(ii) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research and Council of scientific & Industrial Research have established various research units for livestock products development under their field organisations.

(iii) Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority has been established to promote export trade in meat and meat products.

#### Land Acquisition

6806. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has been asked to meet the total cost of land acquisition for the proposed fishing harbours in the State;

(b) whether the request is a deviation from the original proposal as sanctioned;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Union Government have since offered to meet any portion of the cost of land acquisition; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Till 1991-92 the item of land acquisition was also considered for 50% sharing then included by State Governments in the project proposals for the development of minor fishery harbours and fish landing centres under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme. The issue of sharing of cost for land acquisition was reviewed by the Government of India and it was decided in November, 1993 that cost of land acquisition should not form part of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme in the light of the following factors :

(i) In general, schemes funded by the Government of India do not provide for land acquisition cost as it is considered the responsibility of the State Government.

(ii) As a result of non-completion of land acquisition formalities in time, there has been large time over-run and cost over-run in case of several fishery harbour projects.

(iii) Necessity of having uniformity of approach for all the States, and

(iv) Constraints of funds.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

#### National Railway Users Consultative Committee

6807. PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the present composition of National Railway Users Consultative Committee and its duration;

(b) the main objects of this committee; and

(c) the headquarters of this committee?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) and (b). The Council is constituted with a view to secure closer association with the users of the railway and for affording opportunities for consultations between them and the Ministry of Railways (Railway Board) on matters relating to the services provided by Railways and means of improving the efficiency of such service. National Railway Users' Consultative Council has not been constituted so far.

(c) This Council, when constituted, functions from New Delhi under the aegis of the Ministry of Railways.

#### Denotification of Protected Areas

6808. DR. R. MALLU :

\*SHRI M.G. REDDY :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have been denotifying fully or partially the protected forest and national park areas from time to time;

(b) if so, the details of areas so denotified since 1990-91; and

(c) the reasons for denotifying these areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. On the basis of the proposals for different development projects received from various State Governments, approval for diversion of 2,03,927.82 ha. of forest land including protected forest for non-forestry uses has been accorded under the Forest (conservation) Act, 1980, between the period 1.1.90 to 28.2.95. According to the reports available from the States, the Government of Himachal Pradesh has denotified 628.40 ha. of Darlaghat Sanctuary in 1991 and the Govt. of Gujarat has denotified 76,579 ha. of Narayan Sarovar Sanctuary in 1993.

#### Vedic Sammelans

6809. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the dates and places of Vedic Sammelans organised by the Maharshi Sandipani Rashtriya Ved Vidya Prathisthan, Ujjain, during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the number of scholars deputed by the Prathisthan to participate in Vedic Sammelans in foreign countries during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) the dates, places and subjects of seminars organised by the Prathisthan during the last three years, year-wise;

(d) the number of vedic teachers in various institutions whose salaries are being paid by the Prathisthan.

(e) the number of places where the Vedic Classes are being held with the total number of students who attended these classes each year indicating the number of National Fellows as on March 31, 1995;

(f) the number of aged Vedic Pandits who were directly or indirectly assisted and rendered financial assistance during the last year; and

(g) actual grant-in-aid gives to the said institution during the last three years, year-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) to (f). The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

(g) The actual grant-in-aid given to Maharshi Sandipani Rashtriya Vedavidya Pratishthan, Ujjain during the last three years, year-wise is as follows :

Year	Grant given
1992-93	Rs. 570.00 lakhs
1993-94	Rs. 45.00 lakhs
1994-95	Rs. 71.50 lakhs

#### **Sardar Sarover Dam Project**

6810. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have put some conditions before approving the Sardar Sarover Dam Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the date on which the letter to this effect was written to the Government of Gujarat;

(c) whether the Union Government have received reaction of the Government of Gujarat in regard to the said condition, and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government propose to hold up the said project in case of failure of the State Government in fulfilment of the said conditions;

(e) if so, whether any time limit has been fixed in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). Sardar Sarover Dam Project was cleared from the environmental angle on 24th June, 1987 with environmental safeguard, including plans for Catchment Area Treatment and rehabilitation of oustees, to be implemented pari-passu with progress of work on the project.

(c) No reaction was received from the Government of Gujarat on the conditions stipulated in the environmental clearance of the project.

(d) to (f). The environmental clearance can be kept in abeyance in case of failure to comply with the stipulated conditions. The Narmada Control Authority monitors the progress of the project to ensure that environmental stipulations are complied with during the execution of the project. Mid-course corrections are taken wherever required. The Gujarat Government has informed that they are complying with all the stipulated conditions given in the environmental clearance of the project.

#### **Milk Powder**

6811. SHRI N.J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the value and quantity of milk powder supplied by foreign countries to India at concessional rates during each of the last three years, county-wise;

(b) the manner in which this milk powder was used; and

(c) the rates at which milk powder was supplied by foreign countries and the rate at which it was distributed to other agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) to (c). No milk powder was supplied by foreign countries to India at concessional rates during the last three years.

#### **Train from Jaipur to Southern States**

6812. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to introduce an express train from Jaipur to the capitals of the Southern States; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) There is no proposal at present.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### **Neem Tree**

6813. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VERMA :  
PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have initiated any research or study in regard to the utility of Neem plant;

(b) if so, the action being taken in this direction;

(c) whether Indian Agricultural Research Institute has also produced anti-fertility drugs from the Neem tree;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether a patent has been sought; and

(f) the details of practical prospects of these products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Research on different aspects of Neem has already been initiated by various government agencies like the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, the Indian Council of Medical Research, the Council of Scientific & Industrial Research and the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education. The research areas include the use of neem products as a pesticide and fertilizer in agriculture, its role in public and animal health and its uses in industry such as soaps and oils.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) NIM-76, a neem spermicidal product has been obtained by hydrodistillation of neem oil.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The product is being tested for practical utility by Central Drugs research Institute, Lucknow.

[English]

### Railway Projects

6814. SHRI P. KUMARASAMY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Railway Projects started in Tamil Nadu so far during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) the progress made so far in regard to each of these projects;

(c) the target date for completion of these projects; and

(d) the details of the Railway Projects proposed to be taken up in the State during the remaining period of the Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) to (c). The details of Railway projects started in Tamil Nadu during the Eighth Five Year Plan are as under :

S.No.	Name of projects and length	Approx. cost (Rs. in crs)	Progress upto March'95	Target date of completion
<b>GAUGE CONVERSION</b>				
1.	Dindigul-Tiruchchirappally (93 kms.)	95.07	1.50%	9th Plan
2.	Tiruchchirappally-Nagore-Karaikal (200 kms.)	100.00	new work	9th Plan
<b>RAILWAY ELECTRIFICATION</b>				
3.	Erode-Walayar (130 RKMs)-part of Erode-Ernakulam including Cochin Harbour section	167.76	3%	March, '98
<b>WORKSHOPS INCLUDING PRODUCTION UNITS</b>				
4.	Erode-BG/AC Electric loco shed for homing 50 locos	10.20	40%	8th Plan
5.	Jolarpettai - ROH of air brake wagons stock (BCN/BOXN)	6.12	30%	8th Plan
6.	ICF(Shell Division) - AC cubicles for CNC machines	0.53	100%	completed
7.	Perambur - Replacement of HT 11 KV supply mains/CW shop feeder Nos. I & II	0.79	New Work	9th Plan
8.	Ponmalai Diesel Loco Shed-Conversion of MG Shed to home 40 BG locos.	1.40	New Work	9th Plan
9.	Tondiarpet marshalling yard-Modernisation of Wagon complex	4.29	75%	8th Plan
10.	Avadi - Additional facilities for augmenting maintenance infrastructure for traction transformers.	1.37	100%	completed

(d) Not yet identified.

**Railway Employees**

6815. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of employees working on Computerised Reservation counters in the country;

(b) whether the Government are considering any proposal to give benefit of computer allowance to the employees engaged in computerised reservation work;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Grant of Computer Allowance to the employees engaged in Computerised reservation work has not been considered justified.

**Prawn Farming**

6816. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some international companies have been allowed to undertake prawn farming in the Sunderbans in West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details of these companies and the terms and conditions stipulated in this regard; and

(c) the places where these companies are likely to locate their projects in the area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Question does not arise.

**Godowns**

6817. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India is taking on lease private godowns while the godowns belonging

to Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) are lying vacant thereby wasting precious Governmental funds;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for proper utilisation of the vacant godowns?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) No Sir. The Food Corporation of India always gives preference to public agencies including the Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) in the matter of hiring of godowns.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Corporation constantly reviews its storage requirements and pursues a flexible policy on hiring and de-hiring with a view to ensuring optimum utilization of available godown space. As a result of these measures, the overall capacity utilization in FCT has gone up from 65% in 1992-93 to 80% in 1994-95.

**Sports Facilities**

6818. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state

(a) whether any proposal has been received for financial assistance to develop sports facilities from the Municipalities in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). During the last three years, the Department received 16 proposals in which the sponsors were the Municipalities of various states. The details of the proposals and the action taken by the Govt on these proposals are given in the enclosed statement.

**STATEMENT**

S.No.	Name of the Project with name of the sponsors	Estimated cost	Action take by the Govt
1	2	3	4
1.	Sports Complex at Amberpet by Municipal Corporation, Hyderabad	Rs. 100.00 lakhs	Rajected
2.	Indoor Stadium at Visakhapatnam by Commissioner, Municipal Corp. Visakhapatnam (A.P.)	Rs. 234.90 lakhs	Found deficient and deficiencies intimated to State Govt. on 20.7.94

1	2	3	4
3.	Swimming Pool at Visakhapatnam by Commissioner, Municipal Corp. Visakhapatnam (A.P.)	Rs. 211.44 lakhs	Approved for Rs. 43 lakhs in principle
4.	Basket Ball Court at Palampur Distt. Kangra by Municipal Committee, Palampur (H.P.).	Rs. 1.30 lakhs	Found deficient and deficiencies intimated to state Govt. on 27.4.95
5.	Swimming Pool at Bhanwartal by Municipal Corp. Jabalpur, M.P.	Rs. 85.20 lakhs	Approved Rs. 43 lakhs in principle and Rs. 25 lakhs released.
6.	Sports Complex at Satna by Satna Municipality, Madhya Pradesh	Rs. 168.55 lakhs	Rs. 50 lakhs approved in principle
7.	Indoor Stadium by Municipal Council of Neyyattinkara, Kerala	Rs. 20.63 lakhs	Rajected
8.	Open Stadium at Kasaragod, by Kasaragod Municipality, Kerala	Rs. 13.50 lakhs	Approved Rs. 6.60 lakhs in principle
9.	Sports Complex at Palai by Municipal Commissioner, Palai, Distt. Kottayam, Kerala.	Rs. 50.00 lakhs	Rs. 25 lakhs approved in principle
10.	Indoor Stadium at Davangere by Municipal Commissioner, City Municipal Council, Davangere, Distt. Chitradurga Karnataka.	Rs. 12.00 lakhs	Found deficient and deficiencies intimated to State Govt. on 5.7.94
11.	Swimming pool at Davangere by Municipal Commissioner, City Municipality Davangere Distt. Chitradurga, Karnataka	Rs. 19.50 lakhs	Rajected
12.	Swimming pool at Botad City by Botad Nagarpalika, Bhavnagar Gujarat	Rs. 9.24 lakhs	Rajected
13.	8 lanes 400 mtr. Athletic Track by Champadany Municipality, Distt. Hooghly, West Bengal	Rs. 3.26 lakhs	Rs. 1.63 lakhs approved in principle
14.	Indoor Stadium at Allahabad by Nagar Mahapalika, Allahabad.	Rs. 32.27 lakhs	Rajected
15.	Sports Complex by Howrah Municipal Corp., Howrah, West Bengal	Rs. 81.50 lakhs	Rs. 35 lakhs approved in principle
16.	Basketball Court in a School at Jaisalmer by Jaisalmer Municipality, Rajasthan.	Rs. 1.55 lakhs	Found deficient and deficiencies intimated to State Govt. on 13.2.95

[Translation]

### Mangroves

6819. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS by pleased to state:

(a) the places in the country where Mangroves a sea plant is planted and the area of land on which the said plant is planted;

(b) the extent of production of Mangroves and the places where the said production has been made from 1991 to March 1995;

(c) the purposes for which Mangroves is used;

(d) the target fixed for production of the said plant during 1995 and 1996; and

(e) the concrete programmes made to increase the production of Mangroves and the incentives given or being given to the growers of Mangroves?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (e). Mangroves are the salt tolerant plant species which grow in the deltaic regions, lagoons and protected bays all along with east coast, west coast and island systems of Andaman and Nicobar. A state-wise break-up of mangrove areas, according to Satellite Imagery Data as given in the State of Forest Report is given in the (Statement-I attached). The State Government have undertaken afforestation in the coastal areas to increase the extent of mangroves. The Government of India have also provided funds to the State Governments for conservation of mangroves. An amount of Rs. 3.16 crores has been released to the Government of West Bengal, Orissa, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Tamilnadu, Karnatka and Andaman & Nicobar Islands from 1986-87 onwards, till date, for activities such as survey and demarcation, protection, afforestation, education and awareness. Mangroves are of great importance in the coastal areas in ecological terms. They stabilise the shoreline and act as a bulwark against ingress by the sea. Mangrove ecosystems are rich in nutrients and provide suitable habitat for a wide range of aquatic biota. Fifteen mangrove areas have been identified for conservation of mangroves. These include North Andaman and Nicobar (Andaman & Nicobar Islands), Sunderband (West Bengal), Bhitarkanika & Mahanadi Delta (Orissa), Coringa, Godavari Delta and Krishna Estuary (Andhra Pradesh), Pichavaram and Point Calimere (Tamilnadu), Goa (Goa), Gulf of Kutch (Gujarat), Coondapur (Karnataka), Vembanad (Kerala) and Achra/Ratnagiri (Maharashtra). During 1995-96, a provision of Rs. 120 lakhs has been made for conservation measures in these areas for which the State Government would submit specific action plans including, interalia, areas for afforestation.

#### STATEMENT-I

##### State-wise break-up of mangrove areas (1991)

	Area (in sq. km.)
1. Andhra Pradesh	378
2. Goa	3
3. Gujarat	419
4. Maharashtra	155
5. Orissa	195
6. Tamilnadu	21
7. West Bengal	2119
8. Andaman & Nicobar	966
	<b>4256</b>

[English]

#### Operation Black-Board

6820. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA :

SHRI HARIBHAI M. PATEL :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the year, in which the Operation Black Board scheme was implemented in Gujarat including the number of development blocks of Ahmedabad district where this scheme has been lauched;

(b) the amount provided to the State for launching of this Scheme and the amount spent so far since the commencement of the scheme;

(c) whether Government have implemented this scheme in other districts of the state; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the districts covered so far under the scheme?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) The scheme of Operation Blackboard was launched in Gujarat in 1987-88 and Central assistance has been released for all the targetted primary schools in Gujarat including Ahmedabad district.

(b) As per the latest available information the details of funds released/utilised are as under :

Released	Utilised
(Rs. in lakhs)	
3548.58	2415.33

(c) and (d). Central assistance has been fully provided for all the districts in the State.

[Translation]

#### Rice Research Centre

6821. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up any Rice Research Centre in Maharashtra;

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

(c) the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) to (c). No, Sir. No new rice improvement centre is proposed to be set up in Maharashtra.

**Non-Plan Expenditure**

6822. SHRI LALL BABU RAI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the amount of plan expenditure under his ministry has been spent on non-planned works; and

(b) if so, the details of amount so spent during the last three years and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A total amount of Rs. 2610.45 lakhs was utilised from Plan funds to Non-Plan expenditure during the last three years. The amount was urgently required for meeting the committed expenditure on Contribution to Inter-national Organisations. Pay and allowances to the Staff of various Organisations/centres/Institutes etc., combating the locust threat to the country and for reimbursement of funds to the States/UTs, during the year 1994-95 who had incurred expenditure with concurrence of competent authority in excess of funds available to them during 1993-94 in regard to sale of decontrolled phosphatic and potassic fertilizers with concession to the farmers.

[English]

**Commonwealth Conference**

6823. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formed a Committee for inclusion of youth in the decision making process at the conclusion of a two days conference of Asia Region Commonwealth held at Delhi recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the issues discussed therein; and

(c) the salient features of the Committee?

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) : (a) No, Sir. The objectives of the two day conference of the Asia Region Commonwealth Youth Ministers' meeting was to discuss the agenda that were to be taken up at the Commonwealth Youth Ministers' Meeting held in Port of Spain from 17th to 19th May, 1995 and to identify the areas of common approach among the Asian Commonwealth countries which could be projected before the May Meeting from Asian perspective.

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

**Shrimp Production**

6824. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a sharp decline in the Shrimp production in Andhra Pradesh during the last year;

(b) if so, the extent of loss of production;

(c) whether any survey has been conducted on the causes of losses;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to start a revival programme in the sick Shrimp farming sector in Andhra Pradesh and if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the impact of the steps already initiated in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) and (b). No decline in cultured shrimp production was reported from Andhra Pradesh during the last year. However, there was some loss to cultured shrimp owing to the outbreak of disease. The loss is reported to worth over Rs. 70 crores.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Preliminary studies conducted by Central Institute of Brackishwater Aquaculture, Marine Products Export Development Authority and National Environmental Engineering Research Institute have revealed that viral infection and secondary bacterial infection might have caused the disease.

(e) and (f). There is no ground to hold that there is sickness in the shrimp farming sector since there has been no decline in production. However, steps have been taken to guide shrimp farmers to avoid disease in shrimp farms. These include :

(i) Educating the farmers on disease diagnosis, treatment of the affected shrimp, better pond management methods, and treatment of water both at the intake and discharge points.

(ii) Advising the farmers to have a crop holiday and take up shrimp farming after a gap of 4-5 months.

(iii) Drying the pond bottom for 4-5 months.

(iv) Allowing natural flushing of the wastes from the shrimp pond, etc.

It is reported that these steps have helped the culture systems to recover to a great extent and to restart the farming operation.

### Welfare of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes

6825. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the programmes launched by his ministry to help the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes during the year 1994-95;

(b) the details of the guidelines issued to the State Governments where such programmes are being implemented;

(c) whether any review has been made of these programmes/schemes to find out the benefit actually given to the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) and (b). There are various on-going schemes under which benefits are given specifically to the SC/ST farmers. Some of the major Schemes include Crop Production Programme, Watershed Development in Shifting Cultivation Areas in North-Eastern States, Assistance for Share Capital for Borrowings from Cooperative Societies, Demonstration on Use of Micro Nutrients under Integrated Use of Fertilisers, Oilseeds Production Programme, National Pulses Development Project, Oil Palm Development Programme (GPDP), Cashew Development Scheme, Fruits & Vegetables Schemes, Distribution of Fodder Seed Minikits etc. However, the subsidy component for sprinkler sets for SC/ST was introduced/increased in the case of Food Crops and Oilseeds/Pulses Programmes respectively to the level of 75% during 1994-95 to be effective from 1.4.95.

Most of these schemes are implemented by the State Governments. Specific provisions are incorporated in the administrative approval of the schemes directly benefitting the farmers to ensure that the benefits flow to SC/ST farmers.

(c) No such review in respect of these schemes has been undertaken.

(d) Does not arise.

### Reservation for Ex-Servicemen in Kendriya Vidyalyayas

6826. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any reservation quota for Ex-servicemen in the recruitment of teaching and non-teaching staff of Kendriya Vidyalyayas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it falls within fifty percent reservation limit or in addition to it?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Kendriya Vidyalyaya Sangathan follows the instructions issued by

the Deptt. of Personnel & Training in this regard. For Group 'C' posts the reservation prescribed is 10% and for group 'D' it is 20% in respect of Ex-servicemen.

(c) It falls within 50% of reservation limit, as per the instructions issued by the Deptt. of Personnel and Training, vide their O.M. No. 36012/58/92-Estt. (SCT) dated 1st December, 1994.

[Translation]

### Schemes for Farmers

6827. DR. P.R. GANGWAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any scheme is under consideration of the Government to improve the conditions of the farmers especially in case of sugarcane growers and vegetable growers in the country;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) the measures being taken by the Government for the early implementation of such scheme; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) to (d). Government of India is implementing following schemes to improve the condition of growers of vegetables in the country during the Eighth Plan :

- (1) Production and supply of vegetable seeds,
- (2) Development of root and tuber crops,
- (3) Development of mushrooms

Under these schemes, assistance is provided for improving productivity and production of vegetables by supplying quality planting material and production of foundation seeds of vegetables, true Potato seeds and spawn in Mushroom and training through demonstration.

Action has also been initiated to formulate new schemes to augment availability of certified seeds.

A centrally sponsored scheme on sugarcane has been proposed to be implemented during the remaining period of Eighth Five Year Plan. Under this scheme assistance is proposed to be given on training to the farmers, farm workers including women on newly developed production technology, demonstration, quality seed production, distribution of improved implements etc.

[English]

### Imported Sugar

6828. SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN :  
SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government propose to resell the Sugar abroad;

(b) if so, whether it would involve heavy losses to the Government;

(c) if so, the terms and conditions thereof; and

(d) whether final decision has been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) to (d). The Government is continually reviewing the demand-supply position of sugar in order to evolve appropriate measures dealing with any emerging situation requiring governmental intervention. There is no decision to resell the sugar abroad.

#### Animals in Betla

6829. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of major species of wild animals like tiger, elephant and deer is decreasing day by day in Betla National Park and Sanctuary in Bihar;

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

(c) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to protect the wild animals in this National Park and Sanctuary;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). Betla National Park is a Park of Palamau Tiger Reserve. The Central Government Provides assistance for the Protection and development of the area under its Project Tiger Scheme.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Edible Oils

6830. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA :

DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the production of edible oils during 1993-94 and 1994-95;

(b) the extent of likely shortage of edible oils during the year 1995-96 as compared to their demand in the country;

(c) the steps taken to improve the production of edible oils;

(d) whether the consumer prices of edible oils have not come down during the previous year despite import thereof;

(e) if not, the items whose prices came down during the previous year and the extent of decline registered in their prices;

(f) whether the Government have made any assessment in regard to import prices of edible oils including the charges to be paid thereon till landing thereof in the country, before taking decision in this regard; and

(g) if so, the facts in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) The production of edible oils during the oil years (Nov.- Oct.) 1993-94 and 1994-95 is as indicated below :

Oil Year	Production (in lakh MTs)
1993-94	61.70 (estimated)
1994-95	64.00 (likely)

(b) There is at present an estimated gap of nearly 5-6 lakh tonnes between the total requirement and net availability of edible oils from all domestic sources.

(c) The Technology Mission of Oilseeds and Pulses (TMO and P) was set up by the Government in 1986 to harness the best of production, processing and management technologies to achieve self reliance. Continuous efforts are being made by the Technology Mission to increase production of oilseeds in the country.

(d) and (e). The edible oil prices registered an increase of 16.1% between the period 16.4.94 and 15.4.95. But for imports, prices would have been much higher.

(f) and (g). The landed cost of edible oil imported by the State Trading Corporation for the Public Distribution System (PDS) is determined after taking into account expenditure on service margin, overheads clearing, handling, storage, insurance, internal movement, etc. The actual landed cost of the imported oil is higher than the Central Issue Price through PDS.

[English]

#### Electrification of Railway Route

6831. SHRI C.P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Doubling and Electrification of railway route between Bangalore and Madras has been completed; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) and (b). Bangalore-Madras has already double line except Kuppam-Whitefield section, on which doubling work is in progress.

The doubling of Kuppam-Whitefield was taken up in 1992-93 at a cost of Rs. 108.10 crores. The section from Whitefield to Devangothi (9 kms.) has been completed in 3/95.

Devangothi-Malur (12 kms.) is targetted for completion by 3/95.

The balance section will be opened in a phased manner in the coming years.

The entire section from Bangalore to Madras is electrified.

#### Blind Students

6832. DR. K.D. JESWANI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Blind Students studying at present in various universities of the country;

(b) the basic method of teaching to them in the name of study materials;

(c) whether they are entitled to get cassette players and cassettes for their studies; and

(d) if so, the terms and conditions in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Committee on Sugarcane Prices

6833. SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to refer to reply to USQ. No. 5124 dated May 9, 1995 and state the decision arrived at the conference of Sugar Ministers of all the sugar producing States held on May 6, 1995 on the recommendations of Norms Committee which was entrusted with the task of fixing Cane prices?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) A Conference of Sugar Ministers of all the sugar producing States/Union Territories was convened on 6th May 1995 to consider the recommendations of the Committee of Ministers of five States regarding the pricing policy for State Advised Prices of Sugarcane. Though majority of the States/UTs supported the formation of a National Pricing Board there was difference of opinion about its terms of references. The Government has decided to seek detailed suggestions/proposals from the State Governments/UTs in this regard so that a final view can be taken.

#### Railway Accidents

6834. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of train accidents occurred due to derailments including those involving Goods Trains during the last three months, till date;

(b) the percentage of these derailments accidents to the total accidents;

(c) the reasons for large number of derailments; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to improve upon the situation?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) The number of consequential train accidents due to derailments, including those involving goods trains on Indian Railways, during the period February, 1995 to April, 1995 was 85.

(b) 75.2%.

(c) These derailments occurred mainly due to failure of railway staff, equipment failure, etc.

(d) The following steps have been taken to prevent derailments :

1. Overdue track renewals are being liquidated.
2. Stress has been given to remove track deficiencies.
3. Track structure has been upgraded.
4. Carriage and Wagon examination of rolling stock has been strengthened and rationalised.
5. Nearly 17,000 drivers with less than 10 years active driving service have been specially screened and deficient drivers given out-of-course crash training.
6. Two high-level Safety Teams have been making extensive spot checks and inspections of field installations and practices.
7. Nearly 60,000 staff attended safety camps and refresher training courses during the last one year.

[Translation]

#### Export of Foodgrains

6835. SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA :  
DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to create a balanced stock of wheat and rice by exporting these items due to their availability in abundance in the country;

(b) if so, whether Agriculture and Processed Food Export Development Authority has estimated that export of wheat at the rate of less than 160 Dollars per tonne is not economically remunerative;

(c) whether the Government had examined the above estimate of the Authority before the decision for export was taken;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(e) the price at which the Indian wheat is likely to be sold in the International Market?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) and (e). In view of the comfortable stock position of foodgrains in the Central Pool, Government has authorised FCI to export/sell for the purpose of export wheat upto 2.5 million tonnes (within the export ceiling of 2.5 million tonnes) and rice (fine and superfine) upto 2.0 million tonnes during 1995-96 at prices as may be decided by the High Level Committee constituted for this purpose from time to time.

(b) No, Sir. No minimum export price has been fixed and it is allowed for export on price as mutually agreed between the buyer and seller.

(c) and (d). Do not arise in view of the reply to part (b).

[English]

#### Introduction of Train

6836. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce Shatabdi type of train between Bangalore and Hyderabad;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) There is no proposal at present.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Operational and resource constraints.

#### Railway Land

6837. SHRI RAM KAPSE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal to provide piece of Railway land at Thane East Kopri to the Thane Municipal Transport Undertaking for setting up a Bus Terminus;

(b) if so, the present status of the proposal; and

(c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Thane Municipal Transport Undertaking has already been advised that the piece of railway land at Thane cannot be spared for setting up a Bus Terminus, as this land is required for Railway's own development works.

[Translation]

#### Agricultural Price and Procurement Policy

6838. SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the role of Agricultural Price and Procurement Policy in increasing the agricultural production and income of the farmers;

(b) whether the Union Government propose to review this policy; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) The Agricultural Price Policy aims at ensuring remunerative prices to the growers for their produce with a view to encourage higher investment and production. This policy has resulted in increasing the production of agricultural commodities in the desired direction. The increased production has obviously led to higher income of the farmers.

(b) and (c). The Policy is kept under constant review and corrective measures, wherever necessary, are taken.

#### Railway Line

6839. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR :

SHRI MAHESH KANODIA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the Railway Lines in Maharashtra and Gujarat for which survey work is being conducted or proposed to be conducted during the financial year 1995-96; and

(b) the date fixed for the completion of the survey work?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) and (b). The details are as under :

Name of the Survey	Targetted date for Completion
<b>SURVEYS IN PROGRESS</b>	
1. Reconnaissance survey for new line from Dhule to Nardana.	December, 1995
2. Survey for doubling of Bhigwan-Gulbarga section.	December, 1996
3. Diva Jn. to Kalyan Jn.-Survey for additional line from Up side.	December, 1995
4. Preliminary Engineering-cum-Traffic Survey for Warora-Umrer via Chimur new rail line.	March, 1996
5. Preliminary Engineering-Cum-Traffic Survey for third and fourth lines between Virar and Ahmedabad.	December, 1995
6. Reconnaissance Preliminary Engineering-cum-Traffic Survey for conversion of Bhavnagar-Surendranagar MG line into BG and extension of converted line from Bhavnagar to Pipavav via Alang.	June, 1997
7. Survey for connecting Gandhinagar on main line between Ahmedabad-Delhi.	June, 1996
8. Survey for Bandra-Kurla rail link.	Survey Report has since been received.
9. Construction of a Rail-cum-Road bridge across the Gulf of Cambay.	June, 1996
<b>NEW SURVEYS</b>	
1. Engineering-cum-Traffic Survey for conversion of Dhrangadhra-Kuda Salt siding MG to BG.	June, 1996

[English]

#### **Import of Sugar**

6840. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA :  
SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :  
SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government's decision to import sugar has been opposed from certain quarters;
- (b) if so, the reason for importing sugar and the objections raised over the decision;

(c) whether the Government are reconsidering their decision to import sugar;

(d) whether it was necessary to import sugar at higher price; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) to (e). With a view to ensure adequate availability of sugar, the State Trading Corporation of India Ltd. (STC) and the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India Ltd. (MMTC), have entered into forward contracts for import of about 4.05 lakh tonnes of sugar.

The National Federation of Cooperative Sugar Factories Ltd. (NFCSF) and the Indian Sugar Mills Association (ISMA) in their joint representation dated 17th May, 1995 have requested that in view of the record sugar production and consequent large available surplus stocks of domestic sugar during the current season. The aforesaid contracts for import of sugar should be cancelled immediately.

The Government is monitoring and reviewing the situation from time to time with a view to taking the appropriate decision as and when it becomes necessary.

[Translation]

#### **Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991**

6841. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991 has been passed with a view to compulsorily provide insurance facility to the factories using hazardous materials;

(b) if so, the number of factories which were provided with insurance facility under this Act during the last year; and

(c) the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) The Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991 has been passed with a view to make owners handling notified hazardous chemicals liable to pay prescribed amount of immediate relief to the victims in the event of a chemical accident in their installations. The owner is required to take an insurance policy for paying this relief to victims of the public.

(b) and (c). Till last year 3076 policies have been issued and Rs. 8,58,38,033 has been collected as premium. It has been reported that Rs. 16,000 have been given as immediate relief against claims in six cases of chemical accidents.

[English]

### Prices under PDS

6842. SHRI RAM NIHOR RAI : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is true that the inflation rate has come down to single digit;

(b) whether the Government propose to bring down the prices of the items distributed through Public Distribution System shops in view of fall in the inflation rate; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Central Issue Prices of commodities distributed through the Public Distribution System is determined after taking into consideration the procurement price, minimum support price, procurement and post procurement incidentals, transportation costs, storage and interest charges, etc. The Government has not taken any decision to reduce the Central Issue Price of PDS Commodities. There is no proposal to determine Central Issue Prices on the basis of inflation rate.

### Supply of Essential Commodities

6843. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL :

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of commodities supplied to the citizens of the different States in the country under essential commodities;

(b) the means of their supply;

(c) the rates fixed for essential commodities being supplied;

(d) the rates on which selling agencies have been directed to sell the commodities; and

(e) other benefits being given to the selling agencies?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) and (b). The Central Government arranges for the procurement, storage, transportation and bulk allocation of six key essential commodities viz. rice, wheat, sugar, superior kerosene oil, soft coke and imported edible oil to States/UTs for distribution through Public Distribution System (PDS). These commodities are being supplied from the delivery depots of the

designated Central Government agencies. The Central Government has advised the States/UT Administrations to add additional items of mass consumption for distribution in the areas under Revamped PDS on their own, according to local needs and consumer preferences. Several States/UTs have reported to be distributing additional items like tea, soaps, pulses, iodised salt, etc. in the Revamped Public Distribution System areas.

(c) The Central Issue Prices of the PDS items at present is as under :

Commodity	Central Issue Prices
<b>Rice</b>	(Rs. per quintal)
Common	537
Fine	617
Super Fine	648
Wheat	402
<b>Imported Edible Oil</b>	(Rs. per tonne)
Bulk	24000
15 kg. tin	27000
<b>Kerosene</b>	(Rs. per kilo litres)
	2530.00
<b>Levy Sugar (retail)</b>	Rs. 9.05 per kg.
Soft coke	Rs. 175 per ton

(d) and (e). The end retail prices of PDS commodities other than levy sugar are fixed by the State Governments and UT Administrations after taking into account margin for wholesalers/retailers, transportation charges, levies, local taxes etc. In RPDS areas, the Central Government has advised the States/UTs that end retail prices of foodgrains should not exceed Central Issue prices for RPDS areas by more than 25 paise per kg. The end retail price of levy sugar supplied through PDS in all States/UTs is fixed by the Central Government.

### Parcel Trains

6844. SHRI B. RAJARAVIVARMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce parcel trains for Coimbatore, Madurai, Salem and Trichy cities in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Marketing Surveys do not indicate any scope for running trainloads of parcels between Madras and

Coimbatore, Madras Egmore and Madurai, Madras central and Salem and Madras Egmore and Tiruchchirappalli. Even the Brakevan space in the trains running in these sections is under-utilised.

[Translation]

### Fish Production

6845. SHRI RATILAL VARMA :  
SHRI DILEEP BHAI SANGHANI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the total fish/shrimp production in brackish and fresh water in Gujarat and Maharashtra separately;

(b) the quantum of fish/shrimp that can be stored in the coldstorages;

(c) the quantum of fish/shrimp that is exported and sold for domestic use; and

(d) the steps taken to increase the fish/shrimp production in these States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) to (c). The details are as under :

	Gujarat	Maharashtra
(i) Total fish/shrimp production (provisional) in 1994-95 (in tonnes)		
Marine	6,30,000	3,53,000
Freshwater	70,000	64,000
Brackishwater	123	1,600
(ii) Estimated quantum of fish/shrimp that could be stored in cold storage (in tonnes)	11,500	16,000
(iii) Quantum of fish/shrimp exported and sold for domestic use (in tonnes)		
Export	76,500	57,500
Domestic consumption (approximately)	2,00,000	2,50,000

(Source : Respective State Governments)

(d) Some of the steps taken to increase the fish/shrimp production in these States include :

(i) Development of freshwater and brackishwater aquaculture through establishment of Fish Farmers' Development Agencies.

(ii) Encouraging establishment of semi-intensive shrimp/prawn farms, fish/shrimp/prawn seed

hatcheries, feed mills and processing plants in the Government, private/public sector.

(iii) Establishment of demonstration-cum-training centres at the State level for human resource development in the field of fish/shrimp farming.

(iv) Conservation, development and management of the fishery resources.

(v) Development of reservoir fisheries.

(vi) Development of coastal marine fisheries through motorisation of traditional craft, development of off-shore fisheries by introduction of mechanised fishing craft, pelagic fishing craft, etc., enforcement of Marine Fishing Regulation Act and introduction of artificial reefs (in Maharashtra).

(vii) Creation of adequate infrastructural facilities for landing and berthing of fishing vessels and fish marketing.

[English]

### For Forest Development

6846. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether funds allotted for Forest Conservation and wasteland development every year are not being utilised properly by the State Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years, Statewise; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House.

### Railway Line

6847. SHRI K.G. SHIVAPPA :  
SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is taking up the construction of Railway Line between Hubli and Karwar; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

### Bombay Mail

6848. SHRI SHAILENDRA MAHTO : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a demand for an additional bogie in Bombay Mail from Hazaribagh Road Station (Saria) in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) No, Sir.

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

[English]

### Technology Mission on Oil Seeds

6849. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of oil seeds brought under the Technology Mission on Oilseeds;

(b) whether Oil palm and Coconut have also been brought under the mission; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) Groundnut, rapeseed, mustard, soyabean, sunflower, sesame, castor, safflower, linseed and niger.

(b) and (c). Oil palm was brought under the Technology Mission in December '90. As Coconut Board is already in existence for promoting coconut cultivation, it was not considered necessary to bring under TMOP.

### Encroached Forest Land

6850. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA :  
SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the total forest land, in hectares regularised by the Government so far, State-wise;

(b) the conditions stipulated therefore;

(c) whether in some States the farmers engaged in farming on forest land for years together have been asked to vacate such land under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980;

(d) if so, the number of farmers who have been issued notices for evacuation of land, State-wise; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) to (e). So far formal approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for regularisation of encroachment taken place over forest land has been accorded in respect of proposals received from Madhya Pradesh for 1.03 lakhs ha., for Andaman and Nicobar Islands 1,367 ha., for Kerala 28,588,159 ha. and for Gujarat for 10,900,47 ha. These proposals have been approved subject to certain conditions which *interalia* include carrying out of compensatory afforestation by the respective State Governments. Detailed guidelines have been issued by the Ministry for consideration of the proposals regarding regularisation of encroachments taken place over forest land. As per these guidelines encroachments taken place over forest land prior to 25.10.1980 can be considered for regularisation subject to fulfilment of certain criteria; in no case encroachments which have taken place after 24.10.1980 should be regularised. Immediate action should be taken to evict these encroachers. The State/UT Governments may, however, provide economic benefits to such persons through associating them collectively in afforestation activities.

### Staff Strength

6851. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether his ministry propose to cut 3% of the staff strength every year on the recommendations of various committees; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. There is no policy of 3% cut on staff strength every year. The requirement is however reviewed continuously on need based basis and adjustments made wherever required.

### Allocations for Sports Activities

6852. SHRI TARA SINGH :  
SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD :  
SHRI NURUL ISLAM :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria adopted for allocation of sports funds for different States;

(b) whether the allocations made by the Government for sports activities in the country are inadequate;

(c) if so, whether any request has been received for increase in the allocations for sports activities; and

(d) reaction of the Government thereon?

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) : (a) The Government of India does not make allocation of funds under different schemes being implemented by the Department of Youth Affairs and Sports on the basis of a fixed criteria. Financial assistance is given to the States on the basis of viable proposals received.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). No request has been received from any State for increase in allocations. However, there are occasions when the Department has received viable proposals under its schemes, but has to restrict the financial assistance to the states to the extent funds are available.

#### **B.Ed. College, Port Blair**

6853. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government B.Ed. College, Port Blair is affiliated to Pondicherry University;

(b) if so, the norms prescribed by that University in respect of the strength of the staff of that College;

(c) whether those norms have been fulfilled;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the college has only two lecturers on its staff, who are working on deputation and that one of them is having additional charge of the post of Principal;

(f) whether adequate hostel facilities are not available in the college; and

(g) if so, the corrective measures proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

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

#### **Working Women Hostels**

6854. SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA): Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to improve the system of monitoring the functioning of Working Women's Hostels;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the review reports received under the improved monitoring system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Scheme of construction of Working Women's Hostels provides that for any hostel there shall be a Hostel Management Committee. The Government has issued instructions that the representatives of Social Welfare Department/ Directorate of the State Government, District Magistrate/Collector, State Social Welfare Advisory Board and residents of the hostel must be members of this Committee. This Committee is to supervise/monitor the day-to-day management of the hostel. The Government has also laid down detailed requirements regarding the nature of facilities to be provided, eligibility criteria for admission, amount of rent that can be levied etc. The organisations receiving Government assistance for construction of Working Women's Hostels are expected to administer the hostel according to these conditions.

(c) The Tata Institute of Social Sciences has been commissioned to undertake an evaluation study of the hostels including management of the hostels. The study report has not been received so far.

#### **New Hotel**

6855. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to set up 100 new hotels/Yatri niwases in all parts of the country in the partnership with the private sector to promote the tourism;

(b) the names of the cities where these are likely to be set up;

(c) the total amount likely to be incurred thereon;

(d) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken; and

(e) the total number of hotels likely to be set up in Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) to (e). The project is in a conceptual stage.

#### **Malakhamb**

6856. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision to accord recognition to the Malakhamb game and the Malakhamb Federation of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and when a decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

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) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) Guidelines in this regard are under consideration. As soon as these are finalised, recognition to Malakhamb Federation of India would be considered.

#### Allocation of foodgrains to Andhra Pradesh

6857. DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of major items under the Public Distribution System allotted to Andhra Pradesh during 1994-95;

(b) the quantity of each item actually released during this period;

(c) the quantity actually lifted by the State during this period;

(d) whether the unlifted balances, if any, are available for 1995-96; and

(e) the quantity allotted for 1991-92 to the State of Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) to (c). The quantities of items allotted for the Public Distribution System to and actually lifted by Andhra Pradesh during 1994-95 are as under :

Item	Allocation	(in 000 MTs)
		Lifting
Rice	2210.00	2188.10
Wheat	180.00	110.20
Sugar	311.07	*
Edible Oils	33.50	33.13
Kerosene	602.68	601.58

\* Lifting of sugar is assumed to be 100%.

(d) Allocation of PDS commodities are made monthwise. In the case of foodgrains specific validity period is given for lifting the allocated quantities. The validity period of balance unlifted quantities is extended on a case to case basis.

(e) The quantity of PDS items allotted to Andhra Pradesh for 1991-92 are as under :

Item.	(in 000 MTs)
	Allocation
Rice	2283.00
Wheat	276.00
Sugar	321.10
Edible Oils	6.96
Kerosene	563.93

#### Rejected Development Projects

6858. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the projects received from the Government of Maharashtra for environmental clearance and diversion of forest land for various development projects including construction of roads and the projects rejected out of them by the Ministry during 1993-94 and 1994-95; and

(b) the reasons which were considered before rejecting the projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). The projects which were received from the Government of Maharashtra during 1993-94 and 1994-95 are given in the Statement-I. Out of these, projects rejected during the same period are given in the Statement-II.

#### STATEMENT

S.No.	Name of the project
1	2
1.	Upper Penganga irrigation project.
2.	Chikaldhara pumped storage scheme.
3.	Middle Vaitarma irrigation project.
4.	Chikaldhara pumped storage scheme.
5.	Waste Heat Recovery project at Uran, 3X210 MW.
6.	Construction of Worli-Bandra Road.
7.	Bombay Sewage Disposal Project.
8.	Bombay Sewage Disposal project under CRZ Notifications for -
	(i) Aerated Lagoons at Ghatkopar
	(ii) Aerated Lagoons at Bandup
	(iii) Influent pumping station at Bandra.
9.	Construction of Sirsala No. 2 minor irrigation tank.
10.	Tekepar lift irrigation scheme.
11.	Construction of Sirsala minor irrigation tank.
12.	Construction of Pillandri minor irrigation tank.

1	2
13.	Construction of Kalpalhari tank project.
14.	Construction of Utawali medium irrigation project.
15.	Construction of Wakwad minor irrigation tank project.
16.	Construction of Khamkheda minor irrigation tank.
17.	Renewal of traditional stone quarry (6) at Dhule Distt.
18.	Construction of Singaspur minor irrigation tank.
19.	Construction of Rozwa minor irrigation tank.
20.	Non-Forestry use of restored land of private forests at Raigarh Distt.
21.	Regularisation of Ek Sali Plots at Sindhudurg Distt.
22.	Widening of Bombay-Ahmedabad National Highway No. 8 at Thane Distt.
23.	Construction of Borkhada (KD) minor irrigation tank.
24.	Construction of Nagya Sakya Project (Panzan River).
25.	Construction of Madan minor irrigation tank.
26.	Construction of Haripura minor irrigation tank.
27.	Construction of Ranipur minor irrigation tank.
28.	Construction of Shahane minor irrigation tank.
29.	Construction of Nawali minor irrigation tank.
30.	Construction of Dara medium irrigation project.
31.	Establishment of international standard sports complex at Nagpur.
32.	Construction of Jambre medium irrigation project.
33.	Construction of Monna Goughan medium irrigation project.
34.	Construction of Waghzira minor irrigation tank.
35.	Construction of Nimbadevi minor irrigation tank.

#### STATEMENT-II

S.No.	Name of project	Reasons for rejection
1.	Upper Penganga-Irrigation project.	Due to non submission of requisite environmental data.
2.	Chikaldara pumped storage scheme.	-do-
3.	Middle Vaitarma irrigation project.	-do-
4.	Chikaldhara pumped storage scheme.	-do-
5.	Nagothane combined cycle gas turbine 820 MW.	-do-

#### Puri-Konark Beach Resort Project

6859. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have accorded Environmental and forestry approval to Puri-Konark Beach Resort Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the conditions stipulated therefor;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). The revised proposal for diversion of 233.24 ha. of forest land has been recieved from the State Government. The proposal has been taken up for examination under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

#### Road Overbridge

6860. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any scheme for construction of Road overbridges in the Andhra Pradesh during 1995-96;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any time bound programme has been chalked out in this regard, if so, the details thereof and the total expenditure involved on this work?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are as under :

1. Road overbridge in lieu of level crossing at Pallakollu-Gorintanda.
2. Road overbridge in lieu of level crossing No. 314 at Ajitsinghnagar.
3. Road overbridge in lieu of level crossing No. 488 between Ankapalli-Thadi.
4. Road overbridge in lieu of level crossing No. 157 between Kavali-Udayagiri Road.
5. Road overbridge in lieu of level crossing No. 492 between Thadi-Duvvada.
6. Road overbridge in lieu of level crossing No. 244 at Chirala.
7. Road overbridge in lieu of level crossing No. 234 between Thimmapur-Shadnagar.
8. Road overbridge in lieu of level crossing No. 59 at Mehaboobnagar.

9. Road overbridge in lieu of level crossing No. 2-E at Jamai Osmanla.
10. Road overbridge in lieu of level crossing No. 55 between Manchirial-Peddampet.
11. Road overbridge in lieu of level crossing No. 59-A at Kazipet yard.
12. Road overbridge in lieu of level crossing No. 116 at Ghatkesar.
13. Road overbridge in lieu of level crossing No. 28-E at Fatehnagar.
14. Road overbridge in lieu of level crossing No. 30-B at Zaheerabad.
15. Road overbridge in lieu of level crossing No. 252 at Ramakrishnapuram Gate.
16. Widening of Oliphanta Bridge at Secunderabad (Road Underbridge).
17. Widening of Road underbridge No. 25 near Rail Nilayam, Secunderabad.
18. Road overbridge in lieu of level crossing at Visakhapatnam Station.

(c) Railway constructs the bridge across the track and the State Government constructs the approaches. Railway complete their portion of work either before or alongwith completion of work on approaches. Regular efforts are made to get the work progressed by the State.

The total estimated expenditure on these works is Rs. 84.54 crores of which Railway's share is Rs. 32.94 crores and that of the State Government Rs. 51.60 crores.

#### Stagnation in Food Production

6861. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether lack of underground water charging and want of top soil management coupled with large scale deforestation are the main reasons for the stagnation of food production in the country; and

(b) if so, the measures the Union Government propose to prevent deforestation, charging the underground water table and top soil management?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) and (b). Food production in the country is not stagnant. However, the stagnation in foodgrain production is likely in areas where lack of underground water recharge and top soil management coupled with de-forestation are acute problems. Indian Council of Agricultural Research through its various research institute is engaged in

developing appropriate technologies and strategies to improve in recharging of ground water and top soil management practices.

Union Ministry of Agriculture have taken up important programmes such as :

- (i) Soil Conservation in the Catchments of River Valley Projects (RVP).
- (ii) Integrated Watershed Management in the Catchments of Flood Prone Rivers (FPR) in 29 and 10 catchments respectively spread in 19 States with a view to help in conservation of soil and moisture. The National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas is being implemented in all the 25 States and 2 Union Territories namely Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Andaman and Nicobar Islands with the objectives to improve the recharge of ground water. Integrated Afforestation and Eco-Development projects and area oriented Fuelwood and Fodder projects of the Ministry of Environment and Forests are also aiming at improving the ground water table and conservation of soil.

[Translation]

#### Gauge Conversion

6862. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA :  
DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are according less priority to the gauge conversion work i.e. from Metre Gauge to Broad Gauge; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

#### Gauge Conversion

6863. DR. SHRIMATI K.S. SOUNDARAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Karur-Dindugal-Madurai-Tuticorin Broad Gauge Project has been commissioned;

(b) whether there is a delay in conversion of Broad Gauge Line; and

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

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The work was completed in 1992-93.

**Funds for Conservation of Lakes**

6864. DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government provide funds to the states for the conservation of natural and fresh water lakes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years, state-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Central assistance to the State Governments is provided for the conservation of wetlands which includes natural and fresh water lakes. State-wise Central assistance provided under this programme is given as under :

S.No.	State	Name of Wetland	92-93	93-94	94-95	Total (Rs. in Lakhs)
1.	Punjab	Harike	—	11.79	—	11.79
2.		Kanjli	6.48	—	—	6.48
3.	Himachal Pradesh	Renuka	25.00	5.00	2.00	32.00
4.		Pongdam	—	—	3.45	3.45
5.	Gujarat	Mansarovar	—	—	3.00	3.00
6.	Madhya Pradesh	Bhoj	40.58	115.23	—	155.81
7.	Assam	Deeper Beel	—	—	4.20	4.20
8.	Manipur	Loktak	—	—	41.00	41.00

**Nutritious Food**

6865. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the schemes sponsored by the Government to provide nutritious food, medicines and treatment to the expectant/ pregnant mothers and the childrens;

(b) whether the pre-natal and post-natal assistance is being provided to the expectant/pregnant mothers under a Centrally sponsored scheme;

(c) if so, whether this scheme has been extended to every State;

(d) if so, since when; and

(e) the steps taken in this regard in Orissa during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI) : (a) to (e). The Integrated Child Development Scheme offers a package of services consisting of supplementary nutrition, immunization, health check-up and referral services to children below 6 years and to expectant and nursing mothers; non-formal education to pre-school children of 3-6 years and nutrition and health education to women. This Scheme is implemented in all States and Union Territories. The Scheme was started in 1975, with 33 projects and has now expanded to 3907 projects in the

country as on 31.3.1995. The number of ICDS Projects sanctioned in the State of Orissa during the last 3 years is given below :

Year	No. of ICDS Projects sanctioned
1992-93	42
1993-94	-
1994-95	11

**Project Elephant**

6866. SHRI RAMAKRISHANA KONATHALA :  
SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of targets achieved under the project Elephant, State-wise;

(b) the amount sanctioned and actually spent under the project, State-wise;

(c) whether there is no money for project to reconstruct forest corridors and lessen the conflicts between wild marauding Elephant hords and man and if so the reasons therefor;

(d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and

(e) the estimated loss of crops and lives caused by marauding elephant hords during each of the last two years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH):

(a) Project Elephant is a wildlife conservation project with elephant conservation as its target and the achievement of this target is not quantifiable in tangible terms. However, an indication of the achievements under the Project Elephant is reflected by the following facts: The population of wild elephants estimated in 1993 is in the range of 22796 to 28346 as against the 1985 estimate of 16560 to 21361 elephants. This indicates an increase in elephant population in India.

Further, 11 interstate elephant reserves have been identified for elephant conservation under Project Elephant in which viable self sustaining populations of wild elephants are being conserved.

(b) Since its inception in 1991-92 till 1994-95 an amount of Rs. 14.82 crores has been provided as financial assistance to the states under Project Elephant. The amount sanctioned and spent by the states upto 1993-94, yearwise, under the Project is given in the Statement-I

(c) Under Project Elephant, there is a provision to reconstruct forest corridors and also to lessen the man-elephant conflict, wherever possible, limited to resource availability.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The loss of life reported by the State Governments during the last 2 years is given in the Statement-II. The figure for extent of damage to crops is not maintained by this Ministry.

#### STATEMENT-I

##### PROJECT ELEPHANT

Yearwise Amount Sanctioned (S) and Utilised (U) in Lakhs of Rupees

S.No.	State	1991-92		1992-93		1993-94		1994-95
		S	U	S*	U	S*	U	S*
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8.00	6.25	7.75	6.75	33.15	32.11	37.65
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	6.00	Nil	23.00	21.17	13.00	6.36	25.75
3.	Assam	17.00	Nil	39.00	2.00	40.00	21.72	69.43
4.	Bihar	10.00	Nil	23.50	11.00	12.50	-	12.50
5.	Karnataka	25.00	18.52	40.66	38.06	76.17	76.17	68.88
6.	Kerala	120.00	114.02	20.00	1.06	27.69	27.69	63.58
7.	Meghalaya	2.00	Nil	15.90	15.90	288.56	265.56	47.54
8.	Orissa	15.00	15.00	Nil	Nil	37.70	Nil	84.70
9.	Tamil Nadu	12.00	Nil	26.50	22.46	28.56	14.24	33.72
10.	Uttar Pradesh	18.61	10.73	27.76	25.76	23.00	23.00	
11.	West Bengal	10.00	10.00	45.50	29.51	55.73	47.18	58.65
12.	Nagaland	-	-	-	-	-	-	7.10
13.	Madhya Pradesh	-	-	-	-	17.92	17.92	34.15
Total		243.61	69.09	269.09	173.67	654.02	531.95	602.05

Note : S = Amount sanctioned by Government of India, U = Amount utilised by the State

S\* = indicates amount released during the year including revalidation of the previous year's unspent balance.

#### STATEMENT-II

S.No.	State	Loss of Life Reported	
		1992-93	1993-94
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	-	-
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	8	1
3.	Assam	44 *	52 **
4.	Bihar	28 *	2 **
5.	Karnataka	23	30

1	2	3	4
6.	Kerala	6	2
7.	Meghalaya	12	-
8.	Nagaland	-	-
9.	Orissa	N.A	14
10.	Tamil Nadu	2	N.A.
11.	Uttar Pradesh	-	-
12.	West Bengal	78 *	66 **

\* Calendar Year 1992

\*\* Calendar Year 1993

**Environmental Clearance**

6867. SHRI AMAL DATTA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of industries and power projects which have been accorded conditional environmental clearances by the Union Ministry of Environment and Forests during the last three years;

(b) whether the conditions stipulated have been complied with in each of these projects; and

(c) if not, the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) A table giving the names of the projects accorded conditional environmental clearance is given in the Statement-I.

(b) and (c). Most of the conditions stipulated by this Ministry have been implemented in case of the projects which have been commissioned. Directions are issued from time to time by the Government to the project proponents in case of non-compliance of any of the stipulated conditions.

**STATEMENT**

*List of Power and Industry Projects accorded environmental clearance in the last three years*

**Table-I****A. Power Projects**

S.No.	Name of the Project
1	2

**ANDHRA PRADESH**

1. Mobile GT Set (3.5MW) at Surasaniyanam.
2. Krishnapatham TPS 2x500 ME, APSEB.
3. Godavari Gas Based Project (200MW).
4. Rayalseema thermal power station stage II, 2x210 MW.
5. Ramagundam thermal power station stage II 2x250 MW.
6. Kothagudam TPS, Stage V 2x500 MW.
7. Vamagiri gas based power project (400MW).
8. Jurala Irrigation and Hydrel power project.

**ARUNACHAL PRADESH**

9. Gas based power project at Kharsang.

**ASSAM**

10. Kopili hydro electric project 1st stage extension, 2x50 MW.

1	2
---	---

**BIHAR**

11. Captive Power Plant (1x67.5 MW) of TISCO at Jojobera.
12. Bokaro 'B' Thermal Power Station (3x210 MW)

**DELHI**

13. Bawana Gas based power project-600 MW, Delhi.
14. Renovation and modernisation of I.P Power Station - DESU

**GUJARAT**

15. Gas based captive power plant (50 MW) of GSEC, Gujarat.
16. Wanakhoni TPS 7th Unit (1x270 MW) GEB
17. Gandhinagar TPS 5th Unit (1x210 MW) GEB

**HARYANA**

18. Thermal Power station at Hisar, 2x250 MW

**KARNATAKA**

19. Toranagallu thermal power station 2x210 MW
20. Sharavati Tail Race hydro electric project
21. Sarapadi hydro electric project, 90 MW

**KERALA**

22. Diesel Generator set at Kasarkode, 60 MW
23. Diesel Generator set at Kozhikode.

**MADHYA PRADESH**

24. Gas based power project near Gwalior - 817 MW
25. Nagda thermal power plant, 40 MW
26. Maheswer hydro electric project, 400 MW

**MAHARASHTRA**

27. Captive power plant at Manikgarh Cement Corporation, 2x5 MW
28. Dabhol Gas based power project 2000 MW-M/s. Dabhol and Co.

**MANIPUR**

29. Loktak down stream hydro electric project

**ORISSA**

30. Duburi Thermal Power station (2x250 MW)

**PUNJAB**

31. Goindwal Sahib TPS (2x250 MW)

**RAJASTHAN**

32. Combined cycle gas turbine at Ramgarh, 160 MW
33. Dholpur Thermal Power station (3x120 MW)
34. Atomic power project at Rawatbhata, units 5-8.

1	2
<b>SIKKIM</b>	
35.	Rothang-Chu hydro electric project.
<b>UTTAR PRADESH</b>	
36.	Rihand STPP-Stage II, 2x500 MW UP
37.	Renusagar thermal power station, 2x67.5 MW, stage-IV
<b>WEST BENGAL</b>	
38.	Bakreswar TPS 2x210 MW WBPDC
39.	Chinakuri Thermal Power Projects 40 MW Dishergarh Power Supply Co.
<b>A AND N ISLANDS</b>	
40.	DG set at Bamboo flat of South Andaman Island 4x5 MW
41.	Augmentation of DG set at Long Island, 3x128 KW
42.	Kalpang Hydro Electric Project
<b>HIMACHAL PRADESH</b>	
43.	Baspa stage-II Hydro electric project-300 MW
<b>B. Industrial Projects</b>	
<b>ANDHRA PRADESH</b>	
1.	Modernisation-cum-Expansion of Mint in Hyderabad.
2.	Submerged Arc furnace—CPP-Sponge Iron India Ltd.
3.	Petroleum Product pipeline from Vizag to Vijayawada, HPCL.
4.	Modernisation-cum-Expansion of Godavari Fertilizers Ltd.
<b>ASSAM</b>	
5.	LPG Recovery Plant at Lakwa of GAIL.
<b>BIHAR</b>	
6.	Expansion-cum-Modernisation of M/s. Usha Martin Ltd. at Jamshedderpur.
7.	Modernisation cum Expansion of Aluminium Plant from 1,70,000 to 2,10,000 TFA at Singaurli.
<b>GUJARAT</b>	
8.	Sponge Iron and Hot Rolled Coil (Integrated Steel Plant) at Hazira by ESSAR Gujarat Ltd.
9.	Nitro-Phosphate Fertilizer Plant at Hazira of KRIBHCO.
10.	Polyster Filament Yarn Plant at Naldhari of Petrofils Cooperative Ltd.
11.	Expansion of Hazira Shore Terminal - ONGC.
12.	LPG Recovery Plant at Vaghodia, GAIL.

1	2
13.	Gas processing complex at Ghandhar by GAIL.
14.	Insitu Combustion at Balol of ONGC.
15.	Insitu Combustion at Santhal of ONGC.
16.	Expansion of Gumbuja Cement Plant (1 Million Tonne) of Gujarat Ambuja Cement Ltd.
17.	Copper Smelter Project at Lakhimpur of Indo-Gulf Fertilizers.
<b>HARYANA</b>	
18.	Grassroot Refinery at Karnal Distt. by IOC.
19.	Expansion of Maruti Udyog Ltd.
20.	Cement Plant at Gurgaon of Phoenix International Ltd.
<b>HIMACHAL PRADESH</b>	
21.	The proposed Cement Plant in Darlagat and related mining activities of Gujarat Ambuja Cement Ltd.
<b>JAMMU AND KASHMIR</b>	
22.	Dead Burnt Magnesite Plant at Panthal of Jammu and Kashmir Mineral Development Corporation Ltd.
<b>KARNATAKA</b>	
23.	Integrated Steel Plant including CPP at Mangalore by JPESCO.
24.	Expansion of Nagarajuna Fertilizers Complex at Kakinada of NFCL.
25.	1.25 MTPA Hot Rolled Coil of M/s. Jindal Vijayanagar Steel Company.
<b>KERALA</b>	
26.	Deinking Plant of Hindustan Newsprint Ltd.
27.	Phenol plant of Hindustan Organic Chemicals Ltd.
28.	Expansion of Additional Benzene Facilities of CRL.
29.	200 TPD De-inking Plant and Enhancement of the Mill to 1,00,000- TPA of M/s. Hindustan Newsprint Ltd.
<b>MADHYA PRADESH</b>	
30.	Oxygen project at Bhilai Steel Plant SAIL.
31.	Expansion of Gas based fertilizers plant at Vijaypur by National Fertilizers.
32.	Central India Refinery at Bina by BPCL.
33.	Sinter Plant-III, CPP-II Billet Bloom Casters Bhilai Steel Plant.
34.	Portlant Cement Manufacturing unit of Jav Pee Bela (Ltd. Rewa)
35.	Expansion of Kymore Cement Works.
36.	Central India Refinery of M/s. Bharat Oman Refinery Ltd.

1	2
<b>MAHARASHTRA</b>	
37.	Additional Facilities of manufacture of Nitrogenic Fertilizers Plant at Thal.
38.	Modernisation of Bombay Mint.
39.	4 Million Tonne Steel Plant at Wardha by M/s. Lloyds Steel Plant.
40.	Expansion of Hindustan Organic Chemicals Ltd. Rasayani.
41.	Bomay-Manmad Pipeline Project of BPCL.
42.	6.0 MMTPA Grass Root Refinery at Deoghar of HPCL.
43.	Expansion-cum-Modernisation of Chlor-alkali Project of M/s. National Rayon Corporation Ltd.
44.	Malamine Plant of RCF Thal.
45.	Asbestos Roofing Sheets and Accessories of M/s Eternit Everest.
46.	6 MMTPA Grassroot Refinery at West Coast of HPCL Oman Oil Co.
47.	200,000 TPA Paper Mills based on imported bleached pulp and paper (India) Ltd., New Delhi.
<b>ORISSA</b>	
48.	Integrated Steel Plant by Kalinga Steel (India) Ltd.
49.	Installation of New Cold Roofing Mills and Modernisation of Aluminium Smelter at Korba of BALCO.
<b>PUNJAB</b>	
50.	Rebuilding of VLSI Fabrication Facility at Semiconductor Complex, SAS Nagar, Mohali.
<b>RAJASTHAN</b>	
51.	Expansion of Caustic Soda Unit by Modi Alkalies and Chemicals Ltd., Alwar.
52.	Expansion of Staple Fibre Plant by South India Viscose Ltd.
53.	Expansion of Compound Fertilizers by EID Parry, Ennore.
54.	Polyster Filament Yarn Plant.
55.	Copper Smelter and Lube Oil Refinery Project at M/s. Sterlite Industries (India) Ltd.
56.	Expansion of Dharnai Cement Project at Trichy District Tamilnadu of M/s. Dharani Cement Pvt. Ltd.
<b>UTTAR PRADESH</b>	
57.	Assembly of Portable gensets and Multipurpose Engines of M/s. Birla Yamaha Ltd., at Lal Tappar.
58.	Installation of DG sets and Air Compressors at IDFL, Rishikesh.

1	2
59.	Gas based Fertilizer Plant at Shahajahanpur of Bindal Agro-Chemicals Ltd.
60.	Expansion in through put capacity of Mathura Refinery from 7.5 MTPA to 8.0 MTPA by IOC.
61.	Matching Secondary processing Facilities (OHCU, Hydrogen Unit, SRU, etc.) at Mathura Refinery.
62.	Century Paper and Pulp Mills at Lalkau, Nainital.
<b>WEST BENGAL</b>	
63.	Petrochemical Complex at Haldia by West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation and Tata Tea.
64.	Modernisation of Calcutta Mint.
<b>OTHERS</b>	
65.	Development of R-15A Structure (Phase-I) of ONGC.
66.	Second Bassein - Hazira Gas Trunk and Expansion of Hazira Shore Terminal.
67.	Upgradation of HBJ Pipeline by GAIL.
68.	Pipeline from Delhi to Maruti Udyog Ltd., of GAIL.
69.	S-1 Sand Gas field Complex in Western Off-shore of ONGC.
70.	South Heera Phase-II project of ONGC.
71.	MDAJ Hook-Up to Karnal Bhatinda.
72.	New Crude Oil Pipeline from Haldia to Baruni by IOC.
73.	Viramgam-Chaksu Augmentation and Chaksu-Panipat of IOC.
74.	Development of B-121/B-119 structure of ONGC in B-11

### Environmental Statistics and Mapping

6868. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- whether the Government have launched an Environmental Statistics and Mapping Programme;
- if so, the broad features thereof;
- the total cost of expenditure involved thereon;
- the extent to which it will be beneficial; and
- the time by which the project will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c). The Government has launched a scheme on Environmental Statistics and Mapping during the VIIIth Five Year Plan with a total cost of Rs. 50 lakhs. Under this scheme, the activities related to collection, collation and analysis of environmental data on air and water quality monitoring, solid waste disposal, noise pollution and its depiction in an atlas have been taken up.

Additional activities relating to the production of computerised maps and preparation of zoning atlas for siting industries in selected districts of different States using Geographic Information System (GIS) have also been included in this programme.

(d) and (e). It is envisaged that the programme will help to determine the status of pollution, to develop a concise set of environmental indicators for monitoring the effects of pollution and to disseminate this necessary information to all concerned. The programme will continue till the end of VIIIth Five Year Plan.

[Translation]

#### National Pulses Development Programme

6869. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of districts of hilly areas of Western U.P. covered so far under the Centrally Sponsored National Pulses Development Programme;

(b) the achievement made thereafter;

(c) whether the Government propose to expand the programme in some more areas of hilly areas of U.P.; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) Three hill districts, namely Nainital, Pithoragarh and Pauri Garhwal are covered under NPDP.

(b) District-wise progress is not monitored at national level.

(c) and (d). There is no proposal from the State Government for further expansion.

[English]

#### Rolling Stock

6870. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railways will create the worst transport bottleneck by the end of 1996-97 because of phasing out a large number of old rolling stocks in the light of poor wagons procurement by the Railways;

(b) if so, the number of old rolling stocks that have been phased out in the last three years; and

(c) the number of new rolling stocks obtained in the same period?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) No, Sir. The procurement plan is need based. Indian Railways are acquiring more efficient type of wagons as compared to the old stock which are being condemned.

(b) and (c). Number of wagons condemned and acquired during the last three years in terms of four wheeler units is given below :

Year	Wagons condemned	Wagons acquired
1992-93	17,711	28,129
1993-94	34,182.5	19,649
1994-95 (prov.)	21,656*	10,575**

\* Up to Feb' 95

\*\* In addition to it, 1425 are outstanding.

#### Gangs of Poachers

6871. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL :  
SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Poachers on Killing spree in MP", appearing in the "Tribune" dated April 3, 1995;

(b) if so, whether the Government have since caused a probe into the alleged operations of organised gangs of poachers, trading in tiger bones, panther skins, hides of Antelopes and deer and other wildlife products with international ramifications;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) the Government's reaction and response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A Tiger Cell under the chairmanship of I.G. Police (Crime) has been set up by the Government of Madhya Pradesh to ensure coordination between the Forest and Police personnel to investigate against poachers and ensure steps to prevent poaching. Some seizures and arrests have already taken place.

(d) The Government of India and the State Government of Madhya Pradesh are committed to ensure protection of the wildlife and their habitat and they are collaborating with each other to ensure effective functioning of the cell.

[Translation]

#### Pesticides Free Products

6872. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that several countries are importing only those agricultural products which are free from pesticides;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to formulate any programme to promote the production of such products in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) In several countries, the consumers prefer pesticide free agricultural products.

(b) to (d). A new approach towards insect/pest management (Integrated Pest Management) which *inter-alia* advocates preferential use of non-chemical pesticides has been adopted to reduce the consumption of pesticides. The registration of biocides and neem-based pesticides has been facilitated to encourage the use of these products. It is proposed to organise 2000 IPM Farmers' Field Schools and 12,000 IPM Demonstrations during the year 1995-96 to train Agriculture Extension Officers and farmers under the IPM Programme.

#### Research and Testing Centres

6873. SHRI N.J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the objectives of Research and Testing Centres functioning at present under the Ministry of Environment and Forests in Gujarat;

(b) the total amount spent on these Centres during each of the last three years; and

(c) the details of various achievements made by these Centres during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH):

(a) to (c). There is no Research and Testing Centre functioning in Gujarat under the aegis of the Ministry of Environment and Forests. As such, details sought cannot be furnished.

#### Bhoj Wetland Project

6874. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Bhoj Wetland Project in Madhya Pradesh has been approved;

(b) if so, the outlines thereof;

(c) the total expenditure proposed to be incurred thereon and the period stipulated for completion of this project;

(d) the manner in which the expenditure on the project would be met out and the share of Union and the State Government in the total expenditure, separately;

(e) whether foreign assistance has been sought for this project;

(f) if so, the extent thereof and the time by which this assistance is likely to be received; and

(g) the time which the work on Bhoj Project is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) the project envisages the desilting and dredging of the lake, catchment area treatment, sewerage works to check pollution of the lake, management of shoreline and fringe area, improvement and management of water quality etc.

(c) A sum of Rs. 247 crores is proposed to be incurred on the said project. The project is to be completed by March, 2000.

(d) to (g). The Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OEFCF) is providing loan amounting to 7,055 million Yen (Rs. 210 crores) over a period of seven years to part finance Bhoj Wetland Conservation and Management Project. The loan agreement has already become effective from April 12, 1995. It is proposed to be under a centrally sponsored scheme with 50% sharing of cost between the Centre and the State Governments. The works on the Bhoj Wetland have already been initiated.

[English]

#### National Committee on Children

6875. SHRI P. KUMARASAMY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the major objectives of the National Committee on Children;

(b) whether the Committee have powers to call for records from the Government and Non-government organisations;

(c) if so, whether the report of the Committee has been submitted; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI) : (a) The objectives of the National Committee are :

(i) To review and analyse the Situation of Children in India and to finalise the Report

on "Situation of Children in India" to be annually sent to SAARC Secretariat at Kathmandu;

- (ii) To coordinate the efforts made by different Government and Non-Governmental Organisations in preparation of a report on the "Situation of Children in India".

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir.

(d) The 1994 Situation Report on Children in India, submitted to the SAARC Secretariat, analysed the basic indicators alongwith the process indicators fixed towards achieving the decadal goals in pursuance of the global goals as adopted by the SAARC Countries.

The constraints and responses relating to policy and strategy, demographic trends, health and nutrition related issues, education, child welfare etc. were also analysed.

[Translation]

#### Khijadiya Bird Sanctuary

6876. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have chalked out any action plan/scheme for the development of Khijadiya bird sanctuary situated in Gujarat and for protection/care of birds and to attract birds in the sanctuary;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which it would be implemented;

(d) the annual expenditure incurred on various items during each of the last three years alongwith the names of these items; and

(e) the amount earmarked for 1995-96?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c). According to the State Government of Gujarat the management plan for Khijadiya Bird Sanctuary is under preparation at present. However, some development works such as fencing, providing water facilities and habitat improvement are being carried out on an annual basis. Other developmental works will be taken up after completion and approval of the mangement plan.

(d) The expenditure reported by the State Government on the above mentioned items of work during the last three years is given below :

	(Rs. in lakhs)
1992-93	7.72
1993-94	2.81
1994-95	3.00

(e) The State Government have earmarked an amount of Rs. 2.80 lakhs for this sanctuary during 1995-96.

[English]

#### Consumer Courts

6877. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Consumer Courts in the country are in doldrums;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to revitalise and revamp the Consumer Courts?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) to (c). At present 31 State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commissions (State Commissions) and 457 Consumer Disputes Redressal Forums (District Forums), set up under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986, are functioning all over the country. In addition, one State Commission and two Divisional Forums are also functioning in the State of Jammu and Kashmir where they have enacted a separate Jammu and Kashmir Protection Act, 1987. Most of these Redressal Forums are functioning satisfactorily. However, some State Governments had requested for financial assistance for strengthening the infrastructure of the Consumer Courts. On an initiative taken by the Ministry of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution, the Planning Commission has, in Principle, agreed to release an one-time financial assistance of Rs. 61 crores to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for strengthening the infrastructure of the Consumer Courts. The assistance will be over and above the Annual Plan Provisions of the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations and will be released in four instalments.

[Translation]

#### Electrification and Gauge Conversion

6878. SHRI DATTA MEGHE :

SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any time bound scheme has been formulated for Electrification of Railway Lines in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the length of Railway Line on which electrification work is going on at present in Maharashtra;

(d) the details of Railway projects for gauge conversion from Metre Gauge to Broad Gauge Lines submitted by Maharashtra Government and pending consideration with his Ministry till March 31, 1995;

(e) the proposal out of above included in the Budget 1995-96; and

(f) the time by which the remaining proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Electrification work on Manikgarh-Gadchandur line (29 Kms.) is in progress.

(d) The details are as under :

(i) Aurangabad-Jalna (179 Kms.)

(ii) Parbhani-Mudkhed-Adilabad (246 Kms.)

(iii) Solapur-Bijapur-Gadag (300 Kms.)

None of the above mentioned proposals is pending consideration, as all the three works have been taken up for conversion in a phased manner with Aurangabad-Jalna and Parbhani-Purna and Purna-Nanded sections having been already converted.

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

#### Complaints against Ticket Examiners

6879. SHRI LALL BABU RAI :

SHRI KUNJEE LAL :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received complaints about the bribe received by the Travelling Ticket Examiners from the passengers in the trains;

(b) if so, the number of complaints received during the last six months, Zone-wise;

(c) whether the Government have taken or propose to take any remedial measures in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Zone-wise complaints received during the last six months are given as under:

Railway Zone	No. of complaints
1	2
Central	22
Eastern	33
Northern	94
North Eastern	16
N.F.	Nil

1	2
Southern	6
South Central	9
South Eastern	6
Western	15

(c) and (d). Preventive, surprise and decoy checks are conducted by Vigilance and Commercial Departments on Platforms and in running trains to curb the menace. Besides this, special drives are also launched during Summer Flush and Pooja Holidays. Staff found as guilty during the checks are punished suitably.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

#### Computerised Reservation

6880. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether computerised reservation facility is likely to be extended to more Railway Stations in Andhra Pradesh during 1995-96 and 1996-97;

(b) if so, the names of such stations; and

(c) whether any additional facilities are likely to be provided at these stations?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) and (b). Provision of computerised reservation facilities at City Booking Offices in Kakinada and Thirumala Hills have been included in the Annual Plan for 1995-96. Proposals for 1996-97 have not yet been decided.

(c) Facilities are provided at stations as per the norms based on the volume of passenger traffic, subject to availability of funds and relative priorities of various stations. Deficiencies in respect of essential amenities at all stations have been eliminated recently. Provision of additional facilities will also be considered at stations in Andhra Pradesh in accordance with the criteria laid down.

#### Safety Category Posts

6881. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the posts in the Railways which have been put under safety categories and on which reservation rules in favour of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in recruitment and departmental promotions are not applicable;

(b) the time when the list of Safety Categories was drawn and whether there have been any modification to the list and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Government propose to revise the list?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) and (b). The list of posts classified as safety category was first circulated on 30.9.74. The list has been modified from time to time and the current list is given below :

**OPERATING DEPARTMENT :**

1. Transportation Inspectors.
2. ASMs/Cabin ASMs/Station Suptd. (Non-gazetted)/SMs/Dy.SSs.
3. Guards.
4. Yard Masters/AYMs/Yard Foreman.
5. Switchmen and Shunting Jamadars.
6. Section Controllers/Dy. Chief Controllers/ Chief Controllers
7. Safety Counsellors/Safety Inspectors.

**CIVIL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT :**

8. Bridge Inspectors.
9. Permanent Way Inspectors.
10. Asstt. Foreman-cum-Operator (Plasermatic Tie Tamping).
11. Operator-cum-Chargeman(Tie Tamping).
12. Section Mate, Keyman and P. Way Mistry.
13. Asstt. Shop Suptd. (Bridge Workshops).

**SIGNAL AND TELECOMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT :**

14. Signal Inspectors.
15. Elec. Signal Maintainer and Mechanical Signal Maintainers.
16. Asstt. Shop Superintendent (Axle Counter Production and Inspection, Production and Overhauling of Relays, Tokenless Block Instrument Testing).
17. Relay Inspectors.
18. Telecommunication Inspectors.
19. Telecommunication Maintainers.
20. Wirless Telecommunication Maintainer.

**MECHANICAL/ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENTS :**

21. Driver/Assistant Driver/Diesel Assistant/Motorman/ Tower Wagon Driver/Motor Trolley Driver.
22. Loco Foreman/Asstt. Loco Foreman/Electric Foreman/Asstt. Shop Suptd./Chargeman (OHE Substation/Remote Control/Loco Train lighting, Air Conditioning (Coach), Mech. Foreman/ Asstt. Mech. Foreman, Chargeman (Loco)/E.M.U. Running Sheds).
23. Carriage Foreman/Wagon Foreman.
24. Loco Inspectors/Driving Instructions.
25. Train Examiner (Mech./Elec./EMU/Loco).
26. Shunter.
27. Carriage and Wagon Inspector.

28. Power Controller/Traction Loco Controller/Traction Power Controller/Traction Sub-Station Operator.
29. Traction Foreman/Traction Foreman (Running).
30. Engine Examiner/Lubricating Supervisor.
31. Boiler Inspector, Boiler Foreman/Asstt. Boiler Foreman, Boiler-maker Chargeman.
32. Asstt. Shop Suptd. concerned with Train Lighting and Air Conditioning only.
33. Safety Inspectors.
34. Laboratory Suptd./Chemical and Met. Asstt.
35. Loco Fitters/C and W Fitters/Wheel Tapers/Fitters in Diesel Sheds and E.M.U. and Elec. Sheds/ Millwright Fitters/Welders of all Departments, Train Lighting and Air Condition (Coach) Fitters.
36. Design Asstts. of all Department.
37. Auto Drivers/Fork Lift Drivers/Crane Drivers (Mobile or EOT Cranes) Traverser Drivers/Slingers and Gunners.
38. Shop Superintendent (Mech./Elec./Asstt. Shop Superintendent (Mech. and Elec.)/Lab. Superintendent/ Chemical and Metallurgical Assistants.
39. Senior Electrical Foreman/Chargeman/Sub-Station Operator for general services including power houses.
40. Leading Fireman (Steam Loco).

Rules of reservation are applicable to these posts but no relaxation is allowed to SC/ST candidates in the prescribed qualifications and criteria for promotion.

(c) There is no such proposal of present.

[Translation]

**Dudhwa National Park and Tiger Reserve**

6882. DR. P.R. GANGWAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state the amount sanctioned and spent on the maintenance of Dudhwa National Park and Tiger Reserve during 1994-95?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): An amount of Rs. 38.604 lakhs was released to Dudhwa Tiger Reserve during 1994-95 under Project Tiger and Eco-development schemes. The expenditure figure is being collected from the State Government and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

**Over Bridges**

6883. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Railway Overbridges approved for construction in Madhya Pradesh alongwith the locations thereof;

(b) the number of Railway Overbridges presently under construction in Madhya Pradesh with locations thereof;

(c) the latest position in regard to the construction of these bridges in physical and financial terms; and

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

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) to (d). A Statement is attached.

### STATEMENT

(Fig. in lakhs of Rs.)

S.No.	Name of Work and location	Cost		Anticipated Expenditure Upto end of 31.3.95.	Progress		Target Date
		Rly's share	State Govt's share		Railways	State Govt's	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Road overbridge at Ashoknagar in lieu of level crossing No. 41-B.	74.81	131.73	73.81	Commissioned on		26.4.1995.
2.	Itarsi-Bhopal Section :						
	(i) Road overbridge in lieu of level crossing No. 1 and	210.00	280.00	181.00	100%	81%	31.12.1995
	(ii) Road overbridge in lieu of level crossing No. 225 on Itarsi-Bhopal Section.						
3.	Road overbridge in lieu of level crossing No. 64-A at Guna.	63.54	147.00	62.54	Commissioned on		26.4.1995.
4.	Road overbridge in lieu of level crossing No. 232A at Hoshangabad.	178.13	199.00	24.80	Work to be taken up after finalisation of drawings.		
5.	Road overbridge in lieu of level crossing at Khandwa.	237.86	144.95	24.36	do		
6.	Road overbridge in lieu of level crossing No. 59A at Damoh.	127.92	238.00	24.36	do		
7.	Road overbridge in lieu of level crossing No. 386-A at Satna Kotwali.	150.00	375.00	26.36	Work to be taken up after finalisation of drawings.		
8.	Road overbridge in lieu of level crossing No. 425 at Birlanagar.	350.41	175.21	94.54	100%	68%	Not fixed.
9.	Road overbridge in lieu of level crossing No. 421-B at Gwalior	176.54	181.69	42.92	100%	100%	Bridge commissioned
10.	Road overbridge in lieu of level crossing No. 192 on Jaora-Road, Ratlam.	296.00	N.A.	13.57	Work to be taken up after finalisation of drawings and estimates.		
11.	Road overbridge in lieu of level crossing No. 246 at Indore.	150.27	N.A.	12.04	Work to be taken up after State government acquires land for approaches.		
12.	Road overbridge in lieu of level crossing near Bhilai Power House Station.	197.15	410.58	93.00	40%	80%	Railway-June '96 State Govt. Not fixed.
13.	Road overbridge in lieu of level crossing at Raipur.	197.15	410.58	N.A.	40%	80%	Railway-June '96 State Govt. Not fixed.
14.	Betul Road overbridge in lieu of level crossing No. 256.	100.12	100.11	58.40	45%	10%	Not fixed.
15.	Nagda Road overbridge in lieu of level crossing No. 1.	100.99	N.A.	5.14	Work taken up in hand recently.		Not fixed.

[*Translation*]**Import of Pulses**

6884. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :  
SHRI NITISH KUMAR :  
SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA :  
DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to import pulses in view of the hike in the prices thereof and due to their short supply in comparison to their demand in the country;

(b) the extent of likely shortage of pulses during the year 1995-96 as compared to the demand thereof in the country;

(c) whether the consumer prices of pulses have not come down during the previous year despite their import;

(d) whether the Government have made any assessment in regard to import prices including the charges to be paid thereon till landing thereof in the country before taking a decision in this regard; and

(e) if so, the facts in this regard and quantity of pulses proposed to be imported in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) Ministry of Food has no proposal to import pulses on Government account.

(b) to (e). On the basis of the available estimates of production by the Ministry of Agriculture, the production of pulses during 1993-94 was 13.10 million tonnes. As against this, the demand for pulses is likely to be over 16 million tonnes during 1994-95. Hence, there is a gap between the demand and supply of pulses of the order of nearly 3 million tonnes. During the year 1994-95, the production of pulses is expected to be higher at 14.33 million tonnes. The target of production of pulses for the crop year 1995-96 (July-June) fixed by the Ministry of Agriculture is 15.50 million tonnes.

The decision regarding the import of pulses at a particular import duty is taken as and when considered necessary.

Import of pulses has been allowed on Open General Licence (OGL) at 10% rate of import duty to meet the shortages in indigenous availability of pulses. The import of pulses per annum under OGL ranges from 4-6 lakh tonnes. While these imports have helped in augmenting the supplies of pulses, these are not adequate enough to bring down the prices of pulses in the open market.

[*English*]**Engine Running without Driver**

6885. SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether diesel engine ran without its driver on track for 65 Kms in the Rajkot Division of Western Railway;

(b) if so, whether an enquiry has been conducted to ascertain the causes of such an incident;

(c) if so, the findings thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) On 15.3.95 a diesel engine, the driver and assistant driver of which had after keeping the throttle on 3rd notch, got down without taking proper precautions, started moving without driver in Hapa Yard on Rajkot division of Western Railway and ran so far about 65 Kms.

(b) and (c). An enquiry was conducted by a Committee of Officers, which has held driver of the engine and the Assistant Station Master of Hapa station responsible for this incident.

(d) Action under Discipline and Appeal Rules against the staff found responsible is being taken by the Railway Administration.

**Railway Wagons**

6886. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :  
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have cut their order for wagons;

(b) if so, orders placed by Railways for wagons during 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95;

(c) whether the Railways have assessed the impact of the cut on Wagon Industry;

(d) if so, the details of impact on Wagon Industry; and

(e) the steps taken to restore confidence of Wagon Industry?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) and (b). The procurement of wagons is need-based and accordingly, the orders placed by the Railways for wagons, from 1992-93 to 1994-95 are as follows :

Year	No. in fourwheeler units
1992-93	25501
1993-94	20000
1994-95	12000

(c) to (e). Wagon requirement got reduced from 1994-95 onwards based on the actual traffic needs. The wagon industry has been advised that from 1994-95 to 1996-97 the wagon requirement in each year is expected to be in the range of 12000 fourwheeler units. They have therefore to look for alternative loads for better utilisation of their capacities. They may also look for orders from non-Railway Organisations for orders under "Own Your Wagon Scheme".

[Translation]

### Railway Stations

6887. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO  
GUNDEWAR :  
DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN :  
SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Railway Stations in Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu which are being expanded and developed at present;

(b) the estimated cost to be incurred thereon, Station-wise; and

(c) the amount already spent thereon and the time limit fixed for completion of the work on each station, separately?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) to (c). Development/expansion of stations, by way of improvement of facilities, is a continuous process and the same is undertaken wherever so warranted by traffic needs subject to availability of funds and relative priorities. Details in respect of stations where works (costing more than Rs. 15 lakh each) were taken up during 1994-95 are as under :

(Figures in lakh of Rupees)

Station	Cost	Anticipated Expenditure Upto 3/1995	Tentative Target
1	2	3	4
<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>			
Itarsi	114.45	33.75	1996-97
Bhatapara	21.97	2.00	1996-97
Durg	38.00	26.00	1995-96
Ujjain	26.97	6.97	1995-96
Indore	15.46	6.46	1995-96
Bilaspur	26.75	10.00	1996-97
<b>Maharashtra</b>			
Bhandup	28.27	1.50	1996-97
Mumbra	35.07	1.50	1996-97
Bandra Terminus	25.68	2.00	1995-96

1	2	3	4
Reay Road	23.28	8.00	1995-96
Gondia	41.85	18.42	1995-96
Vikhroli	15.14	1.50	1996-97
Kurla	61.01	16.58	1995-96
Vidyavihar	30.20	1.50	1996-97
Manmad	98.93	14.85	1996-97
Borivali	25.92	15.00	1995-96
Vasind	17.98	1.50	1996-97
Bhusaval	22.45	2.35	1995-96
Dombivli	24.13	1.50	1996-97
Nasik Road	18.77	2.85	1996-97
Igatpuri	20.28	1.50	1995-96
Badnera	34.83	1.50	1996-97
Shivajinagar	51.11	35.96	1995-96
Balharshah	45.53	1.50	1996-97
Tilak Nagar	55.82	45.62	1995-96
Wardha	22.84	1.50	1996-97
Dockyard Road	24.76	7.00	1996-97
Daund	23.46	1.50	1995-96
Bhayandar	15.60	7.00	1995-96
Matunga Road	15.07	2.00	1995-96
Bandra	43.60	2.00	1995-96
Solapur	24.97	23.97	1995-96
<b>Tamilnadu</b>			
Pattaravakkam	19.23	1.00	1995-96

Similarly, details in respect of stations where development works have been approved for 1995-96 are as under :

(Cost in lakh of Rupees)

Station	Cost
1	2
<b>Maharashtra</b>	
Bombay V.T.	118.89
Mumbra	23.86
Chalisgaon	18.00
Dadar Terminus	17.26
Nasik Road	21.88
Kalyan	242.00
Thane	278.00
Dadar	95.00
Palghar	20.53
Amalsad	24.98
Saphale	25.46
Kelve Road	18.63

1	2
<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>	
Bhatapara	22.82
Raigarh	41.14
<b>Tamil Nadu</b>	
Tambaram	71.02
Katpadi	100.23
Jolarpettai	
Salem	
Erode	
Tiruppur	

The dates of completion of the above mentioned recently approved works will depend upon the availability of funds in future years.

In addition to the above works, various smaller works (costing below Rs. 15 lakh each) have also been taken up during 1994-95 and will also be taken up during 1995-96 wherever so warranted. In this regard, funds to the tune of Rs. 4.30 crore, Rs. 16.51 crore and Rs. 5.66 crore have been allocated, in 1995-96, for the States of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Tamilnadu respectively.

[English]

#### ICDS

6888. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any proposal for universalisation of Integrated Child Development Scheme; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government have worked out a detailed proposal on universalisation of the ICDS Scheme during the 8th Plan period to cover all 5239 community development blocks and 684 major urban slums. Under this proposal, it is proposed to sanction 1922 new ICDS projects during 1995-96 and 1996-97.

#### Gauge conversion

6889. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railways have decided that all metre gauge lines in Andhra Pradesh be converted into Broad Gauge;

(b) if so, whether programme of Electrification of Railway Lines in Andhra Pradesh has also to be taken into consideration during 1995-96; and

(c) if so, the time by which the work is likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) No, Sir. Only the following lines in Andhra Pradesh have been identified for gauge conversion in the first phase of the Action Plan :

(i) Guntur-Guntakal and Guntakal-Kalluru (458 kms.)

(ii) Guntakal-Hospet (115 kms.)

(iii) Bolarum-Secunderabad-Dronachallam (298 kms.)

(iv) Mudkhed-Secunderabad (249 kms.)

(v) Katpadi-Pakala-Tirupati (104 kms.) (Partly in Andhra Pradesh)

(vi) Mudkhed-Adilabad (162 kms.)

(b) and (c). As the electrification projects are capital intensive, only high traffic density broad gauge routes which qualify, based on the rate of return on investment, are taken up for electrification at present.

Gauge conversion of Bolarum-Secunderabad-Dronachallam, Guntur-Guntakal, Tirupati-Katpadi and Mudkhed-Adilabad sections in already in progress. Gauge conversion of remaining sections would be taken up in the coming years.

Electrification of lines as get converted into broad gauge and qualify these norms will be considered for electrification at appropriate time.

#### Green Technology

6890. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :  
SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether even ten years after the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, appropriate green technology is yet to arrive, in all its affordability, in the country;

(b) if so, the measures taken by his Ministry to ensure the requisite infrastructure was created before putting laws into place for the industry to clean up, as the problem of foul air in cities has been there for years and that of retrofitting old cars and two-wheelers - the two major pollutants-remains;

(c) the role performed by his Ministry in sorting out the crucial issues like clean coal technologies and population impact;

(d) whether any incentive scheme has been worked out by his Ministry to maintain ecological standards by the industry; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c). Most of the existing large and medium scale industries have already initiated pollution abatement measures as a result of implementation of the effluent and emission standards as notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. The new industries which are being accorded environmental clearance by this Ministry are, by the large, based on clean technologies, wherever applicable.

The Government has also formulated comprehensive policies viz., the Policy Statement for Abatement of Pollution, the National Conservation Strategy and the Policy Statement on Environment and Development. In these policies, the emphasis is on prevention of pollution, conservation of natural resources and promotion of clean technologies. In order to operationalise the Policy Statement for Abatement of Pollution, the World Bank Assisted Industrial Pollution Prevention Project has been taken up to introduce cleaner technologies in industrial units. A scheme for promoting the development and adoption of clean technology including waste reuse and recycling has also been formulated for small scale industries.

An organisational network to assist the Ministry to ensure implementation of the effluent and emission standards notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, has been created. This includes the Central Pollution Control Board at the Central Level and the State Departments of Environment and State Pollution Control Boards at the State level. An Expert Committee in the Central Pollution Control Board examines the industry - specific standards, in consultation with the concerned industry, for its techno-economic feasibility before these are recommended for notification by the Government.

The techno-economic viability of retrofitting old cars and two wheelers with pollution control devices has not been established.

Further, the need for adoption of clean technologies including clean coal technologies by the project proponents is stressed while according environmental clearance to developmental projects so as to minimise the adverse impacts on the environment/population. The Ministry has taken initiative to organise a Seminar on Coal-Beneficiation and clean coal technologies so as to introduce them in India. Further, the Ministry has taken steps to encourage and attract foreign investment and technology in this core sector.

(d) and (e). Incentives are given in terms of rebate of cess payable under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Act, 1977. Depreciation allowance at the rate of 100% is provided for installation of pollution control devices and systems. To encourage industries, to shift from urban areas, capital gains arising from transfer of

buildings/lands and material are exempted from tax. Customs and excise duty rebate is allowed on some equipment used in pollution control.

In areas with cluster of small scale industries, financial assistance is given for installation of common effluent treatment plants.

The financial institutions also provide loans at the reduced rate of interest for installing pollution control devices.

#### **Train Between Bangalore and Dharwar**

6891. SHRI K.G. SHIVAPPA :

SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce a new Express train between Bangalore and Dharwar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) and (b). It is proposed to introduce an Express train between Bangalore and Miraj via Dharwad during 1995-96.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Theft of Coal from Wagons**

6892. DR. AMRIT LAL KALIDAS PATEL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware about theft of Coal from wagons en-route while being sent to Gujarat State Electricity Board;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any investigation has been conducted into such complaints during the last three years; and

(d) the action taken by the Government against those found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) No such case has been reported in the recent past.

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

#### **Achievement of ICDS**

6893. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA :

SHRIMATI DIPIKA H. TOPIWALA :

SHRI N.J. RATHVA :

SHRI HARIN PATHAK :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the Integrated Child Development

Schemes being implemented with foreign and Central assistance in each State with particular reference to the tribal area of Choota Udaipur in Gujarat;

(b) the amount sanctioned and spent under the scheme during each of the last three years in each State;

(c) whether any assessment has been made of the scheme at State level;

(d) if so, the State which have been initially selected;

(e) the details of the achievements made under these schemes during the last one year till date in each State; and

(f) the number of persons benefited in each State specially in tribal areas during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI) : (a) As on date, 3713 ICDS project have been sanctioned in the country with Central and foreign assistance. These include 632 projects under World Bank assistance, 47 projects under assistance from Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) and 12 projects under assistance from the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). Further, a central sector tribal ICDS project was sanctioned

during 1975-76 in Chhota Udaipur Block falling in district Vadodra of Gujarat State.

The State-wise details on number of projects is given in Statement-I.

(b) The amount released to each State under the ICDS Scheme during last three years is given in Statement-II. It is mentioned that entitlement of each State during the year under the ICDS Scheme is worked-out taking into account the expenditure incurred by the State during the previous year.

(c) and (d). The Department has developed a Management Information System (MIS) for monitoring the implementation of the Scheme in each State on a monthly basis. Based on Monthly Progress Reports received from the ICDS projects, the Department generates Quarterly Progress Reports (QPRs) for assessing the status of delivery of services under the Scheme. Such regular assessment is done by the Government for each State/Union Territory.

(e) The State-wise details on achievements under the ICDS Scheme in terms of new ICDS projects sanctioned during the period April 1, 94 - May 22, 1995 is given in Statement-III.

(f) The details, State-wise, on number of beneficiaries under the ICDS Scheme and particularly, in the tribal areas, is given in Statement-IV.

#### STATEMENT-I

*Details of Integrated Child Development Scheme being implemented with foreign and Central assistance as on 31st March 1995.*

S.No.	States/UTs	No. of Centrally Sponsored ICDS Projects Sanctioned upto 31.3.95 including foreign assistance	Foreign Assistance		
			World Bank	SIDA	UNICEF
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	200	110		
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	39			
3.	Assam	83			
4.	Bihar	323	142		
5.	Goa	11			
6.	Gujarat	148			
7.	Haryana	58			
8.	Himachal Pradesh	42			3
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	56			
10.	Karnataka	155			
11.	Kerala	96			
12.	Madhya Pradesh	298	189		3

1	2	3	4	5	6
13.	Maharashtra	274			3
14.	Manipur	29			
15.	Meghalaya	30			
16.	Mizoram	19			
17.	Nagaland	27			
18.	Orissa	229	191		
19.	Punjab	72			
20.	Rajasthan	177			3
21.	Sikkim	5			
22.	Tamil Nadu	430	316	47	
23.	Tripura	20			
24.	Uttar Pradesh	572			
25.	West Bengal	277			
26.	A & N Islands	5			
27.	Chandigarh	3			
28.	Delhi	26			
29.	D & N Haveli	1			
30.	Daman & Diu	2			
31.	Lakshadweep	1			
32.	Pondicherry	5			
All India		3713	948	47	12

**STATEMENT-II**

*Statement showing State-wise amount of Central grant released to States for last three years for the continued implementation of ICDS Scheme*

S.No.	Name of the State/U.T.	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
				(Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3,209.68	3,319.26	3,410.630
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	254.72	501.43	364.430
3.	Assam	875.90	1,129.93	2,006.100
4.	Bihar	3,456.41	4,296.11	6,279.485
5.	Goa	102.20	180.26	144.575
6.	Gujarat	1,496.87	2,270.17	1,986.580
7.	Haryana	597.30	829.86	703.745
8.	Himachal Pradesh	471.48	587.34	519.900
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	572.17	710.25	708.325
10.	Karnataka	2,123.30	3,201.45	2,874.870
11.	Kerala	839.39	1,259.01	1,252.620
12.	Madhya Pradesh	3,406.00	3,506.69	7,388.095
13.	Maharashtra	2,484.09	3,484.91	3,527.815
14.	Manipur	300.24	409.47	338.685
15.	Meghalaya	334.21	462.88	333.720
16.	Mizoram	206.53	315.19	280.415

1	2	3	4	5
17.	Nagaland	304.76	316.38	4,67.620
18.	Orissa	2,952.50	2,222.28	3,653.320
19.	Punjab	672.50	1,285.40	762.480
20.	Rajasthan	1,463.98	2,258.58	1,972.640
21.	Sikkim	49.84	115.23	22.030
22.	Tamil Nadu	1,551.48	2,104.08	1,418.405
23.	Tripura	274.12	245.96	237.845
24.	Uttar Pradesh	4,721.76	6,977.27	7,287.725
25.	West Bengal	2,855.99	3,588.95	2,648.905
<b>Union Territory</b>				
26.	Delhi	446.01	494.41	603.005
27.	Pondicherry	74.00	115.33	105.825
28.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	51.84	53.07	59.54
29.	Chandigarh	29.80	42.84	36.91
30.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	15.62	17.24	16.29
31.	Daman & Diu	24.80	32.83	21.43
32.	Lakshadweep	14.90	14.70	18.19
33.	R.K. Mission	12.00	17.24	17.85
34.	Miscellaneous	13.41		
Grand Total :		36,259.80	46,366.00	52,470.00

## STATEMENT-III

Statement showing the number of new ICDS Project sanctioned during April 1, 1994 - May 22, 1995.

S.No.	Name of State/Union Territory	No. of ICDS projects sanctioned.
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	17
2.	Assam	4
3.	Bihar	27
4.	Gujarat	9
5.	Haryana	2
6.	Himachal Pradesh	1
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	11

1	2	3
8.	Kerala	7
9.	Madhya Pradesh	29
10.	Maharashtra	19
11.	Nagaland	1
12.	Orissa	11
13.	Punjab	2
14.	Rajasthan	12
15.	Sikkim	1
16.	Tamil Nadu	2
17.	Tripura	1
18.	Uttar Pradesh	40
19.	West Bengal	17
20.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1
Total		214

## STATEMENT-IV

S.No.	Name of States/UTs	No. of SNP Beneficiaries in			
		Rural ICDS Projects	Urban ICDS Projects	Tribal ICDS Projects	Total ICDS Projects
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1356962	138778	171959	1667699
2.	Arunachal Pradesh			66787	66787
3.	Assam	286574	11497	164332	462403
4.	Bihar	864783	79248	461313	1405344
5.	Goa	51087			51087
6.	Gujarat	556019	83737	477847	1117603
7.	Haryana	863046	40561		903607
8.	Himachal Pradesh	138289		13179	151468
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	173434	20236		193670
10.	Karnataka	1856039	99495	135246	2090780
11.	Kerala	714335	29521	4154	748010
12.	Madhya Pradesh	494689	129109	747936	1371734
13.	Maharashtra	1222373	227094	680443	2129910
14.	Manipur	45602		82184	127786
15.	Meghalaya			93795	93795
16.	Mizoram	1252		70214	71466
17.	Nagaland			170933	170933
18.	Orissa	525210	57333	982195	1564738
19.	Punjab	266076	17352		283428
20.	Rajasthan	650893	65922	246374	963189
21.	Sikkim	15356			15356
22.	Tamil Nadu	1458704	248141	2760	1709605
23.	Tirpura	66769		16860	83629

1	2	3	4	5	6
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1935264	127295	115134	2177693
25.	West Bengal	936228	83735	360808	1380771
26.	A & N Islands	7277		13111	20388
27.	Chandigarh		17150		17150
28.	Delhi	44215	423496		467711
29.	D & N Haveli			16341	16341
30.	Daman & Diu	6328			6328
31.	Lakshadweep			7236	7236
32.	Pondicherry	21918	16157		38075
Total		14558722	1915857	5101141	21575720

### Export-Import Committee

6894. DR. R. MALLU : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has a high powered Export-Import Committee for seeds;

(b) whether all applications regarding movement of seeds have to be approved by this Committee; and

(c) the number of times the Committee met in 1993-94 and 1994-95 alongwith the dates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARIVIND NETAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In so far as export of seeds is concerned, the Committee makes recommendation in cases of only such categories as appear in the Restricted List in the Export-Import policy. As for the import of seeds only cases involving bulk import with the exception of vegetables and flowers, and cases involving a policy decision are dealt with by the Committee.

(c) The details showing the number of meetings along with dates on which they were held are given in the Statement attached.

### STATEMENT

*Details showing the number of meetings held in 1993-94 and 1994-95*

Number of meetings	1993-94		1994-95	
	Date of meeting	Number of meetings	Date of meeting	
4	5.5.1993	6	25.4.1994	
	12.7.1993		27.6.1994	
	11.10.1993		6.9.1994	
	23.12.1993		14.12.1994	
			2.3.1995	
			21.3.1995	

### Railway Protection Force

6895. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the long term role of the Railway Protection Force;

(b) whether there is any proposal to slowly reduce the role of RPF and involve private agencies in some tasks; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) The Railway Protection Force has been constituted for better protection and security of railway property including goods entrusted to Railways for carriage.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

### Forest Conservation

6896. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government provide funds to the State Governments for the development of forest land and also bringing it upto date;

(b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the funds earmarked for 1995-96 in this regard State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House.

### Foodgrains

6897. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the per hectare foodgrains production in India stood at 1.6 tonnes as against the world average of 2.5 tonnes;

(b) whether the production level can be enhanced to 4 tonnes per hectare with the application of space and Biotechnology;

(c) if so, whether any plans are contemplated in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) Per hectare foodgrains production in India has been estimated at about 1.7 tonnes as against the corresponding world average of 2.5 tonnes as per FAO production year book 1993.

(b) The production levels of foodgrains per hectare are not expected to rise to a level of 4 tonnes as national average immediately through the use of space and Biotechnology. However, the bio-technological tools are being utilised for increasing the productivity of foodgrains in the country.

(c) and (d). To increase the production and productivity of foodgrains per unit area and time a number of crop oriented Central Sector/Centrally Sponsored scheme are being implemented to give thrust through cropping system approach.

[Translation]

### Gauge Conversion

6898. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of work in respect of gauge conversion of Mehsana-Viramgam, Mehsana-Ahmedabad and Mehsana-Marwar Railway Lines completed till April 1995; and

(b) the details of the progress made so far in each such section?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) and (b). The details of the progress made in respect of gauge conversion till April, 1995 of the following sections are as under :

Sections	Progress(%)	Remarks
Mehsana-Viramgam	Nil	This work is proposed to be done under BOLT scheme. Bids have been invited.
Mehsana-Ahmedabad	90%	Physical gauge conversion work in the section has

been completed in 1994-95. Residual works are in progress.

Mehasana-Marwar 10% Earthwork, Ballast supply and Bridge strengthening started.

[English]

### Gauge Conversion

6899. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Maharashtra Government has submitted some proposals for Gauge Conversion in the State.

(b) if so, the details of the proposal approved for implementation; and

(c) the progress made in allocation of funds for implementation of these approved proposals?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The details are as under :

Name of Project	Expenditure (upto 31.3.95) (Rs. in Crores)	Outlay 1995-96	Progress
1. Parbhani-Mudkhed Adilabad (246 kms.)	55.12	37.00	
(i) Parbhani- Purna (29 kms.)			Completed.
(ii) Purna-Nanded (32 kms.)			Completed.
(iii) Nanded-Mudkhed (23 kms.)			1995-96
(iv) Mudkhed-Adilabad (162 kms.)			1996-97
2. Gondia-Chanda Fort (242 kms.)	78.10	34.00	
(i) Gondia-Wadsa (104 kms.)			Completed.
(ii) Wadsa-Chanda Fort (138 kms.)			1996-97
3. Solapur-Bijapur-Gadag (300 kms.)	00.20	05.00	Approval of the Planning Commission to the
4. Miraj-Latur (359 kms.)	00.50	10.00	Project has been received. Preliminary arrangements for taking up the work are on hand.
5. Daund-Baramati (42 kms.)	16.16	00.52	Completed.

### Relief to Fishermen

6900. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of scheme to provide financial relief to fishermen during ban months alongwith the assistance provided under the Scheme during each of the last three years;

(b) the total number of fishermen to be covered under the scheme;

(c) the number of fishermen left uncovered;

(d) whether the Government propose to cover all marine as well as inland fishermen under this scheme; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) The Savings-cum-Relief Component of the Centrally Sponsored National Welfare of Fishermen Scheme, is at present, applicable to marine fishermen only. Under the Scheme, financial support is provided to active marine fishermen who remain unemployed during a period of 4 months in a year when no fishing activity is possible due to monsoon/closed season. Contributions at the rate of Rs. 45/- per month for a period of 8 fishing months by the Central Government., the State Government and the beneficiaries are distributed to the fishermen in four monthly instalments of Rs. 270/- each during the lean months. The eligibility criteria and mode of operation of the scheme is given in the Statement.

The Central Assistance released under the Scheme during the last three years is as under :

Year	Central Assistance released (Rs. in lakhs)
1992-93	669.70
1993-94	584.24
1994-95	724.40

(b) and (c). For the Eighth Five Year Plan, it had been targetted to cover 6.60 lakh marine fishermen under the Saving-cum-Relief component of the National Welfare of Fishermen Scheme. Against this target, 6.56 lakh marine fishermen have already been covered upto the year 1994-95.

(d) and (e). The Scheme is, at present, applicable only to marine fishermen and it has been decided to continue the scheme in its present form and consider any change only after its evaluation.

### STATEMENT

The eligibility criteria and mode of operation of Saving-cum-Relief Component for marine fishermen :

(i) Marine fishermen means a person who irrespective of his community is

professionally engaged in full time fishing in sea and who contributes regularly a sum of Rs. 45/- per month or Rs. 1/50 per day for a period of 8 months in a year to the Centrally Sponsored Savings-cum-Relief Scheme.

(ii) Genuine active marine fishermen below 60 years old who live below poverty line and not owning mechanised fishing boat/beach landing draft will be eligible to become beneficiaries of the scheme. If any member of fishermen families has regular employment under Government or private agency or income generating activities, those families will not be eligible to get benefits of the scheme.

(iii) The beneficiary of the scheme should be a member of the cooperative society/federation/welfare society and the president/Secretary of the Association shall collect the beneficiary contribution and entrust the same to an official of the State/UT Administration who shall deposit the fund every month in a Nationalised Bank in the name of Director of Fisheries of the respective State/UT. The Director of Fisheries draw the money during the lean season and distribute to the beneficiaries adding Centre and State contribution.

(iv) If a Marine Fishermen defaults in paying the contribution during the non lean months, the Government's (both State and Centre) matching grant will be limited to the number of months for which he has actually subscribed and will be refunded to the fishermen in equal instalments during the non season period.

(v) Lean months in different parts of the coast varies according to climatic conditions and monsoon weather. Therefore, Director of Fisheries of the respective Maritime States Union Territories will have the discretion, based on the climatic changes and other valid reasons to decide which are the lean months in a year. However, lean months will be limited to only 4 months.

### Education for All

6901. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI :  
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY :  
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to extend open learning facilities at the secondary level in a phased manner throughout the country as a part of their efforts to achieve the goal of education for all; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and how the Government are going to implement them?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) and (b). As part of the efforts to achieve the goal of Education For All, a distance education initiative has been identified to enhance training of teachers and to better reach neo-literates and marginalised groups in the area of Basic Education.

#### Effects of Pollution

6902. SHRI TARA SINGH :

SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD :

DR. (SHRIMATI) K.S. SOUNDARAM :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of adverse effects of various kinds of pollution on human health;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have conducted any study in this regard;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the effective measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH):

(a) and (b). Owing to increase in levels of pollution in the ambient air due to large scale increase in vehicles and industrial complexes leading to atmospheric pollution, there could be an increase in respiratory problems. However, no conclusive statistical data is available in this regard. Water borne diseases such as diarrhoea, hepatitis and other gastro-intestinal problems can occur due to water pollution.

(c) and (d). The Government have identified 24 critically polluted areas in the country to study the extent of pollution in these areas and take effective measures for its control. Environmental epidemiological studies have been initiated in seven of these areas namely, Vapi, Chembur, Cochin, Talcher, Mandi-Govindgarh, Kanpur and Bhadravatti.

(e) The steps taken to check the pollution in the country include the following :

1. Emission and effluent standards have been notified for the major categories of polluting industries.
2. Industries have been directed to install necessary pollution control equipment within a stipulated time-frame and legal action is taken against the defaulting units.

3. For control of pollution from vehicles, emission norms for both petrol and diesel driven vehicles have been notified under the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989. More stringent norms for vehicular emissions have been notified under the Central Motor vehicles rules which would come into effect from April, 1996.

4. Gross and emissions standards for all vehicles have been notified under the Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989.

5. Lead free petrol has been introduced from 1.4.95 in the four metropolitan cities of Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and Madras for use in cars fitted with catalytic converters.

6. Environmental guidelines have been evolved for siting and operation of industries.

7. Fiscal incentives are provided for installation of pollution control equipment and also for the shifting of polluting industries from congested areas.

8. Customs and Excise Duty exemption are provided to the industries for pollution control/ monitoring equipment.

9. A scheme has been initiated for setting up of common effluent treatment plants in cluster of small scale industrial units.

10. The Ganga Action Plan (GAP) Phase-I is in the Process of Completion and the Government have approved the Yamuna and Gomti Action Plans under Ganga Action Plan Phase-II and are under implementation. The Government have also approved the National River Action Plan which will cover identified Polluted River stretches not covered under the GAP I and II.

11. Public awareness Campaigns on the effects of Pollution have been launched.

#### Production of Ragi

6903. SHRI C.P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of "Ragi" produced in the country during the last three years;

(b) whether the yield of Ragi is dwindling year after year;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government have any plans to encourage and increase the production of Ragi; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) Total quantity of Ragi produced in the country during the last three years is as under :

Year	Production (Million tonnes)
1991-92	2.58
1992-93	2.53
1993-94	2.69

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e). In order to increase the production of coarse cereals including Ragi, a centrally sponsored scheme on Integrated Cereals Development Programme in coarse cereals based cropping system areas (ICDP-Coarse Cereals) is being implemented in six States i.e. Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh (in part), Maharashtra, Rajasthan (in part) and Sikkim. The scheme is being implemented in identified blocks on 75 : 25 sharing basis between Government of India and implementing States. The identified blocks are those where productivity is below than the State/National average and has sizeable area under the crop.

#### Private Dairies

6904. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether liberalisation policy is responsible for the proliferation of private dairies;

(b) whether State Government have no powers to regulate these private dairies;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the action proposed to be taken by the Government to provide them adequate powers to regulate these dairies;

(e) whether any guidelines/suggestions have been issued to the States to throw open cooperative societies; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) to (f). Consequent on economic liberalisation Government issued the Milk and Milk Product Order, 1992 (MMPO) with a view to maintain and increase the supply of liquid milk of the desired quality and for ensuring the orderly growth of the dairy industry in the liberalised regime. Under the MMPO, State Government have been given powers to regulate the setting up of private dairies with milk handling capacity of upto 75,000 litres per day or milk solids of 3750 Metric Tonnes per year. The MMPO, has also laid down the policy of preferential treatment to the cooperative sector.

[Translation]

#### Model Research Projects

6905. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have granted approval to the 56 Model Research Projects in the thirteen agriculture climate zones;

(b) if so, the parts of the country where these projects will be implemented;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to implement any of the projects in the Utrakhand area of Uttar Pradesh or any new project is proposed to be formulated for that area; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) to (d). No, Sir. The Union Government have not granted any approval to the 56 Model Research Project in the 13 agricultural climatic zones. However, it is submitted that under the National Agriculture Research Project (NARP), 120 Zonal Research Stations and sub-stations have been strengthened with the assistance of World Bank for undertaking need-based and location-specific research. Out of these Stations, 7 research stations are located in the Utrakhand region of Uttar Pradesh. Under the National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas on site research/investigation is being carried out to generate, test and adopt appropriate farming system under field conditions for the benefit of watershed community.

[English]

#### Plants Developed Through Tissue Culture

6906. DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken by the Government to increase the popularity of the plants developed through tissue culture for Small and Marginal farmers;

(b) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested the Union Government for providing additional Central assistance to protect the special interest of Small and Marginal farmers interested in tissue culture programme during the last three years;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the amount sanctioned in this regard, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) During the Eighth Plan the Government has approved setting up of over 30 tissue culture units for multiplying planting

material of fruits and 20 small and 8 large tissue culture units for ornamental, (floriculture) crops. These units will come up both in public/Government and Private Sectors, for which assistance is provided under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Fruits and Floriculture.

- (b) No Sir.  
(c) and (d). Do not arise.

#### Enrolment of Foreign Students

6907. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) the total number of foreign students enrolled in various universities for the academic year 1994-95;  
(b) the names of universities with large concentration of foreign students;  
(c) the names of countries to which large number of foreign students belong;  
(d) the estimated percentage of students who are self-financing; and  
(e) the estimated percentage of students who are taking professional degree or post-graduate course in the universities?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Banaras Hindu University

6908. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the academic atmosphere of all campuses in the country has deteriorated;  
(b) if so, whether the Government have made any assessment thereon; and  
(c) the steps taken by the Government to check the deterioration at the campuses with special reference to Banaras Hindu University and Kashi Vidyapeeth?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) to (c). It would not be correct to hold that there is an overall deterioration of atmosphere in the campuses. As and when specific problems arise in the campuses, the Central Government, in case of Central Universities, and State Governments for

Universities under the States, take such remedial action as is warranted in the facts and circumstances of each case.

#### Suburban Commuters Year

6909. SHRI RAM NAIK :  
SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government propose to provide more benefits and new facilities to the rail users in addition to existing ones during 1995;  
(b) if so, the details thereof, zone-wise with particular reference to facilities being provided to suburban passengers of Mumbai and if not, the reasons therefor;  
(c) whether during the "Year of the Rail User" emphasis is on more reserved accommodation in trains;  
(d) if so, the details thereof with names of trains to be covered under this programme;  
(e) whether it has also been decided to provide some new train services especially from Ferozpur to New Delhi via Hissar, Sirsa and Bhatinda and to restore certain discontinued trains during rail users years; and  
(f) if so, the details thereof with names of such trains?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) All the Zonal Railways have been directed to formulate "Perspective Plans" for provision of passenger amenities at stations so that the amenities could be provided/augmented in a phased manner. Towards this end, the allocation under the plan Head "Passengers and Other Railway Users' Amenities" has been substantially increase to Rs. 90 crore for the year 1995-96 from Rs. 67.25 crore in 1994-95. Zone-wise details in this regard are as under :

Railway	Figures in lakhs of Rupees)	
	Allocation during 1995-95	
Central	1332.84	
Eastern	1047.00	
Northern	1567.42	
Northern Eastern	400.00	
Northeast Frontier	500.00	
Southern	1154.27	
South Central	770.00	
South Eastern	1298.47	
Western	930.00	
<b>Total</b>	<b>9000.00</b>	

Provision of Computerised reservation facilities at 30 more locations has been included in the Annual Plan for 1995-96. These locations include stations, elected satellite points as well as City Booking Offices the Zone-wise break-up of which is as follows :

Central Railway	-	4
Eastern Railway	-	8
Northern Railway	-	3
North Eastern Railway	-	1
Southern Railway	-	9
South Central Railway	-	5

For the convenience of passengers of Bombay including suburban passengers, the following facilities are being/have been provided :

1. 7 Computerised Ticket issuing windows at Bombay VT have been provided.
2. Extension of Central Annauncing System upto Tirwala on N.E. Section and upto Badlapur on S.E. Section of Central Railway.
3. 31 micro processor based Self Printing Ticketing Machines have been provided for issue of computerised non-suburban tickets at Bombay VT, Kurla Terminus, Dadar, Thane and Kalyan. This facility permits the passenger to buy ticket on any one of the counters for any direction and any class thus reducing the waiting time in queue.
4. Provision of new P and T Telephone number 2095959 for auto answering for reservation status and 2656565 for auto answering for trains position has been made by Central Railway.
5. Two additional booking windows at Khadeshwar and Kharghar stations have been opened.
6. Remodelling of station buildings at Thane and Kalyan stations and extension of foot-over-bridge at Dadar have been sanctioned in the Works Programme 1995-96.
7. New Ticket system known as 'Travel As You Like' on Bombay Suburban section has been provided by Western Railway.
8. More EMU services including 12 car rakes will be provided subject to operational feasibility and passenger requirements.

(c) to (f). The emphasis is for provision of both reserved and unreserved accommodation. The details of the trains introduced during 1995, proposed to be introduced, increase in the frequency of trains, extension of the run of the trains etc., are given in the Statement.

## STATEMENT

*During 1995-96, the following new trains have been introduced :*

1. Tirupati-Cuddappah Inter-City Express
2. Ernakulam-Trivandrum Inter-City Express
3. Jaipur-Delhi Inter-City Express
4. Kanpur-Farrukhabad Inter-City Express
5. Ahmedabad-Bhavnagar Inter-City Express

Besides, it is also proposed to introduce the following new trains during the current year :

1. Shatabdi Express between Howrah and Bokaro
2. Shatabdi Express between Howrah and Rourkela
3. Shatabdi Express between Madras and Coimbatore
4. Shatabdi Express between Hubli and Bangalore
5. Express train between Howrah and Jodhpur via Jaipur
6. Express train between Delhi and Varanasi/ Muzaffarpur
7. Bikaner-Jaipur Inter-city Express
8. Express train between Bangalore and Miraj
9. Express train between Raxaul and Muzaffarpur
10. Bi-weekly Express train between Bombay and Tirupati
11. Weekly Express train between Nagercoil and Bombay VT via Madurai
12. Weekly Express train between Howrah and Guwahati
13. Weekly Express train between Howrah and Gorakhpur via Varanasi.
14. Weekly Express train between Bangalore and Quilon via Alleppey.

It is also proposed to introduce the following fully unreserved trains during the current year :

1. Bi-weekly Express train between Amritsar and Barauni via Saharanpur.
2. Express train between Bhagalpur and Muzaffarpur
3. Weekly Express train between Puri and Ahmedabad via Vizianagaram/Raipur
4. Bi-weekly Express train between Surat and Varanasi.

5327/5328 Lucknow-Dudhwa Sanctuary Express has already been extended upto Tikunia w.e.f. 01-05-1995.

The run of 8 pairs of trains is also proposed to be extended as per the following details :

1. 5657/5658 Sealdah-Guwahati Kanchenjunga Express upto Lumding.
2. 2479/2480 Hazrat Nizamuddin-Miraj-Goa Express up to Castle Rock.
3. 8011/8012 Howrah-Rourkela Ispat Express up to Jharsuguda.
4. 5185/5186 Sealdah-Chhapra tri-weekly Express upto Gorakhpur.
5. 3021/3022 Howrah-Muzaffarpur Mithila Express upto Raxaul.
6. 5325/5326 Mathura-Bareilly Gokul Express upto Gonda.
7. 2015/2016 New Delhi-Jaipur Shatabdi Express upto Ajmer
8. 7015/7016 Secunderabad-Srikakulam Road-Visakha Express upto Palasa.

The frequency of the 4 pairs of trains is also proposed to be increased as under :

1. 2423/2424 New Delhi Guwahati Rajdhani Express from weekly to tri-weekly.
2. 7003/7004 Secunderabad-Howrah Falaknuma Express from weekly to tri-weekly.
3. 3141/3142 Sealdah-Haldibari/New Alipurduar Teesta Torsha Express from 6 days a week to daily.
4. 2801/2802 New Delhi-Puri Purushottam Express from 5 days a week to daily.

#### UGC Grants

6910. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of grants in-aid allotted by the University Grants Commission to the Universities in Gujarat during the last three years;

(b) whether all the Universities of the States have fully utilised the amount of the grants-in-aid;

(c) if so, whether any University has surrendered the unutilised amount;

(d) whether any new schemes have been cleared by the Government during the current financial year; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) According to the information furnished by the UGC, development grants to eligible State Universities are allocated for the five year plan period as a whole and not on a year to year basis. A Statement indicating the grants allocated to various universities in Gujarat for the 8th Plan period is attached.

(b) The grants allocated to the universities can be utilised by them by March, 1997.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

#### STATEMENT

S. No. University	General development Plan grant allocated for Science, Humanities & Social Science for the Eighth Plan period (Rs. in lakhs)	Grant allocated for Engg. & Tech. & Management for Eighth Plan period (Rs. in lakhs)
1. Bhavnagar Univ., Bhavnagar	90.00	64.00
2. Gujarat Univ., Ahmedabad	140.00	64.00
3. M.S. Univ. of Baroda, Vadodara	140.00	339.00
4. Sardar Patel Univ., Vallabh Vidyanagar	120.00	64.00
5. Saurashtra Univ., Rajkot	125.00	-
6. South Gujarat Univ. Surat	124.00	64.00
7. Gurajat Vidyapith, Ahmedabad (Deemed Univ.)	145.00	74.00

#### Sandalwood

6911. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the total quantity of sandalwood extracted from forest is used indigenously; and

(b) if so, the forms in which sandalwood used indigenously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Sandalwood is used in the country primarily in handicrafts, distillation of sandalwood oil and for medicinal purposes.

### Reserved Vacancies

6912. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of inspections carried out by the Special Cell created to check implementation of the Reservation Orders regarding reservation in services in favour of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Ministry of Agriculture and the public sector undertakings under its administrative control during the year 1994-95;

(b) the salient features of the deficiencies pointed out by the inspection teams including backlog of reserved vacancies;

(c) the special efforts that have been made by the Ministry to clear the backlog of reserved vacancies;

(d) whether it is a fact that the backlog of reserved vacancies is not being cleared due to the internal ban on recruitment; and

(e) if so, the measures taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[Translation]

### Alleged Bungling in Food Corporation of India

6913. SHRI N.J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether cases of bungling in the supply of rice, rapeseed oil and other edibles by the Food Corporation of India have come to the notice in various States particularly in Gujarat during April, 1995;

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

(c) the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

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

### Concession to Journalists

6914. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal to restore 50% concession to the accredited journalists of Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The representation was received from Akhil Bhartiya Marathi Patrakar Parishad, Bombay.

### Pulses Seeds

6915. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have examined that the improved varieties of seeds of pulses developed by the Agricultural Research Centres are reaching to the farms or not in the country;

(b) if so, the results thereof;

(c) whether the production of pulses has stagnated during the last four years which indicates the large scale malpractices in Research Centres; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) and (b). Transfer of new crop technology from research organisations to farmers take place through extension system. The farmers adopt such technologies which they find appropriate to the situations in which they operate. ICAR has reported release of twenty-three varieties of pulses since 1992-93. While accurate assessment of adoption of technology by farmers is not available, trend of increase of productivity has been established from 533 kg./ha. in 1991-92 to 584 kg./ha. in 1993-94.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

### Ramsar Convention

6916. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO :  
SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a two-day Asian meeting of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands was held in Delhi in March 1995;

(b) if so, the countries attended the conference and the other main subjects discussed and decisions taken at the meeting;

(c) to what extent would India be benefited by these decisions; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to implement these decisions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Jordan, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan,

Philippines, Srilanka, Vietnam, Cambodia, Hongkong, Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, Thailand and the United Arab Emirates attended the Asian Regional Meeting of the Contracting Parties of the Ramsar Convention.

The meeting deliberated upon strengthening regional networking to promote Ramsar Convention in the Asian region. The main subjects discussed in the meeting were wise use of wetlands, conservation of Listed sites and international cooperation. The meeting called upon the national governments to undertake appropriate measures for conservation and wise use of wetlands in collaboration with each other and with international, inter-governmental and non-government organisations as well as others concerned with conservation and wise use of wetlands. The meeting also adopted a 'Delhi Declaration' on the conservation of wetlands in Asia.

(c) and (d). India is a signatory to Ramsar Convention and has designated six wetlands as of international importance under the Convention. At present India is a member of the Standing Committee of Ramsar Convention Bureau representing the Asian region. The discussions and decisions at the meeting would be of assistance to India in promoting wetland conservation activities and in implementing its scheme on Conservation and Management of Wetlands.

#### Mobile Vans

6917. SHRI K.G. SHIVAPPA :  
SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO :  
DR. ASIM BALA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

- (a) the idea of mobile vans in the country;
- (b) whether the mobile vans are functioning through-out the country;
- (c) if so, the number of mobile vans in the country at present, State-wise;
- (d) whether the Union Government have any proposal to increase the Mobile Public Distribution System during the current year; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) to (c). Central Government provides financial assistance to States/UTs for the purchase of vans and trucks for utilisation either as mobile Fair Price Shops (FPSs) or for delivery of commodities at the door-step of the FPSs in the areas covered under the Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS). At present, financial assistance is provided at the rate of Rs. 4 lakhs per van and at the rate of Rs. 8 lakhs for

trucks having at least 8 tonnes capacity. The pattern of assistance is a combination of loan (50%) and grant (50%) in the case of States and 100% grant in the case of UTs. Central Government has advised State Governments and UT Administrations to press into service more mobile vans to cover areas where static fair price shops could not be opened. Details of the total number of mobile vans used for this purpose in the country are not maintained by the Central Government. A Statement showing the amount of financial assistance provided to different States/UTs for the purchase of vans by the Central Government is annexed.

(d) and (e). A budget provision of Rs. 6.60 crores has been made for this purpose during the year 1995-96. Assistance is provided to States/UTs on the basis of proposals received from them. No specific allocation is made to any State prior to receipt of proposals.

#### STATEMENT

*Statewise details of financial assistance sanctioned and No. of Mobile Vans purchased by States/UTs with Central assistance for Public Distribution System during 1985 - 1995*

S.No.	Name of State/UTs	Total Amount	No. of Vehicles
1.	Andhra Pradesh	141.00	48
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	20.00	5
3.	Assam	38.47	18
4.	Bihar	216.73	86
5.	Haryana	65.00	20
6.	Himachal Pradesh	133.00	40
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	125.50	39
8.	Karnataka	113.00	38
9.	Kerala	122.50	34
10.	Madhya Pradesh	277.00	89
11.	Maharashtra	420.00	114
12.	Manipur	96.50	31
13.	Meghalaya	27.00	9
14.	Mizoram	73.68	20
15.	Nagaland	50.00	17
16.	Orissa	214.50	173
17.	Punjab	10.00	4
18.	Rajashtan	394.50	122
19.	Sikkim	25.73	8
20.	Tamil Nadu	91.50	27
21.	Tripura	20.00	5
22.	Uttar Pradesh	280.00	97
23.	West Bengal	100.00	25
24.	A and N Islands	20.00	5
25.	Chandigarh	5.00	2
	Total	3080.61	976

### Coaches in Rajdhani Express

6918. DR. AMRIT LAL KALIDAS PATEL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a demand to increase the coaches in Rajdhani Express running between New Delhi and Bombay; and

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

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During peak period and Parliament Session, the load of both Rajdhani and August Kranti Rajdhani is augmented by an additional Coach as found justified and feasible.

### Village Education Committees

6919. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether increasing attention is being given for setting up Village Education committees in the States;

(b) if so, the number of Committees set up so far State-wise; and

(c) the steps being taken to persuade those States that have not set up Village Education Committees so far?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) As per information received, number of Village Education Committees (VECs) set up in Bihar is 67,503, Haryana 4,478, Maharashtra, 36,140 and Punjab 11,248.

(c) The Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) Committee on Decentralised Management of Education has recommended setting up of VECs. The report of the Committee has been endorsed by the Chief Ministers in their Conference held in New Delhi on 15th February, 1994 and has been commended to State Governments and UT Administrations for appropriate adaptation and effective implementation keeping in view their specific situation.

### Pollution in Andhra Pradesh

6920. DR. R. MALLU :

DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received complaints regarding industrial pollution in various Districts of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the action taken thereon;

(c) the names of the cities in Andhra Pradesh which are worse affected by air, water, noise and vehicular pollution;

(d) the level of such pollution in these cities; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to reduce the level of such pollution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). No complaint has been received regarding industrial pollution in Andhra Pradesh. However, a complaint was received about an industrial accident on 24.4.1994 in the factory of India Cement Limited, Chilamkar in District Cuddapah in which 19 persons were killed. An enquiry was made by the State Government and a detailed inspection of all the cement factories in the state was undertaken to ensure that such accidents do not occur in other factories. The State Government also announced compensation for the dead and injured persons.

(c) and (d). Pattancheru and Bollaram in Hyderabad and Vishakhapatnam city are the worst affected by environmental pollution. The Central Pollution Control Board and the Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board have monitored ambient air quality at six stations in Hyderabad and three stations in Vishakhapatnam. A survey of Vehicular pollution in Vishakhapatnam was conducted during February, 1994 which revealed that out of 916 vehicles monitored, 29 per cent were not meeting the carbon monoxide limits. The overall monitoring results of air quality indicate that levels of sulphurdioxide and oxides of nitrogen at all the locations were within the prescribed standards but the suspended particulate matter was in excess at some places, specially during summer. Major sources of air pollution in these cities are from increasing human activities mainly due to vehicular emission and industrial effluents and emissions. The ambient water quality monitored at 35 stations indicated that quality of water in Krishna river was polluted in some stretches specially along the Gadwal Bridge. The main causes of water pollution were discharge of untreated/partially treated sewage and industrial effluents. The ambient noise level survey conducted in Vishakhapatnam at 13 selected areas representing the silence, residential, commercial and industrial areas indicated that noise levels exceeded the standards prescribed for commercial and residential areas including silence zones for all locations. However, the noise level in industrial areas was found to be within the prescribed norms.

(e) The steps taken by the Government to reduce pollution levels include the following :

(i) Emissions and effluent standards have been notified for the major categories of polluting industries.

- (ii) Industries have been directed to install necessary pollution control equipment within a stipulated time-frame and legal action is taken against the defaulting units.
- (iii) For control of pollution from vehicles, emission norms for both petrol and diesel driven vehicles have been notified under the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989. More stringent norms for vehicular emissions have been notified under the Central Motor Vehicles Rules which would come into effect from April, 1996.
- (iv) Gross and mass emission standards for all vehicles have been notified under the Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989.
- (v) Lead-free petrol has been introduced from 1.4.95 in the four metropolitan cities of Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and Madras for use in cars fitted with catalytic converters.
- (vi) Environmental guidelines have been evolved for siting and operation of industries.
- (vii) Fiscal incentives are provided for installation of pollution control equipment and also for the shifting of polluting industries from congested areas.
- (viii) Customs and Excise Duty Exemption are provided to the industries for pollution control/ monitoring equipment.
- (ix) A scheme has been initiated for setting up of common effluent treatment plants in clusters of small scale industrial units.
- (x) The Central Pollution Control Board has evolved codes of practices for controlling noise from sources other than industries and automobiles. These include public address system, aircraft operation, railway operation, construction activities and bursting of crackers. State Governments have been asked to implement these codes of practices under the relevant local Acts.
- (xi) Noise limits for automobiles, domestic appliances and construction equipment have been notified.
- (xii) Public awareness campaigns on the effects of pollution have been launched.

#### Railway Network

6921. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railways have a vast network of Printing Presses and other stationery producing equipments;

(b) if so, whether any cost benefit study has been done for identifying the utility of such activity; and

(c) if not, the steps proposed to study the economics of this operation?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Zonal Railways have Printing Presses for printing Railway Tickets and stationery, books and forms etc. including money value items used on the Railways.

(b) and (c). The aspect of cost reduction in Printing Presses, like other activities of the Railways, is a continuous process to improve the efficiency and profitability. The specific requirements of stationery on Railways are being met in a cost effective manner. Hence, there is no proposal at present to undertake any such study.

#### Forest Conservation in Andhra Pradesh

6922. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWASI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the areas selected for forest Conservation in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the total land brought under forest land during each of the last three years; and

(c) the amount sanctioned by the Government to Andhra Pradesh in this regard during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH):

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

#### Train Accidents

6923. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether accidents in Indian Railways are on increase year after year;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to fix Binocular Glass and Televue Equipment to the locomotives of the long distance trains to locate track damages in order to prevent the accidents;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) No, Sir. In fact, accidents have been steadily declining. From 812 accidents during 1984-85, these have come down to 501 during 1994-95.

(b) and (c). There is no such proposal to fix binocular glass on the locomotives.

(d) The proposed equipment would divert attention of the drivers from other essential functions, besides having adverse effect on their eyesight and working capacity.

### Himalayas Eco-System

6924. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the growing degradation of forests in the Himalayas;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether any study has been made on the mountain eco-system in the Himalayas;
- (d) if so, the outcome thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken to maintain proper balance in the Himalayan eco-system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH):

(a) Comparison of data from State of Forest Report 1993 and 1991 of Forest Survey of India shows that total forest/tree cover in the States, having Himalayan ranges and comprising of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal has decreased by 18 sq. kms.

(b) Main reasons for loss of forest/tree cover in Himalayas are excessive demand for fuel wood and fodder for domestic use, free grazing of cattle in forest areas, forest fires, illicit felling of trees, encroachment on forest lands and diversion of forest lands for non forestry purposes.

(c) and (d). Studies carried out on the mountain eco-system in the Himalayas have revealed that the mountain being geologically young is prone to land slips and land slides. Anthropogenic pressures have put further pressure on the delicate mountain system. There is urgent need to protect ecologically fragile areas which are centres of genetic diversity. Their preservation is necessary for future food security of the country.

(e) The Government have taken a number of steps to maintain proper balance in the Himalayan eco-systems which include :

- (1) State Government have been requested to consider putting a ban on felling of green trees above 1000 metre altitude.
- (2) A network of National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries has been created in Himalayan region.
- (3) People's participation is being actively promoted in protection and management of forest areas in the region.

(4) Creation of Ecological Task Force in Jammu and Kashmir, Uttar Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh.

(5) Establishment of Govind Ballabh Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment and Development for carrying out detailed study and research and make recommendations for maintenance of proper balance in the Himalayan eco-system.

### Computation of Forest Area

6925. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any difference in the computation of forest area as per satellite imagery and revenue records;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) State-wise details of recorded forest area and actual forest cover are given in the Statement attached.

(c) Recorded forest area is the area which is notified as forest under the law whereas forest cover is computed on the basis of visual and digital interpretation of satellite imageries. All the notified forest areas may or may not have adequate tree cover.

### STATEMENT

#### *Recorded and Actual Forest Cover - comparative situation*

S.No.	State/UTs	(Area in sq. km.)		
		Recorded Forest area	Actual Forest cover- 1993	Percentage (4 to 3) Assessment
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	63,726	47,256	74.15
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	51,540	68661	133.22
3.	Assam	30,708	24,508	79.81
4.	Bihar	29,226	26,587	90.97
5.	Goa (including Daman and Diu)	1,256	1,250	99.22
6.	Gujarat	19,388	12,044	62.12
7.	Haryana	1,687	513	30.41
8.	Himachal Pradesh	37,591	12,502	33.26

1	2	3	4	5
9. Jammu & Kashmir	20,174	20,443	101.33	
10. Karnataka	38,646	32,343	83.69	
11. Kerala	11,222	10,336	92.10	
12. Madhya Pradesh	155,414	135,396	87.12	
13. Maharashtra	63,861	43,859	68.68	
14. Manipur	15,154	17,621	116.28	
15. Meghalaya	9,496	15,769	166.06	
16. Mizoram	15,935	18,697	117.33	
17. Nagaland	8,625	14,348	166.35	
18. Orissa	59,555	47,145	79.16	
19. Punjab	2,842	1,343	47.26	
20. Rajashtan	31,559	13,099	41.51	
21. Sikkim	2,650	3,119	117.70	
22. Tamil Nadu	22,699	17,726	78.09	
23. Tripura	6,292	5,538	88.02	
24. Uttar Pradesh	51,502	33,961	65.94	
25. West Bengal	11,879	8,186	68.91	
26. A and N Islands	7,171	7,624	106.32	
27. Chandigarh	31	5	16.13	
28. Dadra & Nagar Haveli	207	206	99.52	
29. Delhi	42	22	52.38	
30. Lakshadweep	-	-	-	
31. Pondicherry	-	-	-	
<b>Total</b>	<b>770,078</b>	<b>640,107</b>	<b>83.12</b>	

### Project Approval Committee

6926. SHRI C.P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a compact body called 'Project Approval Committee' has been set up to scrutinise the proposals for total Literacy Campaigns; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) : (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A smaller compact body called Project Approval Committee has been constituted as a sub-committee of the Executive Committee of the National Literacy Mission Authority. The PAC consists of seven members, with the Education Secretary being the Chairman. The Committee has two non-official members. The Education Secretaries and the Directors of Adult Education of the State Governments whose proposals are considered, are also co-opted as members of the Committee.

### Lal Bahadur Shastri Sanskrit Vidyapeeth

6927. SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAOSAHEB TOPE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Classes, male and female students studying in Lal Bahadur Shastri Sanskrit Vidyapeeth, New Delhi;

(b) number of students enrolled during last three years;

(c) the details of dropout of these students;

(d) whether any scheme has been introduced or likely to be introduced to attract these students to learn the sanskrit through this institute; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) The details of SC/ST Male and female students are as under :

	SC	ST	Total	Male	Female
1992-93	8	1	9	6	3
1993-94	11	-	11	6	5
1994-95	13	-	13	4	9

No details have been kept about students belonging to other backward classes.

(b) and (c). The number of students enrolled and dropout during last three years are as follows :

	Enrolled	Dropout
1992-93	424	-
1993-94	426	-
1994-95	496	1

(d) and (e). The facilities given to SC/ST candidates are as follows :

- (1) 5% relaxation in aggregate marks in respect of admission and scholarships.
- (2) Scholarships to each eligible student. Further 22.5% seats are reserved for SC and ST students.

### Admission of Foreign Students

6928. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria adopted by the Union Government for admission of foreign students in Indian Universities;

(b) the percentage of seats reserved for the foreign students in Indian Institutions; and

(c) the area of study of foreign students in country during the last three years, yearwise and State-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) and (b). According to the information furnished by UGC, the Commission has set up a Committee, comprising eminent academicians and educational administrators, to work out modalities for providing educational opportunities to the foreign students as also to generate resources for higher education. The Committee has not yet finalised its recommendations.

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

### National Open School

6929. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether National Open School proposes to open Regional Centres in various States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, reasons thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) and (b). National Open School has informed that in order to strengthen and decentralize the system of Student Support Services, it envisages the need of some regional centres. These centres would cover various States/UTs located in different regions of the country.

(c) Does not arise.

### Overseas Development Agency

6930. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether provision of financial assistance by British Overseas Development Agency to some States is within the knowledge of Government;

(b) whether such assistance is also with the approval of Union Government;

(c) whether this assistance is merely to universalise the Primary Education in those States;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government propose to seek similar financial assistance from Foreign Financial Institutions for Sikkim to universalise the Primary Education there;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) and (b). All external funding by any bilateral or Multilateral agency requires an agreement between Government of India (GOI) and the Agency. Support to education by British Overseas Development Administration (ODA) is based on such agreement.

(c) and (d). ODA is supporting strengthening of Eight Regional Engineering Colleges and the Andhra Primary Education Project.

(e) and (f). There is no such proposal for the present.

(g) The Central Government has been supporting the State Government to universalise elementary education through schemes such as Operation Blackboard.

### Suburban Railway System

6931. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a separate accounting system is proposed for suburban Railway System;

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be functioning;

(c) whether large subsidies are given only to some Railway sectors in large metropolitan areas; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to have an equitable system in the matter of extending Transport subsidies to other towns like Guntur and Vijaywada... etc.?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir. Railway fares are uniform for all sectors including metropolitan areas.

(d) There is no system of giving Rail Transport subsidies area-wise or town-wise.

### Packaged Commodities

6932. SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to a news-item captioned 'Packed Commodities violate law' published in the 'Tribune' dated March 31, 1995;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received any complaints against any particular product or manufacturer indulging in such a malpractice; and

(d) if so, the protections available to consumers against such frauds?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the said article, some instances have been cited where the net weight declared on a prepacked commodity by the manufacturer differed from its actual weight. The article has suggested the remedies that consumers can adopt when they come across packages which violate the provisions of the Standards of Weights and Measures (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 1977.

(c) Yes, Sir. Whenever such a complaint is received, it is passed on to the States/Union Territories concerned for taking appropriate action in accordance with the provisions of the Rules.

(d) The Packaged Commodities Rules, 1977 has provisions for ensuring that consumers gets the declared quantity of product on a packed commodity within the prescribed tolerance limits. Besides this, the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 etc. have provisions to protect the consumers against such frauds.

[Translation]

#### Establishment of Nurseries

6933. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have set up 2929 Sanyukt, Kisan/Mahila Mandals and Government Nurseries for plantation of seedling for production and conservation of vegetation during the year 1994-95;

(b) if so, details of these programmes State-wise; and

(c) the number of programmes out of them launched in Uttarakhand region in Uttar Pradesh district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) The Government have set up 2969 Sanyukt, Kisan/Mahila Mandal and Government Nurseries till date since inception of the project i.e. 1990-91 for raising seedlings/other planting material for conservation and production flora under National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme.

(b) State-wise details of the Sanyukt, Kisan/Mahila Mandal and Government Nurseries are given in the Statement-I attached.

(c) District-wise details of Sanyukt and Kisan/Mahila Mandal Nurseries established in Uttarakhand region of Uttar Pradesh and given in the Statement-II attached.

#### STATEMENT-I

Statement showing establishment of Sanyukt Kisan Mahila Mandal and Government-owned nurseries under NWDPPA.

S.No.	Name of State	No. of Sanyukt, Kisan/Mahila Mandal and Govt. owned nurseries established
1.	Andhra Pradesh	110
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3
3.	Assam	199
4.	Bihar	-
5.	Gujarat	239
6.	Goa	-
7.	Haryana	5
8.	Himachal Pradesh	63
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	34
10.	Karnataka	113
11.	Kerala	458
12.	Madhya Pradesh	378
13.	Maharashtra	194
14.	Manipur	56
15.	Meghalaya	11
16.	Mizoram	40
17.	Nagaland	28
18.	Orissa	258
19.	Punjab	18
20.	Rajasthan	330
21.	Sikkim	16
22.	Tamil Nadu	168
23.	Tripura	18
24.	Uttar Pradesh	187
25.	West Bengal	42
26.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1
27.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	-
Total		2969

#### STATEMENT-II

Number of Nurseries established in Uttarakhand Region of Uttar Pradesh under NWDPPA

S.No.	Name of District	No. of Nurseries established
1	2	3
1.	Uttar Kashi	6
2.	Tehri	9
3.	Dehradun	2

1	2	3
4.	Pauri	14
5.	Chamoli	11
6.	Almora	13
7.	Nainital	4
8.	Pithoragarh	11
Total		70

[English]

#### Central Schools

6934. DR. SUDHIR RAY :  
 SHRI MUHIRAM SAIKIA :  
 SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI :  
 SHRI KUNJEE LAL :  
 SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN :  
 DR. MUMTAJ ANSARI :  
 SHRI N.K. BALIYAN :  
 SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE :  
 DR. GUNVANT RAMBHAU SARODE :  
 DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA :  
 SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :  
 SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY :  
 SHRI C.P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA :  
 SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :  
 SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO  
 GUNDEWAR :  
 SHRI DILEEP BHAI SANGHANI :  
 SHRI NURUL ISLAM :  
 PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT :  
 SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the State-wise details of Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya Vidyalayas functioning in the country and diplomatic mission abroad;

(b) the number of Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya Vidyalayas likely to be opened during the coming years State-wise;

(c) whether Government have fixed any target for this purpose;

(d) if so, the details thereof indicating the criteria for opening such schools at a particular place;

(e) whether Government ensure that all such schools have basic infrastructural facilities and amenities;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to open Navodaya Vidyalayas and Kendriya Vidyalayas in those States where such schools are not in existence?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) A list indicating the Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya Vidyalayas, State-wise, is given in the Statement.

(b) to (g). Government have approved opening of upto 20 Kendriya Vidyalayas under Defence/Civil Sector and as many found suitable under the Project Sector, annually for the period 1993-98. Kendriya Vidyalayas are opened at places having a sizeable concentration of transferable Central Government employees and also subject to availability of physical facilities which are provided by sponsoring agencies. Kendriya Vidyalayas are also opened in the residential campuses of Public Sector Undertakings wherever the sponsoring project agrees to meet the recurring and non-recurring expenditure on the Vidyalaya.

The Navodaya Vidyalaya Scheme envisages opening of a Vidyalaya in each district, subject to availability of a suitable proposal including land and other infrastructural facilities from the State Government concerned.

It has been the endeavour of the KVS/NVS to ensure that their Vidyalayas have the maximum possible infrastructural facilities.

#### STATEMENT

##### State-wise Kendriya Vidyalayas

S.No.	State	No of KVs.
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	43
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	07
3.	Assam	45
4.	Bihar	56
5.	Gujarat	41
6.	Haryana	23
7.	Himachal Pradesh	17
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	25
9.	Karnataka	27
10.	Kerala	23
11.	Madhya Pradesh	87
12.	Maharashtra	51
13.	Manipur	05
14.	Meghalaya	07
15.	Mizoram	01
16.	Nagaland	05
17.	Orissa	27
18.	Punjab	36

1	2	3
19.	Rajasthan	47
20.	Sikkim	01
21.	Tamilnadu	27
22.	Tripura	05
23.	Uttar Pradesh	116
24.	West Bengal	46
25.	A & N Islands	02
26.	Chandigarh	06
27.	Delhi	32
28.	Goa	05
29.	Pondicherry	02
30.	Kathmandu	01
31.	Moscow	01
Total		817

*State-wise Details of Jawahar Novodaya Vidyalayas sanctioned as on 31.3.1995*

S.No.	Name of State/UT	JNVs Sanctioned
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	22
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	06
3.	Bihar	37
4.	Gujarat	12
5.	Haryana	14
6.	Himachal Pradesh	10
7.	Kerala	12
8.	Maharashtra	28
9.	Punjab	11
10.	Rajasthan	27
11.	Sikkim	02
12.	Nagaland	04
13.	Uttar Pradesh	46
14.	Delhi	02
15.	Assam	15
16.	Orissa	13
17.	Goa	02
18.	Jammu & Kashmir	14
19.	Karnataka	20
20.	Manipur	08
21.	Mizoram	03
22.	Andaman & Nicobar	02
23.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	01
24.	Daman & Diu	02
25.	Lakshdweep	01

1	2	3
26.	Pondicherry	04
27.	Madhya Pradesh	45
28.	Chandigarh	01
29.	Meghalaya	06
30.	Tripura	03
Total		373*

\* Excluding newly created districts and districts in West Bengal and Tamil Nadu.

[Translation]

**Bhartiya Khani Vidyapeeth, Dhanbad**

6935. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of seats reserved for state nominees in Bhartiya Khani Vidyapeeth, Dhanbad;

(b) the number of students admitted under this quota during last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether all the state nominees have been admitted;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether any alternative arrangement will be made for the state nominees who have not been admitted this year; and

(f) whether the Ministry will see that recommendations for nomination are sent in time as there is a practice of forwarding recommendations for state nominees after the expiry date every year?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) and (b). The number of seats allocated for state nominees and number of students admitted in Bhartiya Khani Vidyapeeth, Dhanbad during the last three years is as under :

Year	Allocated	Admitted
1992-93	14	12
1993-94	14	13
1994-95	15	5

(c) to (e). The last date for admission was 1st July, 1994 but it was extended upto 11th July, 1994. After 11th July, 1994 no admission was made as the semester course had progressed too far. The nominees of the different States/UTs who turned up after 11th July, 1994 were permitted to take admission in the 1995-96 session against the quota of 1994-95 without detriment to the quota of 1995-96.

(f) The States/UTs are informed of the date of admission, closing and commencement of the session every year in advance for making their nominations in time.

#### Financial Assistance to Universities in Maharashtra

6936. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of amount made available to Universities in Maharashtra during the last two years;

(b) the targets fixed by the Union Government for expansion of the Universities during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(c) the efforts being made by the Government for the expansion of higher and technical education in the State;

(d) whether the Government propose to open any Central university in the State; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) The National Policy on Education - 1986, as modified in 1992, states that, in view of the need to effect an all-round improvement in the institution, it is proposed that, in the near future, the main emphasis will be on the consolidation of, and expansion of facilities in, the existing institutions. In view of this, the main emphasis of the higher education programmes during the 8th Five Year Plan is on consolidation of the existing infrastructural and other facilities rather than expansion.

(c) State Universities are set up by Acts of the State Legislatures and it is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments to provide adequate Plan and Non-Plan assistance to the universities established by them. UGC provides financial assistance to the eligible State Universities, in accordance with the prescribed norms, for various development purposes, such as purchase of books, journals and equipment, recruitment of teachers, construction of buildings and hostels, etc.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

#### Co-joint Study Work

6937. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the answer given to the Starred Question No.

784, dated on 28th April, 1992 and the subsequent fulfilled assurance regarding the candidates who had co-joint research papers with their superiors based upon their Ph.D. thesis and state:

(a) whether in all those cases the respective supervisors had certified that "the thesis does not contain any work either with me or with anyone else"; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### State Pollution Control Boards

6938. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the State Pollution Control Boards are presently facing financial constraints and paucity of resources which preclude them the take adequate measures to tackle the pollution problems emanating from various sources within their jurisdiction;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the cess collected by State Boards under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Act, 1977 is deposited with his Ministry which in turn reimburses only a part thereof to the State Boards;

(d) if so, the reasons and the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have received any complaints/suggestions in this regard from the State Boards;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) and (b). The Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Cess Act, 1977 was passed by Parliament with a view to augment the resources of Central and State Pollution Control Boards constituted under the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974. After 1974, the sphere of activities of the Pollution Control Boards have expanded manifold because of enactment of the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. Keeping in view the expanded activities of the State Pollution Control Boards, the cess rates and reimbursement formula were revised in 1992, in consultation with Central & State Pollution Control Boards.

(c) and (d). As per the provisions of Section 8 of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Cess Act, 1977, the State Pollution Control Boards are required to collect

cess from all persons or local authorities consuming water. According to the provisions of the Act the cess so collected is to be first deposited in the Consolidated Fund of India. This is later redistributed to them in accordance with the formula prescribed by the Central Government.

(e) and (f). The issue of the cess reimbursement formula has been discussed with the Central and State Pollution Control Boards in various meetings. A number of State Boards have demanded higher reimbursement of the cess collected to meet their increasing commitments towards programmes for abatement of pollution. A revised formula for reimbursement to the State Pollution Control Boards has been evolved.

(g) The Government has approved a proposal to enhance the existing water cess rates approximately 3 folds under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Act, 1977 with a view to augment the financial resources of the Pollution Control Boards.

#### Distance Education

6939. SHRI MANPHOOL SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the names and addresses of universities and institutions in India which offer courses leading to or equivalent to MBA degree through distance learning;

(b) the names and addresses of the institutions/bodies, recognised by the All India Council of Technical Education, which offer diploma and degree courses in business management, business administration and financial management respectively through distance learning;

(c) whether All India Management Association, "Management House", 14 Institutional Area, Lodi Road, New Delhi is a recognised Institution; and

(d) if so, the details of courses offered by the Institution?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) and (d). The All India Council for Technical Education has approved (i) PG Diploma in Management (Modular) and (ii) Post Graduate Diploma in Technology Management (Modular) conducted by the All India Management Association, New Delhi. The Govt. of India had recognised in 1980, the Graduate Diploma in Management of the All India Management Association, New Delhi provisionally for a period of three years for the purposes of recruitment of superior posts under the Central Govt.

[Translation]

#### Rose Buds

6940. SHRI RAM SINGH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a schemes has been formulated by a private company of Saharanpur to develop rose buds separately or in collaboration with Delmes and Indo-Flora Company of Holland;

(b) if so, the details in regard .to this scheme alongwith the area of land in hectares where the buds are proposed to be developed, the total investment likely to be made therein and the extent of foreign exchange likely to be accrued therefrom;

(c) whether permission was granted for felling only 150 trees for implementation of this scheme but the company undertaken felling of more than 3000 trees from 300 acres of Mango garden;

(d) whether the Government have received complaints/ representations in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon; and

(f) the persons found guilty and the action taken by the Government against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (f). Information is being collected from the Government of Uttar Pradesh and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) and (e). Yes Sir, we have received a complaint in this regard from Shri Ram Singh, Hon'ble Member of Parliament and forwarded it to the State Government of Uttar Pradesh for furnishing a report on the action taken in the matter. Their reply is awaited.

#### Uniform School Education System

6941. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :  
SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have gone through the reports of D.S. Kothari Commission and Acharya Ram Murthy Committee constituted in 1964-66 and 1990 respectively;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have taken any effective steps so far to introduce a uniform school education system in the country; if so, details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the future scheme and target fixed by the Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : The Education Commission was constituted in 1964 under the Chairmanship of Dr. D.S. Kothari to advise Government on National Pattern of Education and on the General Policies for the development of education at all stages and its related aspects. The report of the Commission was laid on the Table of the Parliament on 29th August, 1966. A Committee was constituted under the Chairmanship of Acharya Ramamurti in 1990 to review the National Policy on Education, 1986. Report of this Committee was laid on the Table of the Parliament on 9th January, 1991.

Some of the main steps to maintain broad commonality of standards in all the schools of the country are :

- (i) Making available to all the schools, a broadly uniform pattern of syllabi/textbooks designed on the basis of National Curricular Framework for elementary and secondary education brought out by the National Council of Educational Research & Training (NCERT).
- (ii) Requiring all the schools sending their students for Board Examinations to be affiliated to the concerned State Board, the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) or the Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations, as the case may be, and thereby to follow the syllabi/textbooks prescribed by the respective Board designed on the basis of the National curricular Framework.

[English]

#### Departmental Promotion

6942. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of Kendriya Vidyalaya teachers could not get departmental promotions during 1994-95 due to non-availability of their Annual Confidential Reports;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government against the officers responsible for non-availability of ACRs; and

(c) the steps taken by the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan to ensure non-occurrence of such lapse in future?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) to (c). As per information furnished by Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan in 1994-95, the Departmental Promotion Committees deferred consideration of names of certain teachers due to non-

receipt of complete Annual Confidential Reports (ACRs). On receipt of ACRs, cases of such teachers are considered by the Departmental Promotion Committees subsequently and their seniority is protected. Instructions have been issued from time to time for timely submission of ACRs. and to obviate delay in submission of ACRs.

#### Appointment of Lecturers

6943. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to amend the rules concerning the appointment of lecturers of Central Universities in the light of recent judgement of Punjab and Haryana High Court;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by University Grants Commission in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Indian Institute of Technology

6944. SHRI TARA SINGH :

SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to strengthen the functioning of Indian Institute of Technology; and

(b) the new areas of study and research likely to be introduced in the curricula of graduate and post graduate course of these institutes to keep students aware with the latest development?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) On the basis of the recommendations of the Review Committees, the Government has been taking various steps to strengthen the functioning of Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs). These include the schemes of revised pattern of funding to provide greater financial autonomy to the Institutes and Technology Development Missions to bring the Institutes closer to industry to have greater industry-institute linkages. Also, additional funds for Thrust Areas, Modernisation, Laboratory/Library developments are provided from time to time. The Government is also encouraging national and international collaborations, Joint Research Projects and faculty exchange programme.

(b) The curriculum design and training methods are periodically reviewed in the IITs to include new and emerging technologies and changes that are taking place within and outside the country. Some of the new areas of study and research likely to be introduced in IITs are Super Computing for Engineering Applications, Concurrent Engineering, Photonic Devices, High Performance Composites, Instrumentation Technology, Atmospheric Sciences, Applied Statistics & Information, Information Technology, Environmental Sciences & Technology, Toxic Waste Management, Industrial Instrumentation, Construction Engineering Management, Environmental Challenges etc.

[Translation]

### Project Balika Scheme

6945. SHRI MANJAY LAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of assistance provided to the Government of Bihar under "Project Balika" scheme during the last three years;

(b) whether the State Government has spent the requisite twenty percent amount on this Project to maintain and keep it running;

(c) whether the Government propose to implement the project through voluntary organisations too; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) to (d). There is no Scheme namely, 'Project Balika' in operation in Bihar with assistance for this Ministry.

12.01 hrs.

### RE : EARLY RECONSTRUCTION OF HOUSES DAMAGED AT CHARAR-E-SHARIEF

[Translation]

SHRI RABI RAY (Kendrapada) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, In the All Party Parliamentary delegation, we visited Kashmir and also paid a visit to Charar-e-Sharief. We met nearly 1000 common people during this visit and all were angry. Since we were representing a Parliamentary delegation they told us to highlight their grievances in the Parliament.

Sir, from humanitarian point of view I want to place before this House, what we witnessed at Charar-e-Sharief. The houses of common people were burnt on 8th, 9th and 10th. They showed those burnt houses to the delegation and put a question to it as to what will

happen to them. These people have faith in our Parliament and keeping this human problem in mind, I want to urge to the Government and the Prime Minister who is also in charge of Kashmir affairs that we and the Central Government should take initiative to extent relief to them and rebuild their burnt houses on war footing. This will go in favour of India. We should not only try to build their houses but must ensure that they are rebuilt within 2-3 months and in this way Government should send a message across the world that we are alive to the problems of these residents. We can take the help of Army engineers to complete this job on war footing. This will convey a message to the world. The common people there are agitated, we have seen the burnt houses. Government should make a statement that it is taking up this work and wants to complete it on war footing.

Mr. Speaker, Sir I want you also to put pressure on this Government on behalf of this House to undertake this work on war footing and extend relief to the people there and a unanimous message of this effect should go out from this House. Government should not work in a routine manner but do it on war footing so that people feel that you are giving a healing touch to them. Such a message must go out from this House.

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN (Gobichettipalayam) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, an all-party Parliamentary delegation visited Charar-e-Sharief on 20th May to assess the real situation there. We deeply shocked over the way the 'Pakistan-sponsored' foreign mercenaries and extremist militants burnt down the holy shrine of the Sufi saint and the town of Charar-e-Sharief. It was a total devastation. We met the people who had gathered there. Of course, there were different versions regarding the incident, but we need not go deep into that. The question before us is that the people in the town are homeless now. More than thousand houses were destroyed. People are very much agitated as they have lost all their belongings in the fire. They shouted slogans before us, demanding full compensation for the losses suffered by them and for rebuilding their houses. The need of the hour is to rebuild the houses immediately, without any loss of time. The Government should not make any delay on this vital task.

The Governor also apprised us of the law and order situation in the State. He also informed that the Government had already sanctioned a compensation of Rs. 2 lakh to each affected family. But it has not yet reached the people.

So, I urge upon the Government that the construction work should be started immediately and necessary steps should be taken to distribute the compensation amount to the affected people at the earliest. Moreover, before starting the election process, the Government should come forward and announce the economic and political package in the State to facilitate all political parties to take part in the elections.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA (Padrauna) : The Parliamentary Committee that has gone to Charar-e-Sharief...(Interruptions)\*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : This is not going on record.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA : What have I said, which you do not want to allow to go on record?

MR. SPEAKER : You are speaking without my permission.

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA : I seek your permission.

MR. SPEAKER : I am not allowing you.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Do not carry on this discussion. The Government has said on the floor of the House that the same principle and formula applies to *Mandir, Masjid* and everything. Why is it necessary to repeat it?

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was one of the Members of the Parliamentary delegation which visited Charar-e-Sharief on 20th May.

Agar hum Charar-e-Sharief ki halat sunane lagenge, to pathar bhi aansu bahane lagenge, agar bhir mein kho jaye insaniyat, to use khojne mein jamane lagenge.

The Dargah of Sufi Saint Nuruddin Noorani alias Nund Rishi was completely gutted and we saw this heart rendering scene ourselves. This Dargah was a symbol of communal harmony and Hindu-Muslim Unity. This was a cultural heritage of Kashmir which was completely burnt. The houses and shops around the Dargah were also burnt on 8th and 9th. It is a sad commentary the way this heinous crime was committed and a religious place was sieged and destroyed by militants or mercenaries at the instance of external agencies.

I raised this matter because the civilisation of Kashmir is being burnt and the culture is being destroyed. If a foreign hand creates such disturbances in our country and goes scot-free, then what is our hand doing?

MR. SPEAKER : We have discussed this for 5-6 hours.

[English]

You confine yourself to the point of your visit only.

\* Not Recorded.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : When this house was in session....

MR. SPEAKER : This has been discussed right from 11 A.M. to 9 P.M. Do not repeat all that.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we had gone there and on that day it was said that the burnt buildings shall be reconstructed on war footing to integrate the communities there. I am referring to what a fire victim had said. We had tried to know the ground reality from hundreds of people. A 25 year old youth Mohammad Ashraf of Gulshanabad while standing over the ashes of his shop told us that they were starving for the last 3 months and are unable to come out of their houses. His house was gutted. He is left with nothing. He also mentioned another point which I want to put before this House. Sir, in this way the militants were coming there...

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : you are not giving a report to the House and if it has to be given, it has to be properly done. Please be brief and come to the point directly.\*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : All the schools are closed there. This incident has taken place because of insensitivity of this Government. The people, the local social workers, leaders there are not taken into confidence by the Government. Therefore, I, specifically charge this Government of indecisiveness, confusion, indecision and susceptibility. The local administration ... (Interruptions)\*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : This is not going on record.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa) : Sir, a very useful and correct decision was taken to send the Parliamentary delegation. We could see for ourselves the destruction that took place there on 8th, 9th and 10th of this month. We could talk to the traumatised people who lost everything that they had. Along with destruction of the holy shrine thousands of houses were also destroyed. People were agitated. But there was some consolation for them that somebody from the nation came to stand by their side. The rebuilding of the Charar-e-Sharief and the houses should be taken up as a matter of challenge and not in the usual sense of the term. The quick we are successful in rebuilding the houses and the shrine the more the alienation will be removed from the minds of the people. There may be doubts in their minds as to who were responsible for it. But everybody is agreed on the fact that the militants took shelter in the shrine and it was their responsibility for all that happened at Charar-e-Sharief. But the saddest thing is that despite the responsibility lying on the militants for the destruction of the shrine, there are certain elements who are exploiting

\* Not Recorded.

the situation against our country and that has to be combated unitedly. For this the question of taking up the work of the work of rebuilding of the houses on a war footing is very necessary.

Another point that we understood was that the people who gathered there have a lot of expectation from this Parliament. It may be due to the fact that this delegation went there after three years.

In between, no interaction took place from the side of the nation with the people of Kashmir. Now, we realise, Sir, that when we talk of political process, when we talk of holding election, the militants will be desperate. Their mentors will provoke them to create this kind of incidents. So, the security forces will have to be more alert to ensure that this kind of things do not happen elsewhere.

Secondly, certain political issues including autonomy have to be tackled in a very immediate manner so that the faith of the people is restored in the democratic process and they are brought back to the mainstream of our country. So, it is a very challenging task and I think the Government will realise the immediacy of the problem, the urgency of the problem and respond to it in a very proper measure.

[Translation]

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (Garhwal) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had also visited Charar-e-Sharief on Saturday with this delegation. I fully agree with what Hon. Rabi Ray ji has said. Here we need not put blame on each other. I think we have to deal with this situation on two counts. The houses were burnt in a systematic manner. Therefore, their houses should also be rebuilt in a systematic manner or in whatever way it may be necessary to reconstruct them. It will be better to build their houses instead of giving financial assistance to them as announced by the Government. They should be provided with men and material to complete the work instead of giving 1 or 2 rupees. This is the first requirement.

What I experienced there is that the Government has no authority there. The information system is also not efficient. When we visited that place people there told us that they knew that Government is going to give, a relief of Rs.5,000 to Rs.10,000. When we returned and met the Governor, we came to know that a sum of Rs.2 lakhs has already been sanctioned. People should know what the Government is doing. They should be given a healing touch and the Government must enforce its authority. I felt personally that the slogans are raised and resentment expressed under pressure from militants. The resentment may be natural but it is also true that they are doing so under the pressure of the militants. So, I will request the Government to assert its authority so that, people feel that you are capable enough to protect them and such an atmosphere should be created there that the people may have the sense of security....(Interruptions) ... I do not want to say anything about Army at this stage. It will not

be fair. There is no doubt, that the damage has been done by Pakistan. The houses were set on fire in systematic manner and a false and misleading propaganda is taking place. It is Government's responsibility to check such type of misleading propaganda and take appropriate action against that.

[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) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it was most appropriate that the Parliamentary Delegation was sent to Charar-e-Sharief to meet the people who have been affected by the dastardly incident. The Delegation was able to meet the Army authorities, they were able to meet the Governor and they were also able to discuss as to what exactly had happened in Charar-e-Sharief. The information which the hon. Members are bringing to the notice of this House. I would like to mention here that we will definitely inform the concerned authorities about the concerns expressed and the suggestions made by the hon. Member and if there is a need, we can also organise a meeting of the hon. Members who had gone in the Delegation with the concerned authorities so that the suggestions can be looked after.

MR. SPEAKER : Well, this is what I would like to express on this point.

The Government and all of us did well in sending an All Party Delegation to Charar-e-Sharief. The houses which have been burnt down should be reconstructed as soon as possible, which is very important. I think that can be done on a footing which is very expeditious. We would not like to call it 'war footing'. On this, a statement may be made by the Government as to how they would like to deal with this matter so as to see that the relief and reconstruction is provided and done in a very speedy manner. The statement may be made in three days' time in the House.

[Translation]

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR (Fiazabad) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would request the Government to send another Parliamentary delegation to take stock of the temples destroyed and houses burnt at other places and to ensure appropriate assistance to the sufferers.

MR. SPEAKER : If the hon. Members want, one more delegation can be sent and wherever they want to go, they can go there.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The Government has expressed it on the floor of the House. Let us not say anything which will mislead the people. The Government has said that the formula which applies to *Masjid* will apply to *Mandir* also.

12.20 hrs.

RE: ONGOING PRACTICE OF CARRYING  
NIGHT-SOIL ON HEAD BY THE SCAVENGERS  
IN THE COUNTRY

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a matter of shame for this Nation that even after 50 years of Independence the practice of carrying night soil on head still continues inspite of repeated assurances given by Central Government that this practice would be abolished within a specified period of time. Today several new techniques have developed, so the practice of carrying night soil on head must end. We has said in 1991 that this will be abolished in 3 years. This was also committed by welfare Ministry but instead of 3 years, 5 years have elapsed, still this system continues. Today there are 3,900 small townships where this system is still in vogue. The most sad commentary is that this practice continues in those states which have officially abolished it.

I have a case of Karnataka with me, I have a report in this regard. I had gone there. In Karnataka this system was abolished in 1972...(Interruptions)

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV (Sahasra) : It continues in your Bihar. You speak about what is happening in Bihar...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Sir, no doubt it continues in Bihar. I am talking of those states which have abolished the practice of carrying the night soil on heads. In Karnataka this practice was abolished in 1972 but this practice continues in Kolar Gold fields, Bharat Gold Mine Ltd. which is 115 years old and 100 kms away from Bangalore. This Gold field has 1200 slum units with a population of 3 lakhs. They are poor people and this practice of carrying night soil on head is still continuing there. As I have said, there are 3900 small townships where this practice is still in vogue. The problem is that the workers engaged in this job are not provided alternative work. During the period of our Government we had allocated Rs.5000 crore for this purpose which has been reduced to Rs.500 crore by the present Government. I would urge upon the Government to abolish this practice from the entire country within a specified period in consultation with the State Governments.

The Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi had also said that this practice of carrying night soil on head is a blot on our nation. This practice must be abolished and alternative employment be provided to those engaged in this job. The world has developed several new technologies but here in our country one person is engaged in carrying others' night soil on his head. There can be nothing more shameful for the Nation. This is not a matter of party politics, the concern of a particular State. This system continues in every

State. I will therefore request all the members irrespective of party affiliation to support me in the endeavour of abolishing this practice.

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV : Sir, it is a very bad practice but it could not be abolished inspite of Government's willingness. Shri Ram Vilas was saying...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Ram Vilas Ji has raised a very important question in a very good manner. Please do not give it a political colour.

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV : Whatever matter we raise in Parliament is fully understood by the people of the Nation. We have been elected from different districts and are sitting here. If we are sincere we can start a campaign in our respective constituencies to abolish all bad practices prevalent in our society and work for integrating the society. I think only then we will be able to abolish this practice very soon. There is no point in blaming Government time and again. We ourselves should take a vow and resolve to work for the abolition of this system.

MR. SPEAKER : There is no question of blaming anybody.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (Aonla) : It is true there cannot be anything more shameful than carrying by one person on head the soil of other person but this practice is still there in hundreds of municipalities. It is unfortunate that these scavengers carrying night soil on their heads are not getting their wages for as long a period as 18 months and are at the verge of starvation. You take the Lucknow Municipal Corporation or Bareilly Municipal Corporation or any Municipality of any small town. These unfortunate scavengers are engaged in carrying night soil on their heads and inspite of this, the irony is that they are not getting their salaries on time. The scavengers have reached on the verge of starvation.

MR. SPEAKER : It is not this Government.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : It is not this Government but that Government, but when we talk of Uttar Pradesh Government we take it that it is Congress Government, Narsimha Rao Government and Mulayam Singh Government, different faces of the same coin.

MR. SPEAKER : You are again deviating.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : I am not making any aberrations. So far as this problem is concerned, the State Chief Minister, the Prime Minister is responsible for that. This Government is to be blamed. I want my submission to come on record.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : It is a very important issue. Let us deal with it in a proper manner. You should lend support to him.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : I am making a submission to you because I have received several letters from those people. Today this scavenging staff is on strike and there are heaps of filth everywhere. Although an agreement was reached with them, still they have not received their wages. I want you to direct this Government to make some provision for these scavenging staff.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum) : The simple point is that it is being carried on one's head even today. I think it is the decision of the Government and there is a law also prohibiting the same. I am surprised to learn that this practice continues in some parts of the country.

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : It is there in Bengal also.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum) : I know that. The point is, this is an activity which is banned and which we have decided to eliminate from the country. If it is a matter relating to the State Governments, then this House should urge all the State Governments to fix a time-limit within which it will have to be abolished. It is a deplorable or situation to permit human beings to carry such headloads. So, this House should urge all the State Governments without interfering in their internal activities that they should fix a time-limit within which this is going to be abolished. Let us not enter the twenty-first century where people still carry this kind of headloads.

[Translation]

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : Sir, I fully support Shri Ram Vilas ji on the issue raised by him and through you want to submit to Defence Ministry that this practice of carrying night soil on head is still invogue in many Cantonment Boards. The Defence Ministry guides the nation in may areas. It is said here time and again that this practice continues because of paucity of funds. Therefore, I want that separate allocation should be made for this purpose, so that this practice is abolished at least in the Cantonment Boards under the Defence Ministry.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh) : It is true that if there is any blot on the Nation, it is this practice of carrying night soil of one person on head by another person. This issue has been raised in this House several times. Hon. Buta Singh is sitting here. He had raised this issue with great emotion. We had expectations when he headed scavenging staff commission. We hope that this Commission will be able to abolish this practice under a time bound programme. I don't mean a ten year time bound programme, but we expected that the country will get rid of this practice in a year or two. It

is not an impossible task. As Khanduri ji has said, this practice continued in Cantonments also. It is in practice in Nainital which is a tourist centre. This continues there also. We are greatly pained that this continues even today. The scavenging people are the poorest people. They are not accorded priority in the matter of housing, permanent service and education of their children.

Sir, I think a very important and vital question has been raised here. I shall appeal to the House that it should resolve and the Government should make a statement that this problem will be accorded priority, national priority and the practice will be abolished once for all within a specified period of time so that there is no occasion to raise this issue again in this House.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani) : Mr. Speaker, I support what my friend said. I would only say that Bihar is not far behind in the practice of carrying night soil on head. There also, the scavenging staff is not getting its wages for the last one and a half years. It is a matter of regret.

Sir, all the Members of Parliament are getting Rs.1 crore per year under MPs Area development schemes for their respective constituencies. I would suggest that all of us should make voluntary declaration that 10 per cent of this amount, that is Rs. 10 lakh, will be spent on managing Public Sanitary System so as to make it easy for State Government to achieve this target. It will also give weightage to our voice. I urge all the Members of Parliament to accept the suggestion unanimously.

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH (Bikram Ganj) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a very important issue and it is discussed in this House from time to time and everytime we take some decisions and vows but they are never implemented. Therefore, I would suggest that carrying night soil on head should be declared a cognizable offence. Such a law should be enacted here and the practice should be treated as cognizable offence.

Sir, this is not the question of a particular State. This practice is continuing in Central Jails, in old cities. I would request that the Central Government in collaboration with State Governments, should construct Sulabh Sauchayalas on large scale in towns and villages to put an end to this practice of carrying night soil on head.

SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI (Bijnore) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am also a member of National Commission for Safai Karmacharis. I am thankful to you for giving me time to speak on this issue. I had spoken on this subject in this House on 31st also when I presented a draft report before this House on the problems faced by the scavenging staff throughout the country. They are not getting their salaries. They are in a dilemma whether or not to continue to work. They have their Provident Fund, money and they do not know where the amount is deposited. They don't have any bank balance.

Sir, they are very much perturbed. I toured the entire country. The leaders of my party compelled me to accept the membership of this Commission. Sir, an honourable member from Bengal was speaking here. I have seen that the situation there is very bad but situation is worse in Bihar. When I visited Bihar I found that the scavengers colony was stinking and the filth discharged from temporary latrines was flowing in front of their homes. They are living in the same houses. Their plight is very pitiable.

Sir, the Commission was constituted on 12th August.

MR. SPEAKER : We will also ask you as to why the Commission has not worked.

SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI : Sir, the Commission has not been given powers. I would like to suggest that the tenure of this Commission should be extended and it should be given more powers because this Parliament's tenure will expire in 1996 and the Commission will also automatically wind up. While giving this Commission the teeth like any other Commission, the services of scavenging staff should be put under Central administration.

[English]

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat) : Sir, there has been a Commission appointed for the *Safai Karamcharis*. As a Member of this House, I have received some letters from the Commission. They say that proper arrangements have not been made as yet for the proper functioning of the Commission. Therefore, I would request the Government to provide facilities to them so that they can expedite their work and also take into account the question that has been referred to them. I think the Central Government has also got the responsibility. The Central Government should also prepare a Central Project and ask the State Government to extend financial assistance to implement the project so that this shameful and obnoxious system is abolished within a fixed time-table. Thank you very much, Sir.

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum) : Sir, I think the whole House is unanimous in regard to any proposal for stopping this obnoxious way of removal of night soil by human beings. If my information is correct - I may be corrected if I am wrong - when the *Safai Karamcharis Bill* was passed, a categorical assurance was given to the House that the removal of night soil by human beings would be stopped. This House was listening to that. I am surprised to learn now that this is still continuing. I request that the Government of India should also coordinate with all the State Governments. A message should go saying that at least by the end of this year, this should be stopped.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Sir, this problem should be viewed with seriousness in those States where this practice of carrying night soil on heads has not been abolished. The Chief Ministers of the

States should be called and this problem should be reviewed on priority basis. The Central Government should on its part issue directions for a time bound programme in this regard.

[English]

PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN (Mukundapuram) : Sir, here is a suggestion from an hon. Member that at least 10 per cent of the fund from the MPs' Local Area Development Scheme may be spent on the construction of public latrines and like that. I do welcome the suggestion. As a Member of Parliament, I had given instructions to the local authorities to spend more than Rs. 8 lakhs from the MPs' Local Area Development Scheme last year. It received a warm welcome from the beneficiaries as far as I know. So, it is better to suggest that at least 10 per cent of the fund from the MPs' Local Area Development Scheme may be spent on this Scheme. We could utilise that CRSP (Central Rural Family Programme) Scheme...*(Interruptions)*

AN HON. MEMBER : Sir, this House is unanimous over this issue...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Buta Singh has done a lot. Let him not speak now. It is not necessary.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA (Ferozabad) : Sir, it is a matter of shame that practice of carrying night soil on head still continues even after so many years of independence. The scavenging staff has not been paid salaries for 6-18 months. The Central Government cannot succeed in this matter by passing the buck on State Governments. As suggested by honourable Members, the Central Government should call a meeting of State Chief Ministers and direct them to abolish this practice forthwith.

Sir, it is a matter of shame that the scavenging staff is not getting salary while crores of rupees being misappropriated in various scandals.

MR. SPEAKER : It is the Municipality which has to pay this money.

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Sir, the Central Government should take an initiative in this matter.

MR. SPEAKER : You speak anything you like. This is not relevant.

[English]

SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA (Kolar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Shri Ram Vilas Paswan has mentioned about the night soil being carried by the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes people. In Kolar District, the Government have already taken steps to avoid that. We have already written a letter to the Chief Minister. The State Government have already taken steps in this regard. My friends have said that they have released Rs. 10 lakhs from the MP's quota to take necessary steps in this regard.

MR. SPEAKER : I think, a good point has been raised by Shri Ram Vilas Paswan and supported by many learned Members on which Buta Singhji has always been speaking and trying to do his best. One suggestion has been made by one of the Members saying that let the MPs' funds be used also to some extent, for this purpose. It is a good suggestion. It can be accepted by all of us. The MPs may, in groups, meet their Chief Ministers also and request them to do something in this respect.

The House would like to know what kind of action plans have been made in this respect and what level of success has been achieved. A comprehensive statement in this respect may be made by the Government before the House is adjourned *sine die*.

SHRI A. CHARLES : I am happy to say that in Kerala, this practice has been stopped years back. So there is no problem in Kerala.

MR. SPEAKER : There are problems.

SHRI BUTA SINGH : Sir, I have a very humble suggestion to make. You were very kind enough to give your direction to the House and to the Government.

MR. SPEAKER : I have just expressed my views and not the direction, please.

SHRI BUTA SINGH : I have a very humble submission to make that since the nation is celebrating the 125 birth anniversary of the Father of the Nation, let the nation make a commitment to the Father of the Nation that at least his birth place Porbandar will be cleared of this practice in this year, whether it is the State Government or the Central Government or whatever project will have to be launched, let us declare to the rest of the world that we have discontinued this practice at least from the birth place of the Father of the Nation.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Mr. Speaker, I wanted to speak with reference to...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : So much has been said on this subject and what more would you say in this context. You speak on the issue for which you have given notice of.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Sir, what I wanted to say is that the Government announces concessions on excise duty while presenting annual budget but the benefit of these concession do not percolate to consumers. As a result, the industrialist takes the advantage thereof. The goods are sold on the old printed rates. When you bring it to the notice of the Government, they say that they cannot take any action against industrialists because of loop holes in the law. Therefore, Sir, I, request the Government to ensure that the benefit of concessions given in excise duty since 1993-94 percolates to consumers. The law must include such a provision and stringent action should be taken against defaulting industrialists.

DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR (Nasik) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, just now the problem has been discussed partly, I will just go further to mention about the Central Rural Sanitation Programme which has been implemented in the rural areas to give sanitary facilities to the rural population.

I came across the Sixteenth Report of the Standing Committee on Urban and Rural Development and it is horrible to see the situation. As per the 1991 census, only about 2.5 per cent of the population has been provided with the rural sanitation latrines. Ladies in the villages cannot go out for the latrine after the sunrise; they have to go out before the sunrise or after the sunset, and that has created many problems, health problems. There is an unhygienic condition and the diseases are spreading because filth is thrown only on the streets. So, I think this is a problem in the rural areas. We have to provide maximum latrines in the rural areas. The Committee has observed that the outlay was about Rs.380 crore, but in four years, only 50 per cent of the outlay has been spent. Now I do not know how the Government is going to spend the remaining 50 per cent of the amount. The Committee has recommended that about Rs.300 crore should be sanctioned for 1995-96. But, there is no response from the Government. So, I urge that this Central Rural Sanitation Programme should be implemented in a more holistic manner to benefit all the rural population. There has to be a time-bound programme say for 5 to 10 years, so that all the population will get the hygienic latrines. There has to be an integrated approach to improve the hygienic conditions in the rural areas. The sanitary unit has been taken as a block. Instead of that, the sanitary unit should be taken as a village and in every village there should be a provision for the latrines. The awareness campaign has to be implemented on a war-footing and adequate funds must be provided for.

The System of Standing Committees is a good tradition you have started but the reports which are being tabled in the House is not being taken into account and the action taken by the concerned Department is not coming to the Parliament. So, I request you, Sir, to give a direction to the Government to implement this programme and to pay more attention to this programme. The Central Rural Sanitation Programme is the most important Centrally-sponsored programme...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Anbarasu, you are entering into a very delicate area. If you have definite information, you should speak about that. Otherwise, you should refrain from speaking because it is a matter between the two countries friendly relationship.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI R. ANBARASU (Madras Central) : I will not say anything which will affect...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Are you sure that your information is correct?

SHRI R. ANBARASU : Yes, I am sure, Sir.

But, I am really happy that the Government has taken a decision to review the deep sea fishing policy to provide safeguards and rights of the Indian fishermen for deep sea fishing. While appreciating the good initiative taken by the Government of India, I am very much concerned about the high-handed action of the Sri Lankan Navy killing the Tamil Nadu fishermen near Katchathevu on May, 20. Sir, on the one side, the Sri Lankan Navy authorities attack the innocent Tamil fishermen while they are engaged in deep sea fishing within the international territorial waters, on the other side, the L.T.T.E., the so-called custodian of Tamils, also attack the Tamil Nadu fishermen while they are fishing. Therefore, this is a double-sided attack against the innocent Tamil Nadu fishermen. Further, Sir, this is not an isolated incident, a number of such incidents had taken place. Therefore, Sir, these atrocities should be stopped forthwith only by taking proper steps by the Government of India.

Recently, the L.T.T.E. people have also captured some fishermen while they were fishing. As a ransom, they wanted 50 boats from Tamil Nadu which are kept there when they left India for Sri Lanka. The leaders of all political parties, irrespective of the political difference, made an appeal for adequate action against the atrocities committed on the Tamil Nadu fishermen.

Even the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has already brought this to the notice of the Government of India. Therefore, I urge upon the hon. Prime Minister to take immediate steps to restore the fishermen and also to pay adequate compensation to the victims.

Sir, there is also a suggestion to examine the possibility of joint patrolling by the Indian and Sri Lankan navy on the coastal area to prevent atrocities on Indian fishermen by Sri Lankan Navy as well as by LTTE terrorists. I, therefore, urge upon the hon. Prime Minister to take immediate steps to provide safeguards to the Indian fishermen as well as to pay compensation to those victims.

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN (Gobichettipalayam) : This is a very serious issue. The Indian fishermen, particularly the Tamil Nadu Fishermen have been attacked both by Sri Lankan Navy and the LTTE people. Their boats were often destroyed. This has been going on for a long time. The Government must come forward to take adequate steps to take up this matter with the Sri Lankan Government to stop these atrocities.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to draw the attention of the Government to a long pending request from the Gandhian Institute of Studies at Varanasi. The request is that this institute which was established about 25 years ago as a Centre for Gandhian Studies and for application of Gandhian philosophy and Gandhian concepts to contemporary problems in India and abroad. This institution which has been visited by a large number of

scholars from all over the world over the years and has published written books and research papers on the subject, has received almost no support from the Government.

The request is that it should be recognised in this year of the 125th anniversary of the Father of the Nation as a centre of national importance and granted the status by law, if necessary, so that it does develop into an international centre of Gandhian studies. Of course I have a little suggestion. Perhaps it could be better called as the International Institute of Gandhian Studies rather than the Gandhian Institute of Studies as it is called today. With that little modification, their request is pending with the Prime Minister and with the Ministry of Education. I hope it receives the most expeditious attention and quick action. Thank you very much.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : As a non-scholar I was also invited by them when JP was alive.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Nearly every top scholar in the country has visited that institution.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : I do feel that this is a very good suggestion.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : I hope the hon. Minister will respond to this suggestion.

[Translation]

SHRI MAHENDRA KUMAR SINGH THAKUR (Khandwa) : Sir, I want to invite the attention of the Government to the fact that the workers of about 125 NTC Mills have not been paid their wages for the last one month. As a result the law and order situation is deteriorating wherever the NTC Mills are located the workers have been agitating and therefore I will request the Government to look into it and resolve the problem.

[English]

DR. K.D. JESWANI (Kheda) : The Government of India has established a Malaria Research Centre in Nadiad in District Kheda of Gujarat which is my constituency area in 1987. That Centre is lying absolutely idle for the last two to three years. The Centre has acquired about 40 acres of precious land in the nearby village Pij and that good piece of land was donated by the villagers. Initially some activity was shown on the land. Fish ponds, some administrative blocks and a long compound wall were constructed. But thereafter, because of some departmental problems, the total functioning of the Centre is held up for the last two to three years.

Gujarat is the bed of malaria and that too falciparum malaria. This Centre could have done a very great help to Gujarat had it been functioning in full swing. I would like to urge upon the Government to activate this Centre or to convert it into a regional medical research centre from where the good services for Gujarat can be catered.

[Translation]

SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH (Buxar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, seven districts of Bihar depend for their irrigation on Sone Canal which was constructed by Britishers in 1864 and its life was determined for 100 years. But it has completed 125 years and its banks are in broken state. The channels are also breached. I have raised questions many times for the repair of this canal and the Government of India had promised in 1990 that it would be modernised. So far Rs. 2.36 crore have been repaired. This year also, monsoon will arrive after 1 month and if proper attention is not paid to it, crops on 25 lac acre land will get destroyed. Therefore, I request the Central Government to allocate 100 crore rupees to Bihar for repairing this Canal because the Government of India has sufficient funds. Government should sanction 100 crore rupees annually for the modernisation of Sone Canal....(Interruptions)...

[English]

SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE (Alleppey) : Sir, I wish to draw the attention of the House to a serious matter pertaining to deep sea fishing. The Minister of Food Processing has deliberately violated his own assurance given to the House.

Making a statement on the 15th December, 1994, the Minister assured the House that no more applications for deep sea fishing would be processed till the whole matter was reviewed. After making such a statement, the Minister has quietly given new licences. These were given while the entire country was exercised over the matter. Between 15th December, 1994 and 10th May, 1994, the Minister has given eight new licences. I would like to submit that this consists of sixteen foreign vessels under the charter system. The Minister has deliberately misled the House. I would urge the Government to make a statement. This is a serious matter. ....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I allowed a very long discussion on this. Let others also have their say.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, it is serious. That is why I have allowed last time. I was in the Chair then.

(Interruptions)

12.57 hrs.

*At this stage, Shri Thayil John Anjalose came and sat on the floor near the Table*

MR. SPEAKER : Okay, we will do something. I will ask the Minister to look into it.

12.58 hrs.

*At this stage, Shri Thayil John Anjalose went back to his seat*

SHRI ANNA JOSHI (Pune) : Sir, repeated atrocities by the Excise and Prohibition Department on one lakh

pardhis may compel them to convert themselves into another religion. The Excise and Prohibition Department scooped down simultaneously on five tribal settlements at various places in Nagpur district on February 3, 1995. ....(Interruptions) This raid was ostensibly meant to seize illicit liquor. The policemen ruthlessly beat up the pardhis including men, women and children looted their cash and molested their women. The different representatives of the Adivasi Pardhi Samaj Kalyan Samiti confirmed that the administration has tortured them in various ways....(Interruptions) Since the atrocities of the Government bodies are forcing them for conversion, the Government should immediately stop these harassments and compensate the people. I urge upon the Social Welfare Minister, through you, to look into the matter and make a statement in the House as early as possible ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I think, I will ask the Minister to look into it. You can meet him. It is not possible here.

(Interruptions)

SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE (Alleppey) : He has misled the House.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister you please invite him and have a discussion with him and help him to the extent possible for you.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Now, I am not going to do anything at all, after I have said this. Listen, this is going too far.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : If you are forcing your will on the House, it is not good. No, please.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The Finance Minister will reply to the debate today at about 4 p.m. And I think, all the Members would complete their speeches on the Finance Bill before that and may be we will complete this business.

Now, papers to be laid on the Table of the House.

13.00 hrs.

## PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

### Notification under Essential Commodities Act, 1955

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Vegetable Oil Products Control (Amendment) Order, 1955 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 138(E) in Gazette of India dated the 15th March, 1995, under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

[Placed in Library. See No LT 7666/95]

**Annual Report and Review on the working of  
Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education  
Dehradun for 1993-94**

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : On behalf of Shri Kamal Nath, I beg to lay on the Table :

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education, Dehra Dun, for the 1993-94, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education, Dehra Dun, for the year 1993-94.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 7667/95]

**Annual Report and Review on the working of  
Board of Apprenticeship Training (Southern Region)  
Madras for 1993-94 and Statement showing  
reasons for delay in laying these papers**

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : I beg to lay on the Table :

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Board of Apprenticeship Training (Southern Region) Madras, for the year 1993-94, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Board of Apprenticeship Training (Southern Region) Madras, for the year 1993-94.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No LT 7668/95]

- (3) (i) A copy of Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Sant Longowal Institute of Engineering and Technology, Longowal, for the year 1993-94, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Sant Longowal Institute of Engineering and Technology, Longowal, for the year 1993-94.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 7669/95]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Management, Lucknow, for the year 1993-94, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Management, Lucknow, for the year 1993-94.

- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 7670/95]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Karnataka Regional Engineering College, Surathkal, for the year 1993-94, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Karnataka Regional Engineering College, Surathkal, for the year 1993-94.

- (8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 7671/95]

- (9) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1 of section 619 A of the Companies Act, 1956 :

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Educational Consultants India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1993-94.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Educational Consultants India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1993-94, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (10) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (9) above.

[Placed in Library. See No LT 7672/95]

- (11) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Maintained Institutions of University of Delhi, for the year 1990-91, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (12) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (11) above.

[Placed in Library. See No LT 6773/95]

(13) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Maintained Institutions of University of Delhi, for the year 1991-92, together with Audit Report thereon.

(14) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (13) above.

[Placed in Library. See No LT 7674/95]

(15) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, for the year 1993-94, together with Audit Report thereon, under sub-section (4) of section 28 of the Jamia Millia Islamia Act, 1988.

(16) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (15) above.

[Placed in Library. See No LT 7675/95]

(17) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi, for the year 1992-93, together with Audit Report thereon.

(18) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (17) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 7676/95]

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I will hear Shri Munda's point of order.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Munda, what is your point of order?

SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA MUNDA (Keonjhar) : Sir, I am a respectable Member of this House. Sometimes, so many Members criticise me. Why? It is because I am a Member of Parliament and a tribal. I have been in politics for 46 years. What do they know about this? They are not understanding me still now. Therefore I humbly pray that you may please help me. This is the august House. I am very sorry that I am crying. I am crying and we are helpless. We are the tribal people in India. Who will help us?

MR. SPEAKER : I will help you.

SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA MUNDA ( Keonjhar) : Thank you, Sir. That is what I want.

MR. SPEAKER : I declare in the House that whenever Mr. Munda gets up and says something on questions and other things, he makes very good points and we appreciate that effort.

13.02 hrs.

## STATEMENT BY MINISTERS

### (i) Price Policy for Copra

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR) : The Government of India has fixed the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for Fair Average Quality (FAQ) of milling copra at Rs. 2500 per quintal and that of FAQ variety of ball copra at Rs. 2725 per quintal for 1995 season. This marks an increase of Rs. 150 per quintal of MSP for both milling and ball copra in 1995 over their respective MSPs of the previous season. The increase in MSPs is expected to induce the copra growers to invest more and raise the productivity and production of copra.

### (ii) Plight of Sugarcane Growers of Uttar Pradesh due to non-payment of their dues by the Sugar Mills

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of Statement (Hindi and English versions) on plight of sugarcane growers of Uttar Pradesh due to nonpayment of their dues by the sugar mills.

On the basis of the information furnished by sugar mills, the arrears of cane price in the State of U.P. relating to last four sugar seasons (including the current season), as on 31st March of each season, were as under :

(Rs. in lakhs)			
Sugar Season (As on 31st March)	Total Cane Price Payable for that Season	Cane Price Arrears	Percentage of Arrears over total Payable
1991-92	93549.55	24507.34	26.20
1992-93	110483.86	27414.09	24.81
1993-94	143089.58	12478.68	8.72
1994-95	1784479.86	21871.38	12.25

In addition, cane price arrears of Rs. 337.68 lakhs, relating to cane price dues of earlier seasons, is also pending in respect of sugar factories of U.P.

As per the Sugarcane (Control) Order issued under the Essential Commodities Act, the Central Government fixes the Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) for sugarcane below which no sugar factory can pay. However, in practice, the farmers are being paid State Advised Price (SAP) of sugarcane which are substantially higher than SMP.

The responsibility for ensuring timely payments of cane price dues lies with the State Governments, who have the necessary powers and field organisations to enforce such payments. The Central Government, on its part, has been advising State Governments from time to time to expedite clearance of cane price arrears.

The Hon'ble Member has expressed concern about the cane price arrears of two sugar factories of U.P., namely, Padrauna and Kathkuiyan. In this connection, the position in this regard, as received from the ministry of Textiles, is as follows :

The British India Corporation Ltd., has two associate companies, namely, M/s. Cawnpore Sugar Works Ltd. and M/s. Champaran Sugar Company Ltd. The Cawnpore Sugar Works Ltd. has four sugar factories, there located in East U.P. in the Districts of Padrauna/Deoria, namely, Padrauna Sugar Branch, Kathkuiyan Sugar Factory Branch and Gauribazar Sugar Factory Branch. One factory in the distt. of Saran. Champaran Sugar Company has two sugar factories located in the Districts of East and West Champaran, namely, Barrah Factory Branch and Chanpatia Factory Branch in Bihar.

The position of cane price arrears of sugar factories of Cawnpore Sugar Works Ltd. as on 28.04.1995 is as under :

(Figures In Lakhs)

	Marhowrah Bihar	Cauri U.P.	Padrauna U.P.	Kathkuiyan U.P.	Total
Cane dues 1994-95 as on 28.4.1995	492.35	389.94	2,397.49	1,076.47	4,356.25
Previous outstanding	102.67	100.47	6.21	2.37	211.07
<b>Total outstanding</b>	<b>595.02</b>	<b>490.41</b>	<b>2,403.70</b>	<b>1,078.84</b>	<b>4,567.32</b>
Payment made upto 2.5.1995	213.50	140.00	1,316.00	600.00	2,269.50
<b>Balance</b>	<b>381.52</b>	<b>350.00</b>	<b>1,087.70</b>	<b>478.84</b>	<b>2,297.82</b>

Since the net worth of Cawnpore Sugar Works Ltd. had gone negative, a reference was made to the BIFR for rehabilitation under Section 15 of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985. BIFR declared the company a sick industrial company within the meaning of the said Act. The BIFR in the hearing held on 21st March, 1995 has approved the transfer of the management to M/s. Shreeram Industrial Enterprises Ltd., New Delhi vide order dated 21.03.1995. However, the revised rehabilitation scheme is still awaited. Therefore, the implementation of the revised rehabilitation scheme could not be carried out so far.

It has been reported that the State Bank of India had agreed to provide need based working capital to the proposed new management and, therefore, on implementation of the scheme, the position of cane price payments is likely to improve as factories are having stocks over and above the sanctioned Cash Credit Limit on which the State Bank of India has not given any advance.

Since the point has been raised with special reference to cane price arrears of certain sugar factories in Uttar Pradesh, I would like to mention that there are statutory provisions in U.P. which enable tagging of a percentage of the money advanced by banks on the security of the sugar produced or to be produced by sugar mills, exclusively for the purpose of payment of cane price dues to farmers. Under Sub-section 5 of Section 17 of the U.P. Sugarcane (Regulation of Supply and Purchase) Act, 1953, the agreement which is entered into by sugar factories with banks to avail of advance against security of sugar shall contain a provision for setting apart a percentage of the total amount of advance, to be available only for payment of cane price dues to growers. It has also been provided in the aforesaid Act that arrears of cane price can be recovered as if it were an arrear of land revenue by the Collector on receiving a recovery certificate from the Cane Commissioner of the State. If these statutory provisions are strictly followed by the U.P. Government, a substantial portion of sugarcane price arrears can be wiped out. Such a step would also help in providing an inbuilt strength and stability to this vital sector of the rural economy.

Central Government is fully aware of the consequences of building up of cane price arrears and is therefore keeping a close watch on the cane price dues of the sugar factories to ensure that they are cleared expeditiously. In this regard, I have recently written to the Chief Ministers of all the concerned States to ensure that appropriate action is taken to enforce cane price payments to the growers of the sugar mills.

13.05 hrs.

## BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### Fiftieth Report

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN (Gobichettipalayam) : I beg to move :

"That this House do agree with the Fiftieth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 22nd May, 1995."

MR. SPEAKER : This question is :

"That this House do agree with the Fiftieth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 22nd May, 1995."

*The motion was adopted.*

13.06 hrs.

**RICE-MILLING INDUSTRY (REGULATION)  
REPEAL BILL\***

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to repeal the Rice-Milling Industry (Regulation) Act, 1958.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to repeal the Rice-Milling Industry (Regulation) Act, 1958.

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI TARUN GOGOI : I introduce the Bill.

13.07 hrs.

**MATTERS UNDER RULE 377**

**(i) Need to Direct NABARD to Remove Discrepancies in the Prices of Pumpsets in Orissa**

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA (Balasore) : Farmers are the backbones of our country. But sometimes we neglect them. We are not actually sincere to their problems. They are suffering for want of common price index for purchase of pump-sets. NABARD is also to be vigilant to check such sufferings by the farmers. In Orissa, pump-sets are being sold at a higher price. It is Rs. 3,000/- to Rs. 5,000/- more in price in comparison to that of other States especially neighbouring States of Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal. The farmers have to pay more unnecessarily. They have also brought it to the notice of NABARD but on remedial measures have been taken so far.

I would, therefore, request the Union Government to intervene in the matter and direct the NABARD to take immediate appropriate action to remove this sort of discrepancy.

**(ii) Need to Clear Proposals from Kerala Government to set up Export Promotion Industrial Park**

PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN (Mukundapuram) : Sir, the Ministry of Commerce formulated a new scheme for establishment of Export Promotion Industrial Parks in various States. The scheme envisages the establishment of Parks consisting of units which will export at least 25 per cent of their production. The Ministry of Commerce would give Rs. 10 crore or 75 per cent of the cost of infrastructure whichever is less. The

\* Published in Gazette of India, Extraordinary Part II, Section 2, dated 23.5.95.

remaining cost will be met by the State Governments from their own resources and by taking term loans from financial institutions.

Kerala Government has sent a proposal for establishing an Export Promotion Industrial Park in Ernakulam District at a total cost of Rs. 26 crore as early as in October, 1993. The State Government also released funds for purchase of land to the Kerala Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporation. Another proposal for establishing an Export Promotion Industrial Park for export oriented electronics and software companies with a total project cost of Rs. 18.9 crore is also pending with the Union Government. I, therefore, urge upon the Government to clear these proposals immediately to avoid any loss to the exchequer.

**(iii) Need to set up Agro Based Industries in Saharsa and Supaul Districts of Bihar**

[Translation]

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV (Sahasra) : The people of Saharasa and Supaul districts of North Bihar are facing many problems because of non-setting up of industries in these districts. This is the most backward area and the poor people of this area migrate to far-off places of the country to earn their livelihood. The youth of this area is deprived of education and employment. The Government can earn maximum profit by setting up Industrial units particularly agro-based industries and food processing units in this area.

I, therefore request that Government of India should take necessary steps towards the setting up of Industrial units in Saharasa and Supaul districts of Bihar so as to ensure employment to local people and to develop this backward area. I have raised several questions in this regard earlier also but it appears that no action has been taken so far. Therefore, I request that Industrial units should be set up there by according the area a special status.

The State Government has also sent to the Central Government a proposal for setting up a Sugar Mill.

**(iv) Need to Clear the Proposals from Madhya Pradesh for cleaning Polluted Rivers in the State**

DR. SATYNARAYAN JATIYA (Ujjain) : There is a special need to implement the action plan to clean river waters. The Central Government have been making important announcements in this regard from time to time but no time-bound programme has been chalked out for effective implementation of the plan. Announcements are often made about the utility of these schemes but appropriate and effective measures are not taken to achieve the target.

The Madhya Pradesh Government has also formulated river water cleaning schemes and forwarded them to Central Government and they are pending for approval for the last many years. It is very necessary to clean and make pollution free the rivers of Madhya Pradesh namely, Kshipra, Narmada, Chambal and Shivana. Drinking water is also supplied from these rivers.

I, will therefore, request the Central Government to accord immediate approval to various river water cleaning schemes submitted by various States including Madhya Pradesh which have been pending for approval for several years.

**(v) Need to Open LPG Outlets in Ashta, Shirala, Patan and Ubraj Towns of Maharashtra**

[English]

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN (Karad) : Sir, the pressure of population growth has caused a major problem of shortage of cooking fuel. Strict enforcement of Forest Conservation Act has virtually eliminated forest fire wood as a source of fuel.

There is urgent need to start LPG outlet in following place in my Lok Sabha constituency of Karad: Ashta in Sangli district which is a municipal town, Shirala, in Sangli district — Tahsil headquarter, Patan, in Satara district — also a Tahsil headquarter, and Ubraj in Satara district — a major trading centre.

I request the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas to start LPG outlets in these four centres in my Constituency in Maharashtra at the earliest.

**(vi) Need to provide Air Links Between Bareilly (U.P.) and other Metro Cities**

[Translation]

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly) : Bareilly is a prominent industrial centre of West Uttar Pradesh where major industrial organisations like IFFCO fertilizer factory, synethetics and chemicals, camphor slide products, WIMCO, IWP, three sugar mills etc. are there. And their head-quarters are in Delhi, Bombay and Calcutta. The Central Government has decided to develop Bareilly as a counter-Magnet city keeping in view the suitability of this town. The country famous Jain Temple is located in Bareilly and it is the nodal point for famous tourism centre Nainital; it is the Mandi for Kumaon and Garhwal region. But Bareilly has not been connected with air service, as a result, the tourists, passengers and industrial heads experience great inconvenience. Bareilly is being industrialised with great speed. The absence of air service is creating hurdles. I have also met the Hon. Minister with the request of connecting Bareilly by air service. He has given an assurance also. Therefore, I will request the Central

Government that keeping in view the utility of Bareilly, all effective steps should be taken to connect Bareilly with air service on priority basis.

**(vii) Need to Extend Reservation Benefits to Muslims in the country**

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI (Darbhanga): Sir, many schemes are in operation for social uplift and economic development of backward classes and Harijans. The Government is paying special attention to their needs. The Muslim community in India still deprived of proper development and it is very backward from economic and social point of view. This particular community is not being developed and is backward in many areas.

I, therefore request the Government to make provisions for reservation for this particular community on population ratio basis so as to enable them to make their economic and social development.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now, the House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.15 p.m.

13.11 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Fifteen Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

[English]

14.21 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Twenty-one minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

(Mr. Deputy-Speaker in the Chair)

**FINANCE BILL, 1995**

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Inder Jit Ji, one minute please. Shri Panigrahi wants to go to some meeting. So, if you could just accommodate him, I call his name.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I have the pleasure to support the Finance Bill for the year 1995. Since time is very limited for me, I would just deal with some points and leave the rest points.

Sir, there are several welcome features in this year's Budget. This Budgetary process is going to get completed today with the adoption of the Finance Bill by this House. In 1991, when this Government came into power, the Indian economy was in disarray. A lot of efforts have been made to bring the economy on a right path. Economic reforms are going on speedily and are also yielding results.

Sir, I feel, the period from 1st April to 31st March, which has been chosen as the financial year is not suitable in the Indian context. As you know, we have a strong monsoon season which generally commences from the 15th of June and continues upto to October. Even today it is said that Indian Budget is a journal on the monsoon. This is because we have not yet advanced very much in the field of irrigation. Thus, this saying holds good even today. Very recently, some parts of the country, namely Orissa, Andhra Pradesh have experienced prolonged torrential rains which, in turn, have caused havoc. Nobody knows what will happen? The people are reasonably apprehensive about a possible dry spell during the monsoon season. It is in this context that this choosing of the financial year from April 1st to March 31, following the practice of the other countries, would not help in this country.

India is predominantly an agricultural country. Agriculture is the mainstay of our economy. The period of the financial year should be chosen so as to correspondingly match the agricultural year or the crop year or the procurement year or whatever that may be. In that case, a lot of additional time would also be available for development activities in the field. Now, what happens is that by the time the Budget is passed, the various provisions of the Budget percolate down to the lower level and real work starts, we are somewhere in the last part of May or first part of June, that is, just on the verge of the onset of the monsoon season.

The work again gets disrupted till the month of November. So, in this way it should be given a thought to.

I am not going into the details of so many exemptions given in the field of income tax. However, I would like to make some suggestions. Since computers have been introduced in different fields, I think we can introduce permanent card system for the income tax assesses. I think it is also time to shift from the present Modvat system to Value Added Tax system.

The present Government is quite responsive. The Finance Minister has listened to the various suggestions made by hon. Members during discussion on the General Budget and has come up with amendments to the Finance Bill, which was presented together with the General Budget on the 15th of March. People from all sections of life have welcomed this Budget. It is a growth oriented Budget laying special emphasis on employment generation, poverty alleviation and rural development. These are the thrust areas of the Budget. While on the one hand it is welcomed by all, on the other hand people also criticise it saying that it is a pre-election Budget and a populist Budget. If there is some big dose of taxation, people say that it is an anti-people Budget. And if people like the Budget, they say that it is a

populist Budget. The point is, in whatever way the Budget is presented, it is subject to criticism by the Opposition Members.

I have a number of points to make but since you have put the time ceiling, I would not like to prolong my speech. The recommendations contained in the Tenth Finance Commission Report, which has already been presented though it is yet to be debated on the floor of the House, amount to blatant injustice to the backward State of Orissa. The natural calamity that we just had in Orissa can be called as a national calamity. But as per the Tenth Finance Commission Report the cut under the Calamity Relief Fund is coming to about Rs. 46 crore annually. There is an increase of nine per cent compared to the Ninth Finance Commission report, whereas for a State like Rajasthan there is 162 per cent increase and for Andhra Pradesh the increase is 142 per cent.

Orissa is a backward State, which is known as the home State of natural calamities. Flood, drought and cyclone visit the State of Orissa every year. Some time they come one after another and some time to make the life miserable for the people of Orissa, all of them come together. Orissa is the State which has maximum number of people living below the poverty line. As per the report of UNESCO, Orissa and Bihar are the two States which come first not only in India but in the whole world as far as hunger is concerned. I think this is something on which we should hang our heads in shame. How can such a State manage the affairs if only Rs. 46 crore are made available annually to meet the natural calamities?

This is an injustice being done. Orissa is lagging behind in the matter of per capita allotment of assistance. I would request the hon. Finance Minister — he is not here but Mr. Murthy is here who can convey it to him and the Government — to see that this issue is raised in the Finance Commission. We have to go in for balanced development of all regions and considering that point of view there is a lot of scope for improvement in our Budget and in our approach.

Sir, regarding the fertilizers some thing is being done to revive the sick public sector units but allocation done is not very satisfactory this year. Sir, we cannot depend on the world market to get fertilizers of the required quantities. India is a huge country. Even if you approach the international market with money backing it may so happen that it may not be available in required quantity. We have to try to achieve self-sufficiency to the extent possible in the field of fertilizers. There are several fertilizer plants, one in Talcher, another in Ramagundam and so many other plants, and with little bit of financial assistance they can be run very well which should be done.

Sir, I will close my speech with one point about banking sector. There have been so many poverty alleviation programmes like Jawahar Rozgar Yojna, and

Prime Minister Rozgar Yojna. Selection of beneficiaries for such schemes is done at the district level. It is done in the meetings attended by the District Collector and the representatives of the banks. Sir, it is surprising, it is a matter of regret, it is disgraceful that having agreed to the lists they are going back later on. They go back upon their own recommendation which they agree to, when it comes to the question of making payment. However, in many cases they are financing. We have to see that whatever they agree to is implemented by them.

Sir, the idea, the concept of rural banks is becoming irrelevant. There has to be life in the banking sector. So many other things are there, but I would not like to speak more today on this. I would, once again, request the Government through you, to give their consideration to these aspects regarding the backward States like Orissa which are often being visited by natural calamities making people's lives miserable, and worse. After all human suffering should get the primary consideration. That way the Tenth Finance Commission recommendations should be revised to see as to how they can do it. In the instant case, the calamities that have befallen Orissa should be declared as national calamities so that the Government also can locate funds under different heads and can effectively meet the deteriorating situation there. As I said earlier, this budget is a landmark budget. Fiscally, this is a very prudent budget with many concessions offered in it. It is a step further in our journey of liberalisation. To achieve our cherished goal, so many provisions are there in it. But we have also to see that the mention of humane face is there in the budget.

I will conclude, Sir, after I mention the point of Income Tax provisions. The Income Tax ceiling is raised now from Rs. 35,000/- to Rs. 40,000/-. The demand is there but, I feel, in a country where we have reconciled ourselves with the poverty and living in the midst of poverty, where about 40 per cent people live below the poverty line — in some States it is 45 per cent, and for the country as a whole the figure is 25 per cent which is also disputed and debatable — where we are having this sort of income they should share something, a part of their salary with the downtrodden people.

Sir, about the industrial labour I was making a reference in the Zero Hour the other day. There is reasonable demand, a long-standing demand of the industrial labour force for increase in the ceiling limit on bonus payment.

Sir, everybody is getting Rs. 1500. Of course, the inflation rate is causing concern to all of us. The inflation rate is again coming down. It has come down to below two-digit level. You have to keep this inflation rate further down.

Now, I will come to the demand of the industrial workers for raising the ceiling limit and also making available to them the facility of pension regardless of their contribution towards the Provident Fund. A decision had been taken regarding this. A Bill is pending. It has got to be expedited. Another decision had been taken and announced regarding creation of slab system for Dearness Allowance. That has also got to be expedited.

With these few words, I support the Finance Bill and I also thank you, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, profusely for having given me an opportunity to speak out of turn. I also thank my esteemed colleague Shri Inderjit for having accommodated me.

[Translation]

SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA MUNDA (Keonjhar) :  
Mr. Speaker, Sir you just heard about Orissa.

[English]

If there is a BJP-ruled Government there, what would have they done? In the name of Orissa, you are all playing with democracy. Sir, the Opposition Leaders are here and they are listening to us. They have got higher responsibility compared to us in Orissa. They should have come and seen the problems of Orissa.

[Translation]

You should know about the problems of Orissa.

[English]

This is our House. I also know that in democracy, the Opposition has got higher responsibility compared to Government. We are only Members belonging to Treasury Benches. So, you have every responsibility to see that our country progresses. But you are just playing with us. Please do not play with us. Mr. Advani is here. I know he is our 'President'. Mr. Vajpayee is a very good gentleman. He is my 'Prime Minister'. I know him. But they are not looking after the interests of Orissa. Why are they not looking after the interests of Orissa? Only during elections they used to come to Orissa. Please excuse me for saying so. So, they should see that our country progresses. We have a population of more than 85 crores. What are you doing here? You are just sitting and watching. You are not doing anything. You are playing with us. I again say that please do not play with us. If you play with us, then we will also start playing with you. So, you should serve our country. If you serve our country, then, many people will follow you. Mr. Jaswant Singh is here. He is my Chairman. In democracy, we are the Members belonging to the Treasury Benches and you are the administrators. But you do not know what an administration is.

I was a Minister in Orissa for four or five years. So, I will teach you what you people should do. You are all

educated people. You are a set of loyan men. You do not know what is what. So, I again tell you that you shall have to see and solve the problems faced by the people of India.

\*SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Bombay South Central) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, with your permission, I would like to speak in Marathi. According to the World Bank Report, the population of India in 1990 was 90 crores. According to Registrar General of India, the population of India would be 101 crores by 2000. So, the biggest obstacle in the path of development is enormous growth of population. This Government never made any attempt to check the growth of population. That is why the number of unemployed persons which is more than 2 crores now is bound to increase to 10 crores by 2000 A.D. The Government indulged in politics of religion and never considered national interest above narrow political gains. Religious interest has come in the way of checking population. The Government should, therefore, seriously consider the issue of checking population growth.

In 1980, the number of sick industrial units in the country were 23,500. In 1990, it was 21000 while in 1993-94, their total number was 3 lakh 96 thousands. More than one crore persons are unemployed due to these sick industrial units. The Government has introduced new economic policy. But in the competitive industrial growth, this policy will ultimately result in shrinking of employment opportunities thereby giving rise to huge unemployment. In many places lay offs are effected and compulsory retrenchment scheme is being implemented. As many industrial units cannot face the competition of multi-national companies, they are on the verge of closure. That is why the scheme of compulsory retrenchment is sure to be implemented.

Just now, Hon. Member Shri Panigrahi said that more than 22% of our population lives below the poverty line. But the Budget formulated by this Government is not meant to take care of this Section of population but it is meant to provide luxuries to affluent section of our society. But this Government has never tried to control the rising prices of essential commodities like milk, pulses, rice, foodgrains etc. There are many children in the country who have died for want of milk. Therefore, it is the duty of the Government to bring down the price of milk to Rs. 2/- per litre. Only then the poor children and poor people can survive in this country.

As there is National Food Security in America, similarly National Food Security should be implemented in our country as well. The Government should exercise control over the prices of sugar, cereals, pulses, milk and other essential commodities. But unfortunately, sugar lobby and other lobbies are surrounding Dr. Manmohan Singh and Narasimha Rao Government.

\* Translation of the Speech, Originally delivered in Marathi poor children and poor people can survive in this country.

These lobbies are not allowing this Government to take this step. That is why it has become difficult for a common man to survive.

Late Rajiv Gandhiji had announced that his Government would control prices within 100 days: I am telling this because you always chant the name of Rajiv Gandhi. But the prices never came down. As time is short at my disposal, I cannot give all figures. But compared to 1991, the prices have gone up 10 times. Prices of foodgrains and all other essential commodities have gone up. Rice which was selling at Rs. 2.86 a kg has gone up to Rs. 8/- a kg. There is similar increase in respect of other essential commodities.

The Government is bent upon destroying small industrial units. The Government has not announced exemption in respect of all small scale units. It has announced exemption in respect of some units but some other units have been omitted. The Bank rates are ranging between 25% and 30%. I do not know why the Government is not in a position to control bank rates. I have recently submitted a representation in this regard. I want to request that units like electrical wiring etc. which have not been given exemption should be granted exemption so that they can survive. It will also give boost to cottage industr.

Sir, the time at my disposal is short. But, I want to make a few points. Government has taken over Scindia Industry. But the workers in this company have not got wages for 7 years. Through you, I would like to request that these workers should be given wages immediately. Workers of Mazgaon Dock are also unemployed for the past 4 years. I do not know what is the intention of the Government. Does the Government want that these workers should be thrown out of employment? The Government says that it would protect the workers. But even after working for 240 days, the workers are not regularised. Therefore, the workers are on the verge of unemployment now.

In conclusion, I would like to refer to textile mills of Bombay. I congratulate the Government for bringing forward the scheme of modernisation. The Government should introduce this scheme without delay. But today, the workers are sitting idle. But as raw materials and working capital are not supplied to workers, they are not getting work. You are destroying their ability to work. The Government has said that it would accept the decision of the Supreme Court. Large number of workers of Kohinoor Mill are jobless since 1994. The Supreme Court has given a verdict that they should be reinstated and their dues should be paid. So, I request that jobless workers of Kohinoor Mill and other NTC Mills should be reinstated.

This Government has done injustice to the city of Bombay Delhi Administration and Delhi Police hav..

said that even a domestic servant who is seeking work should be registered and his photograph and address should be obtained. The burden on the city of Bombay is ever increasing. According to the Constitution, a citizen of the country can go and settle anywhere in the country. But where should people of Bombay go? Electricity, water, roads, schools and other civic amenities are limited. The incoming population is imposing huge burden on the city of Bombay. This Government is getting revenue to the tune of Rs. 17,000 crores from the city of Bombay. I want to know whether the Government intends to convert this great commercial city into a slum. Therefore, I want to request that every person who is coming to Bombay should register himself and a card should be issued to him and card-system should be started in Bombay. While the Government is getting a revenue of Rs. 17,000 crores from the city of Bombay, the Government is giving only 9 crores for this city and Rs. 50 crores for the improvement of slums. More than 50 lakh people live in slums. That is why the Government should increase the allocation for slum improvement.

There was Sugar Scandal sometime back. The Government asks STC to import Sugar. But I do not know why STC is not allowed to export Sugar. But while importing sugar, STC faces loss. Since STC is a public undertaking, proper balance of export and import can be maintained and loss can be avoided. But the Government is allowing Sugar lobbies and private business lobbies to export sugar. That is why there is no control on sugar prices. If raw sugar is imported and refined here, it can prove to be economical. Sugar factories which run for only 4 months can run for a longer period. Even though, STC had stocks of more than 3000 lakh metric tonnes, STC imported sugar at costlier price i.e. at a higher price of Rs. 805 a tonne. In this manner, the Government is trying to wreck the economy of the nation. This money could have been saved. That is why we must maintain the stocks of sugar. You say that crop of sugarcane is good. But, when the crop is good for last 4 years, why do you not have stock of sugar. You can stock wheat, rice etc. why do not you stock sugar? If you had stocked sugar, there would not have been need to pay 450 dollars extra.

Sir, please allow me to make my last point. You can give relief to the common man by increasing exemption limit of Income Tax upto Rs. 60,000/-. This will also help the Government as there will be better tax recovery and Government can pay attention to recovery of tax from black marketeers and hoarders who are defrauding the Government for crores of rupees. The Government can gear up its entire machinery for catching the bigger culprits.

I am thankful to you, Sir, for giving me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

SHRI INDER JIT (Darjeeling) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I have great pleasure in supporting the Finance Bill. The Finance Minister, Dr. Monmohan Singh, deserves our grateful thanks for having pulled back the economy from the brink of financial disaster. The economic reforms have brought about an upswing in the economy. Foreign Exchange reserves have risen. Exports have grown in dollar terms. The rupee continued to remain stable and has been made convertible on Current Account. But, Sir, even as I support the Finance Bill, I would like to share with this House in the limited time available to me a few concerns and disappointments.

Sir, in today's increasingly globalised economy, liberalisation of economic and industrial policies is an essential prerequisite if India is to enter the mainstream of international trade and investments. From this viewpoint, our liberalised policies are undoubtedly in the right direction. However, Sir, the time has come for honest stocktaking. Some hard questions need to be asked sooner than later.

First, what is the basic objective of India's liberalised policies? Is it to promote foreign direct investment as an end in itself? If so, despite the inflow of investments in the production of low-priority consumption goods, India lags far behind China and Indonesia.

Second, is it our objective to promote exports through increased foreign participation? This does not appear to have yielded any great result so far. Importantly, increased foreign direct investment has primarily been in sectors concentrating on production for the domestic market.

Third, is our policy designed to strengthen Indian enterprise through promotion of strategic alliances and partnerships? There is relatively little evidence of this also. Or, fourth, is our liberalised policy aimed at all these objectives?

Perhaps, the last question provides, Sir, the correct answer. If so, certain changes and fine tuning are urgently required in our policies. Experience of market-oriented policies over the last decade clearly highlights the key role of Selective State Intervention, and I repeat Selective State Intervention, in channelling industrial investments not only in certain sectors and directions but also in certain locations.

We need to learn from the experience of at least three South-Asian Tigers — South Korea, Singapore and Taiwan. Effective State Intervention and support played a crucial role in these fast developing economies of South-East Asia. In South Korea, it took the form of developing local 'chaevols' into gigantic conglomerates such as Hyundai, Samsung and Daewoo. In Taiwan, it resulted in the spectacular growth of electronic giants

such as Arec and Mitac. In Singapore, it resulted in the growth of a wide range of precision and electronics manufacture and financial service operations.

In India, Sir, with our strong institutional infrastructure and vibrant private sector, we should be able to do as well if not better than any of these countries. Yet, we continue to be far behind why? The question that needs to be asked is: what is it that requires to be done?

In my view, a selective policy needs to be adopted regarding foreign direct investment in the first instance. We should certainly welcome foreign investments, including even wholly-owned subsidiaries in several manufacturing fields, particularly transport equipment and other capital goods. Secondly, we should not give anything more than low priority and I repeat, Sir, we should not give anything more than low priority to purely consumer goods products such as soft drinks, breakfast foods, potato chips and fast foods. True, one cannot retrace decisions in this regard. But in the future, greater selectivity needs to be exercised. Thirdly, there should be closer consultations with the private sector - not with any one particular group, but with various representative associations. There should be greater transparency as to what the Government wants to achieve and what it expects of the private sector, especially from major industrial groups in various fields.

This brings one to the question of infrastructure, particularly electric power generation, communications and transport. All these are woefully inadequate at present. Yet, the entry of a group of foreign companies into the field of power generation has understandably become a matter of sharp controversy. The issues in this regard need to be understood and appreciated. These are economic, not ideological. Today when foreign companies are already playing a key role in telecommunications, why should there be objection when they enter the power generation sector. The answer lies more in the manner in which the Enron power deal has been negotiated. While there was a high degree of transparency in the telecom arrangements, sadly the same is not true of the mega-power contracts. After all, is global bidding not an essential requirement of all international contracts, irrespective of other considerations? Why was such a provision not sought to be incorporated? If there is inadequate experience of such "Build-and-Operate Deals", we should surely have utilized the services of international Indian experts or organizations. Such an approach would have helped avoid the criticism that such deals are likely to face and the negative impact that this may well have.

The basic purpose of liberalization of industrial policies should be to help the Indian private sector to expand rapidly and achieve competitive capability in

several fields. There are two essential requirements for this. Firstly, our technologies must be competitive. Existing products and processes are old and outmoded and require major upgrading which, in turn, requires foreign participation. Secondly, quality control and standardization are of major importance, following the Uruguay Round Agreements. Unless the Indian private sector can produce a wide range of goods and services on a competitive basis, the principal benefit of liberalization will only accrue to foreign companies and multinational corporations. So India's private sector should be enabled to expand and become vigorous.

Sir, with the present day global developments, the role of the Government is changing rapidly, both in terms of promotional initiatives and regulatory responsibilities. These require a new type and range of specialization where our bureaucrats have had little experience so far. With little interchange of personnel between the Government and the private sector and with specialized services in growing demand, such as, for privatisation or regulation of privatized monopolies or in negotiating Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) contracts, it is again necessary to consider whether selective selection should be made of a group of middle or top-level experts for help in some of these fields. Greater inflow of specialized talent and expertise is essential in the higher echelons, if the government is to discharge its new and fast-changing responsibilities. Earlier concepts such as having an Economic Pool at Centre must be viewed as being a little too rigid for today's needs. We should seriously consider the alternative of selective recruitment of senior experts in specialized fields on a short-term basis for two to three years at a time.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I feel gravely concerned about such aspects of liberalization as I have just sought to raise. We should, no doubt, globalize our economy. But this must be done on our terms and in the long-term interest of our people and the country. We need to be clear that the MNCs i.e. the multinational corporations are mainly interested in our huge market and not in charity. We must take immediate and effective steps to safeguard both the present and long-term interest of our poverty-stricken millions, and of the basic requirement of moving towards a regionally balanced economic growth and of achieving crucial self-reliance.

15.00 hrs.

The Multinational Corporations must not be permitted to massively loot and gang-rape our country. I am not saying that this has already happened. By many friends across the political spectrum feel that this is already beginning to happen! We must take due note of the fact that the policies advocated and virtually imposed by the World Bank and the IMF have resulted in de-industrialisation of most countries of black Africa

and also of de-agriculturalisation of most countries of Latin America. We need to sit up and ensure that we do not fall in the same trap and become de-industrialised and de-agriculturalised. Our future is at stake. We can ignore this grim warning conveyed to me by well-meaning Indian experts in the U.S. and elsewhere abroad, only at our peril and that of the hard-won economic independence of our country.

I now like to turn to the basic and crucial issue of prices. I am glad that the Government is concerned about the increase in prices, especially of articles of mass consumption. The Government proposes to pursue the twin objectives of ensuring adequate availability and fair prices, with extra concessions for the poor. I do earnestly hope that the World Bank and the IMF are not creating any problem in view of their mindless opposition to subsidies and special requirements in a poor country like India.

The World Bank needs to be educated about one basic fact of life. There is a qualitative difference between the profile of poverty in the West and the profile of poverty in India. The profile of poverty in India is totally different from the profile of poverty in the West. The poor in India are forced to spend anywhere from eighty to ninety per cent of their income on food — for just physical survival. In the West, they spend no more than ten to fifteen per cent on food. The poor in India are almost certain to be pushed over the brink with even a small increase in prices. Not so in the West.

In the circumstances, no Government in India can afford to overlook or ignore the poor. Our policies have performed to be pro-poor in our parliamentary democracy which, as we all know, is a game of numbers. This has to be understood, and understood well, by the West-dominated World Bank and the IMF and their many ardent votaries, both on Raisina Hill and abroad. Ultimately, liberalisation, or for that matter democracy, is not an end in itself. The end is the greater welfare, happiness and glory of our masses. True, man does not live by bread alone. But he needs bread before all else to survive in the first place.

We need to give a better deal to our poverty-stricken millions, especially those living below the poverty line. We need to provide essential commodities, such as, foodgrains, edible oil, footwear and *dhoties* to them through the Revamped PDS at prices they can afford. The Government must find whatever resources are need to subsidise these items. All claims by the Government that it has kept inflation down to single digit are meaningless, considerign the prevailing prices of consumer goods. *Dal* is now selling at Rs.28 to Rs.35 per kilogram, and gram (*Channa*) at Rs.40 per kilogram. The poor are finding it increasingly difficult to make their two ends meet. This is making them angry as never before, even bitter. We may well face grave

difficulties in the next general elections unless the Governmnet corrects its present image of being anti-poor and pro-rich. True, Dr. Man Mohan Singh has spoken about having provided thousands of crores for anti-proverty programme under the leadership of the Prime Minister. But our people are no longer interested in the pie in the sky. As a Hindi saying goes : "Unko to Aam Khane se matlat hai pair ginne se nahin"

They are concerned with the substance rather than the source.

We must remember that people normally vote on the basis of broad impressions, not the party manifestos. We can also ignore this warning only at our peril.

My third and the last point is related to the issue of curruption. Like some others, I am deeply disappointed to note that the President's Address to the two Houses and subsequently other Government statements do not contain even a word in regard to the cancer of corruption, which is playing havoc with our body politic and the lives of our people.

I was pleased to note that a few days prior to the commencement of the session, the Prime Minister told the Editor of the Tribune in an interview that the Government proposed to bring forward in the forthcoming session the long-overdue Bill providing for the appointment of a Lokpal. I eagerly looked forward to an announcement on the subject in the President's Address. Sadly and regrettably there has been none so far.

But, Sir, a mere Lokpal will not do. Much more needs to be done if we are to really combat corruption, brazen corruption, which has been growing by leaps and bounds during the past decade and more. More than anything else, we need to get all the Minsiters and Members of Parliament to make public declarations of their assets and to lay copies of such declarations on the table of the House. They must also solemnly declare that they own no other assets. I suggested this in the last Lok Sabha. The then Prime Minister welcomed my suggestion on the floor of the House. Alas, his Government fell before long.

I had occasion to discuss my suggestions and plea with Shri Rajiv Gandhi more than once. He assured me prior to the 1991 poll that he would not delay matters any further in this regard. But fate struck a grievous blow and we lost him. True, corruption is a global phenomenon. But there is one difference. In leading democracies, those guilty of graft get punished and punished severely. In India they go scot-free. Mathatma Gandhi once said that Ministers in free India should, like Caesar's wife, be above suspicion. But we have now followed a system in which they are above proven guilt!

Corruption was once a non-issue. It is not so any more. The people, our voters, are now awake and alert. They now understand democracy better. Their vote gives them the power to punish bad Governments and to reward those they consider to be good. Every vote against a Government is not merely anti-establishment. It essentially reflects the voters' decision to exercise their ultimate right to punish bad rulers. The earlier we recognise this basic truth the better for all of us and the country.

I am now concluding. We gave ourselves the Committee system. The Committee system is something for which I had crusaded for almost two decades. The Committee system is designed to ensure greater parliamentary control over the Government. But this has not happened. Therefore, I would appeal to the hon. Speaker, I would like to appeal to you and I would like to appeal, through you, to the Leaders of all the political parties to take a fresh look at the Committee system that we have given ourselves so that we could make it more effective.

Sir, under the Westminster model, the Committees can summon Ministers. But, for some unknown reason, we have now chosen to say that Ministers cannot be summoned. I think this weakens the Committee system tremendously. I have this on the authority of none other than the Speaker of the House of Commons that they have this right and have exercised this right in the larger interest of greater parliamentary control over the Government.

I shall now end my speech with a general proposition which I was privileged to put forward at the recent I.P.U. session at Madrid. Our world today faces many crises because we have lots and lots of politicians but very few statesmen. As you all know a politician thinks only of today but a statesman also thinks of tomorrow. Tragically the situation is even worse in India. Most of us seem to only think of the moment, live for the moment, revel in the moment and talk about yesterday!

I will conclude by appealing to everybody that we must stop thinking only of the moment we must not merely think of today. Let us also think of tomorrow.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this summer session started with the Address of the Hon'ble President and it will come to an end after the Finance Bill is voted. During the discussion on the motion of thanks on the President's Address, I had said that it was delayed by 11 weeks and as a result, the importance of President's Address was diluted and the discussion has also not been so relevant as it should have been. The budget was presented on 15th March. The discussion on the budget is taking place as per the time schedule but it took place in piece-meal and there was no cohesion.

15.11 hrs.

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

Unfortunately, we have not been able to ensure the atmosphere which was necessary for discussing the budget. Even the media did not accord such importance to this discussion as it deserved. The budget is not only a statement of receipts and expenditure for this year, it represents our economic position and sets guidelines for the following year. The budget also indicates the details of the contribution the people have to make by way of paying taxes and therefore, it is an important ingredient of Parliamentary System which should attract attention of all of us.

Sir, I know during this session, many such events took place which were beyond control, but I would like to impress upon the Honourable Members that while raising any discussion or during the course of proceedings they ought to keep in mind what is necessary and what is unnecessary. If we lose our mind, and are swayed away and continue to attach more importance to what is unnecessary than what is necessary, we will not be able to ensure positive debate within a limited time and nor will we be able to impress upon our countrymen, our media.

Mr. Speaker, I am not in agreement with those members who say that this situation has arisen because of introduction of Standing Committee System. The Standing Committees are doing good work. There is a need to strengthen them further and make them more effective but this should not render the debate in this house ineffective. Sir, I hope you will look into this problem seriously and take such a decision in consultation with all of us that the committee system succeeds and we are also able to make positive discussion in an integrated manner, not piece-meal, in this house, so as to create some impression here and outside. This is necessary.

Mr. Speaker, The budget which Dr. Manmohan Singh has presented and on the basis of which this Finance Bill has been brought, will always be remembered for bringing the differences between economist Dr. Manmohan Singh and Members of Parliament involved in party politics. We are happy that economist Dr. Manmohan Singh has achieved the status of a statesman. The economist is always concerned not about the present but about the future also. This time, economic angle has received second priority and first priority has gone to populist measures. It was hoped that the economist inside Dr. Manmohan Singh will lead us to a right path but the economist - Dr. Manmohan Singh has become a victim of political compulsions and competitive populism. The budget of the Finance Minister has of course, been prepared in North Block but it appears to have greater inprints of other Block.

The proposals which aim at reducing the poverty of those more than 30 per cent people living below poverty line can be termed as a right step to some extent but this aspect also needs concrete steps. It is not enough to prepare imaginary schemes and to mobilise funds therefor. What benefit will accrue from such schemes? The Finance Minister is gripped by the competitive populism when the need for controlling deficit budget and inflation is crystal clear. This has jeopardised the economic stability for which he always pleads. In some other cases also, the Finance Minister has deviated from his old promises. I want to discuss banking sector which had been referred to by several members. The Government have been making announcements that it will keep off the operation and administration of Banking Industry. The Finance Minister wants to spend through NABARD, Commercial Bank Deposits in developing infrastructure in rural areas. NABARD is not known for its competency. This agriculture bank receives funds from Reserve Bank on 6.5 per cent interest and disburse the same through commercial banks at 11.5 per cent interest. The bank should not behave in this way in the name of helping the needy. The Financial Institutions are required to mobilise funds for North Eastern Development Bank. The banks are supposed to disburse loan to poor sections of the society. During the last two years, the nationalised banks received a capital amount of Rs.11,300 crore but in spite of that some banks are running in loss. During 1992-93 and 1993-94, 14 major nationalised banks incurred losses to the tune of Rs.8500 crore. It is true that some banks are doing very good job and they should be praised for this. But most problems arise because of flowing non-banking procedures. A new burden is being put on them. It is a matter to be pondered over as to how this new burden will affect their functioning. The regional banks are also incurring losses. There are 196 rural banks out of which 172 banks incurred losses amounting to Rs.1300 crore during 1993-94. It is known to all of us that the poorest of the poor does not get any benefit from the bank. The benefit goes mainly to big farmers, industrialists and businessmen. The earlier Governments had admitted that only 16 per cent of the Central Financial assistance reaches the poor. Then, why the Finance Minister wants to adopt this path? The Finance Minister should clarify as to how these four proposed schemes meant for reducing poverty will be formulated and how they will be implemented as also how much more resources will have to be mobilised?

This the fifth budget which the Finance Minister has presented and may be, it is his last budget. He is taking of poverty alleviation and not of removal of poverty. There is a difference between these two. Your slogan of poverty alleviation is very old.

Recently, a conference of SAARC countries was held in which it was said that poverty will be removed

from South Asia by 2002 AD. The target of wiping out poverty in seven years is difficult to achieve but they have set a target. Our Government is also talking of alleviating poverty and of minor modifications here and there. This is not sufficient. The direction and the speed with which the Government is moving does not convince us that poverty will be removed within a period of few years. The Finance Minister instead of Taking concrete and long term steps for raising infrastructure has involved himself in reducing custom and excise duties. It was expected that the taxes and duties would be collected with a firm and effective steps taken to check tax evasion. It appears that the Government is satisfied with the amount of collection of income tax in the entire circle and a slight increase in the collection of custom duty in Delhi. This house wants to know names of those who were benefited from stock market and banking scam. We have come to know as to why and how the UTI purchased the shares worth Rs.1000 crore from a particular industrial house. The UTI incurred 25 per cent loss on the shares within six months. If we are not satisfied, there is a justification for it; if we criticise, there are some reasons for it. The Finance Minister failed to formulate policies and schemes in his 5th Budget which might have strengthened our fiscal position. The big corporations are earning huge profits. The 25 top companies which earned a tax free profit of more than Rs. 5000 crore have not paid any tax this year. This is a serious situation. The major Corporations which floated Euro Issues and other issues only a year ago and had earned billions of dollars have now become private bankers. The funds were not utilised for the purpose for which they were given. Whatever the position, the country is accountable for the utilisation of foreign exchange. There are figures which indicate that the borrowers which include major companies and important individuals have not refunded the loan worth Rs.30,000 crore. What action is Government taking against them? I demand the names of such companies and such individuals should be notified. The nation is entitled to know as to who is taking undue advantage of the liberalisation policy. The liberalisation policy is not meant for making a few houses richer and should it be the result of liberalisation, it will not be acceptable to common people. I want to reiterate why the major industrial houses and companies do not pay taxes, why do they not refund the loan amount? Then this also involves the question of interest and utilisation of funds.

Sir, the Government's statistics claim that today, foodgrain production stands at 185 million tonnes the position of balance of payment is satisfactory; inflation is constant, the rate GPD is 5.3 per cent and industrial development stands at 8 per cent. These are Government's claims. People had a natural expectation from the Finance Minister that he would bring such a

budget and taxation proposals as would help the nation to jump ahead as per its economic position, but the Government have slowed down the process. They have perhaps been disturbed by the results of State Legislative elections. It appears that Government do not have any target now. Atleast, the budget does not reflect such a target.

Sir, the Government have no policy even for core sectors like power production. Only ad-hoc and working decisions are being taken. We have given a sovereign guarantee for a power station in Maharashtra, on behalf of the State Government. Is it not a matter of regret that a 90 crore people nation is required to stand such a guarantee to a foreign group of companies? It could perhaps be given by the State Energy Department or State Electricity Board.

We talk of foreign investment, but what are the statistics that these investments represent? I feel it is very small, the capital is very small. We do not have any well-defined policy for power production or capital market. We have been rediculed by compaines like Margan Stenlay.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government know that billions of rupees were remitted to foreign countries scandeltinely under 'hawala' transactions and the money is deposited in foreign banks in the accounts owned by Indian and it has failed to get this money repatriated. Nor have we been able create a sense of patriotism among those depositors nor any attractive proposals have been offered to them. The over-all position is that we paid a sum of Rs.52 thousand crore last year by way of interest for internal and external debts. No imaginative policies have been framed in respect of Public Sector Undertakings, Several members have criticised the way in which the shares of these Undertakings have been sold and now the privatisation is taking place there. In fact Government deserves this criticism. The Government appears to be at a loss after the sale of these shares at low prices and now is in a fix. The progress achieved by BHEL and other Public Undertakings should be emulated by other Undertakings. Incentive is necessary, but determination and willingness are lacking. Why do not the Government adopt some policy for running and further developing the Public Undertakings? Some policy is also to be adopted about the participation of Financial Institutions in Private Sector companies. There have been instances where shares worth thousands of crores of rupees were sold at throw away prices. This process would have continued if people's pressure was not there.

We know the Finance Minister is not concerned with all this, but the question is why any policy has not been framed. If any company wants to purchase shares controlled by non-promoter Financial Institutions, why should it not purchase them at market rates? We must

at least take a decision that Public Sector Companies shares will not be allowed to be sold below market price. The Financial Institutions, when they lift their control should get greater profit.

As far as sick-Industrial Units are concerned, the Government are instead of revitalizing them, making them more sick. It has been decided to invest a Rs.2000 crore capital on the NTC controlled Mills but the question is whether they will be allowed to continue to function the way they have been working when they incurred such a huge loss. What is the Programme for bringing about improvement in these mills? The NTC workers have also expressed apprehension about this proposal. It is necessary to enlist the participation of workers to make a scheme success. It shoud have the inspiration of workers. The Government has witheld privatisation of IISCO, but what is the proposal for future. Nobody is prepared to take it over. There is also a proposal to take over IISCO. But it will be wrong to do so.

I have talks with the Hon. Finance Minister regarding the Scootar India Limited unit situated in Lucknow. It can be made profit earning by making a small investment. We can save the workers from being rendered jobless but it is being delayed and the situation is worsening. The Government should review their policy in respect of such Industrial Units. It is necessary to revamp the management of Scooters' India Ltd. so as to make it viable and it should be entrusted with the manufacture of diesel engine for three-wheelers.

Even if Government has to hand over loss incurring units to the Private Sector it will have to chalk out some strategy. Many of the sick units can be brought in good condition by making small investment and they can then be sold on higher bids. But Government is not considering this aspect. It appears that a market has been organised in Delhi for sale of Industrial Units. Earlier we were caught by the wind of nationalion and now by privatisation. Now the pendulum has turned the other way. Even today, the sick industries can be put on rights track by overhauling their managemnt and improving their working conditions. But this will require freeing the industry from beaurocratic control. Only those beaurocrats should be entrusted with the management of running industries and factories who are really competent to discharge this job. If such beaurocrats are not available with the Government it should not hesitate in bringing them from outside. No industry can work properly without competent and efficient management.

Sir, I would suggest that the Finance Minister should seriously consider constituting an Indian Treasury Service because Government needs such competent, expert people who could give correct advice to Government in complicated fiscal matters-not only correct but quick advice also. Government should consider how far it is proper to leave financial matters to the mercy

of Civil Services. For the time being the Government's policy is to entrust balancing responsibility to those Indian repatriates who have worked in International Financial Institutions. A gentleman who has worked in Washington based financial institution returned to India and he was entrusted in the management of Animal Husbandary for Eastern States... (*Interruptions*)... Similarly, another person with similar qualifications is managing national calamity office in a southern State. This is a ridiculous thing. Financial matters are becoming complicated day by day. We face the problem of foreign exchange regulation, the exchange rates change frequently. New developments take place in Financial field. So, it is necessary that the Finance Ministry should have more financial experts. That is why I have suggested constitution of a new treasury service. Presently the Finance Ministry is being shouldered by several 'Singhs'. We can term it as 'Sing Darbar' also. But this needs further expansion and new experts ought to be associated with it. An international organisation is trying to find ways to convert our foreign exchange reserves in portfolio management. This should be discouraged.

Mr. Speaker, suggestions and proposals are forthcoming in the country that foreigners should be invited to advise us as how to make proper use of our foreign exchange reserves because we ourselves are not very competent to take a decision in this regard. This sort of suggestion cannot be accepted. This is the job of Reserve Bank. It has to discharge its obligations in consultation with Finance Ministry. We have several qualified persons in India itself who are fully competent to handle this special job.

Sir, from the very beginning, our stand has been that the lower the taxes, the greater the collection. But the Finance Minister is not prepared to accept this in all cases. If he had accepted, he would not have been so miser to raise the income tax limit to Rs. 40 thousands only. Now if we take that in many cases, no tax will be payable upto an income of Rs.57,000/- then the tax limit should be raised at least to Rs.60,000/- so that the budget of a family is not affected adversely because increased inflation and price-rise, which has been affected during the tenure of Dr. Mammohan Singh. An average family consisting of husband-wife and two children need Rs.75,000/- p.a. to maintain normal family standard.

Income-tax is deducted at source in respect of salaried class, and there is no way for them to evade income-tax. Only traders and industrialist have this facility, people engaged in industry pay negligible personal tax or do not pay at all.

I would urge upon the Government to publish a list of one thousand top industrialists of four metropolitan cities so as to reveal whether they pay personal taxes

and if so, how much. Those who make maximum use of national resources, must also be prepared to pay more taxes.

The Finance Minister has not accepted the suggestion of reduction in surcharge on taxes and reduction of taxes. I shall appeal to him at this last moment to have some courage to announce some more relief to the most deserving class of tax payer considering that the reliefs announced by him in the beginning of debate was inadequate. I shall request him to consider this suggestion.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me time to speak.

SHRI K.T. VANDAYAR (Thanjavur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Motion for consideration on the Finance Bill, 1995 moved by our hon. Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh.

I support most of the proposals made in the Bill. However, I would like to give a few suggestions for consideration. The River Cauvery which originates from Talai Cauvery in Karnataka passes through Tamil Nadu and the delta of Thanjavur. It is not a perennial river but a seasonal one. As water is a necessity, the water management is a must. The river bunds should be lined by concrete construction which could avoid seepage of water. The Grand Anicut Canal in Thanjavur has already been lined and it is an example. So, I would request the hon. Finance Minister to formulate a Central Scheme for lining of water channel on the Cauvery old delta. This should be implemented directly by the Central agency either by the C.W.C. or the Inland Water Transport Authority without entrusting to the State Government.

It is said that rupees one lakh crore has been spent in Jammu and Kashmir but what is the result? Where has the money gone. Have any tangible assets been created? I would urge upon the hon. Minister to see that the money is properly spent for developmental works with substantial outcome.

When Shri Kamraj was the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, there were industrial estates and all facilities were available under one umbrella. For example, we can cite Guindy industrial Estate and Ambatur Industrial Estate near Madras. Unemployment is prevalent everywhere and equally more acute in Tamil Nadu. I would suggest to the hon. Minister and to the Government to bring in some industry especially Agro industry, in the agriculturally developed areas of Thanjavur district in Tamil Nadu. Thanjavur is famous for coconut grove and also paddy fields. The by-products, namely, coir, hay, dry fodder bran are available in plenty and therefore, Agro-Industries based on agriculture produces can be established.

In Thanjavur of Tamil Nadu, there is a very big wealth of cattle. The Anand type of Co-operative Dairy

Model will help Thanjavur district to process milk and milk products and distribute it in an organised way without the middlemen's commission. The Animal Husbandry Department should, with their veterinary doctors, train the framers, cure diseases and breeding like insemination etc. which will help the farmers to know the latest technique for nursing their own cattle.

There are at least three new schemes brought out in this financial year which would directly concern with the Panchayats. One is the Rural Infrastructure development fund to be set up by the NABARD bank for developing infrastructural facilities in the rural areas. The second one is the Group Life Insurance Scheme of the LIC in rural areas to be implemented by the Panchayats. The third one is provision of Rs.1,000 crore to the KVIC (Khadi and Village Industries Commission) for lending funds to Khadi and Village industries. Ambar Charka is one of the important component of khadi industry and the khadi produced cloth is environment friendly suitable to all season.

When so many schemes are expected to be implemented through the village panchayats, it is very unfortunate that the panchayat elections in many States, including Tamil Nadu, have not been held for the last three decades, which is the major abuse of democracy.

I want the hon. Finance Minister to consider may appeal for the people's benevolence.

SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH (Eluru) : Sir, I rise to say a few points on the Budget presented by the hon. Finance Minister for the year 1995-96.

One of the most important items is the non-Plan expenditure which is going up to Rs.1,25,651 crore. Out of these three items, the first one is the interest liabilities, which is Rs.52,000 crore — 42 per cent of which is going very steeply from several years - and I think it needs to be controlled and we should adopt proper method. The Defence, of course, is Rs.25,500 crores, but there is not way that we can help it. Subsidies of Rs.11,000 crore and the balance is due to various other things. We are making our efforts to control the Government expenditure, but in spite of that somehow or other we are not able to control that expenditure, which relates to a very important item. Interest on revenue has gone up by Rs.8,000 crore whereas the non-Plan expenditure itself has gone up to Rs.10,141 crore. We should also keep in view while controlling our deficit financing.

In this Budget, somehow or other, we find that not much incentive is given for savings. Savings are more important for us to have the planning and future growth of industrialisation and capital expenditure. There are two things which we find : One is that interest rates are going up. We are trying to bring it down. On the one side, we are planning the liberalisation and privatisation

but in the case of globalisation, we find that our infrastructure needs to be improved and we have made some suggestions but luckily the hon. Finance Minister has given us some more extension of infrastructure development for a longer period. But in regard to the interest rate, we are not able to do something. At least, we must remove the tax on interest, probably that will be able to help us to some extent to have our industry to cope up with the international market competition.

Coming to tourism, I also made that point very clearly. Tourism requires to be encouraged in the country so that it gives more employment because in the competition of present system, employment potentialities have not been increased so much. The tourism is one of the most important items for which the State should give more stress on that.

The most important item is sickness of industries. Several thousands of crores of rupees have been locked up in the banks and financial institutions and also a lot of unemployment has been increased because of this. This requires the Finance Minister to take some bold steps. It is not only in this country, but in other countries also that sickness is there. Not only the BIFR should handle this, but the banks and financial institutions should come forward with amalgamation and mergers which needs the Finance Minister's support to give them some powers and support in all respects, so that they are able to revive the sick industries and bring them back into production and give more employment.

Coming to the taxation side, earlier from both sides of the House a request was made that tax exemption should be increased to more than Rs.40,000. It can be on the basis of some norms that you could adopt whether on the basis of probably the escalation of the price or whatever it may be. He should be able to go scientifically, so that he should be able to follow it and give reasonable exemption beyond Rs.40,000. We also made some request on the corporate taxation. As I mentioned earlier, though the Finance Minister said 'defer it', for this year in last year I stress it again because I have his earlier statements. He should be able to see that some surcharge is reduced on the corporate taxation. We have already made some request on the continuation of 80 (1) (A), if not for another five years, at least for two-three years, whatever the best that is possible. On the dividend taxation which is going to be doubled, it requires to be considered. If not the entire amount, at least a part of it can be considered and he should look into this matter.

Coming to the indirect taxation, as I said earlier, LPG which is a common man's requirement, should be completely exempted from Duty. I also made a request for ammonia which is used not only in fertilizers, but along with ammonium nitrate it is used for the coal mining and for other purposes also. It should also be

completely exempted. Some method should be found for the capital goods, for the power saving and pollution control like membrane technology and other things. In the case of small scale sector, the Excise Duty exemption which has been given to the tune of Rs.30 lakh, should go up to Rs.75 lakh. In the case of SSI units, recently the Excise concession was increased to Rs.3 crore. It should go up to Rs. 5 Crore, so that at least they will be able to have some growth in this sector which gives more employment.

Coming to some of cattle feed and poultry feed, a number of people have approached us saying that this should not be under Excise because this is the common requirement of all farmers. I am sure that the Finance Minister will take into consideration some of these things.

Coming to the family planning side which is more important about which other Members have also mentioned, population growth should be curtailed. I am sure the Finance Minister has adequate provision for this purpose, which is very important.

On the agriculture side, we have been pressing on the crop insurance for a long time, but it has not been touched. I hope he would do it in consultation with the Agriculture Minister. He should do something for the farmers.

Many Members have mentioned about the cyclone relief in the coastal districts of Andhra Pradesh and other States also. Some quick remedies should be found and relief given as early as possible, so that they should be able to get some sort of support.

Prohibition, which is Mahatma Gandhi's philosophy, should be paid more attention. Whichever State has implemented full prohibition, the Government of India should come forward to give that State some subsidy because it requires a substantial amount of assistance.

Today taxation covers less than one per cent of the population. We feel that it should be widely spread. Whatever is the method acceptable, the Finance Minister should adopt it.

With these few words, I thank you very much.

SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS (Mysore) : Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to mention only a few points regarding the Finance Bill, which has been placed before the House.

A major portion of the Budget allocation goes to Defence, to safeguard the security of the nation. As against an allocation of Rs. 11,340 crore last year, that is 1994-95, this year it has gone up to Rs. 12,432.81 crore.

The subsidies on all items put together - on different items like food and fertilizer - are stated to be Rs. 11,965 crore. The total subsidy on potassium and phosphate and *ad hoc* basis is only about Rs. 500

crore. There is a hike in the international prices of urea, which we are importing. Time and again, we have been making a request to increase the subsidy on the fertilizers, especially nitrates and phosphates, which are very much required by the small scale farmers in the agricultural operations. They have given some subsidy on urea, but the other items which I mentioned earlier have also to be given a little more subsidy. So, the fertilizer subsidy should be increased further if the hon. Finance Minister would be able to do it. The farmers depend on the chemical fertilizers in a major way. I think, the day has come when we will have to educate our farmers on the use of organic and green manure.

We are saying that in the matter of food production we are self-sufficient, especially in wheat, rice, *dal*, pulses and cereals. As an hon. colleague has rightly said, we have to make a survey by going to the market where the common man purchases his requirements. As a housewife I can tell you that the price of *dal* is Rs. 30 to Rs. 35/- and sometimes it is Rs. 42 a kilo. The price of *tuvar dal* is Rs. 40 per kilogram; the price of *urad dal* is Rs. 30 per kilogram. The prices are actually burning the fingers of the housewife, who goes to the market. As a one-time import, can the Government think of importing these things, as they did earlier in the case of edible oils? It was very much necessitated to have a one-time import of edible oils. In the same manner, instead of importing sugar which is already there in good stock, we can go in for one-time import of cereals and pulses. We can give more incentives to the farmers to grow these cereals and pulses according to our requirements. These are basic day-to-day requirements of the common man.

The non-Plan expenditure in 1980-81 was Rs. 13,062 crore. In 1989-90, this had grown to an enormous figure of Rs. 65,388 crore, which is a five-time increase within a decade. It is quite an alarming increase as against a three-fold increase in the Plan expenditure. This needs to be revised to see that we cut the non-Plan expenditure.

As part of the hon. Finance Minister's tax reforms, improving the system of tax administration, tax structuring, revenue collection, modification of certain rules and regulations and simplification of direct taxation and improvement in all directions of tax collection are found in the Budget proposals.

This has now resulted in equity and economic efficiency. The net tax revenue is Rs. 74,374 crores. There is an increase and there is also an improvement in this area. The fiscal deficit for 1995-96 is Rs. 5,000 crores. For the year 1994-95, this had gone up to Rs. 6,000 crores and it has been brought down to Rs. 5,000 crores. Major areas are there for growth in the economy especially in our country which is an agro-based economy. A large number of farmers depend on the rain-fed areas.

Energy and irrigation play a very important and a major role in improving the production in the agricultural sector. There are small farmers those who are not able to go in for major irrigation facilities and are to depend only on rain. There are natural phenomena, as we are finding in some areas of some States which are extremely flooded and there are also other areas where there is acute drought condition. We have observed this a few years back in many of the States. In such conditions our farmers are exposed to many of the vagaries of nature where the crops or the production of crops are not insured. The crop insurance scheme was about to be brought forward; and we would like to insist on the Government to think over it and bring forward a comprehensive scheme to cover the crop insurance scheme.

For the rural areas the allocation of Budget for 1995-96 is Rs. 6,740 crores. Quite a good increase is there in the allocation which is nearly about Rs. 900 crores for the Rural Development Ministry. But what we are observing is this. There is lack of proper coordination, monitoring, supervision and evaluation at the implementation level. This is the ground reality at the grassroot level where the beneficiary or the person for whom it is intended, lives. We have to devise some system or we have to rethink or evaluate these things so that the beneficiary or the person to whom it has to be reached gets it properly. Otherwise, we will not be knowing how much input we are putting and what is the result that we are getting, what are the achievements that we have been making in these areas.

Another important sector is power. For any growth of economy, power is the basic necessity. Regarding power generation, both conventional and non-conventional energy, our hon. Minister, Shri Salve said that our target was to produce 30,000 MW which has been cut down to 20,000 MW in the Plan. In this way, there will be a contradiction between our targets that we are going to achieve and the targets that we are thinking of for progress in industrial and agricultural sectors. As we have been seeing, many concessions, many relaxations and many tax exemptions have been given to ensure generation of self-employment in the rural areas, for unemployed youth and for the people who are below the poverty line. This is to alleviate poverty among the poorer sections. The utilisation part of the money which is allocated for this is lagging in the system which needs to be evaluated or to revitalised to see that better results are achieved.

**16.00 hrs.**

We have to have comprehensive plans or policies in augmentation or improvement of maintenance and repairs of minor irrigation tanks. This is one of the areas which we have been insisting upon. There are lakhs of these tanks in our country which have been totally

neglected. There are no repairs or maintenance whatsoever. These minor irrigation tanks are supposed to go a long way to keep good environment near the villages, provide drinking water for cattle and used for percolation and charging of ground water level. This also should be thought of and a comprehensive scheme has to be brought forward. We find that, though it is a State subject, priority is not being given to this area in every State; no money is allocated for these minor irrigation schemes. So, I would request the hon. Minister to think of it once again because many tanks have been dried up; there is no percolation or charging of ground water level. The ecological balance and environment that we are thinking of area being polluted due to these reasons also.

Conservation of soil and dry land development is another field. They go hand in hand. One cannot be thought of without the other. Importance should be given to these areas.

I would like to say a few words of appreciation. There is an improvement in the tax structure and also in the direct taxes. The personal income tax slab has been increased from Rs. 35,000 to Rs. 40,000. The Finance Minister has already announced relief in income tax up to Rs. 58,000 per year only for ladies. As other hon. Members have put it, I would also like to say that minimum slab for income tax should be Rs. 48,000 for all.

About price rise, we have been observing that the inflation rate is coming down to 8.5 per cent. We are watching it in the news, Press media and other media. But we have to see the ground reality and the basic needs for a man to survive or to have the purchasing capacity to go into the market to get basic items like *dal*, oil, etc. As I already mentioned, through public distribution system also, we should see that the system works properly and if there is a failure at any level, then we have to rebrush it and activate these schemes wherein a poor man can get his basic requirements like pulses and foodgrains at a proper price.

Another area which we have to care is health and primary education. These have also been given emphasis. At the same time, we are neglecting family planning and population control which form another major area where in every input goes to the growth of population. We should also keep in mind that population check or family planning should be given more emphasis. More money should be allocated for this area and more steps should be taken towards control of population for a healthy development, growth and progress of the people of the nation.

With these few words, I would like to support the Finance Bill and I hope Shrimati Manmohan Singh will keep apprising him of the latest rates in the market

keeping in view the difficulties faced by housewives. I would request the hon. Finance Minister to rethink over certain basic items to get them imported or to have a check or control over the prevailing rates.

MAJ. GEN. R.G. WILLIAMS (Nominated Anglo-Indian) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Finance Bill, 195 introduced by the hon. Finance Minister on the 18th May, 1995. It is four years since this Government under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao took office in the midst of an unprecedented economic crisis of falling production, soaring inflation and deepening poverty.

Sir, today it is heartening to note that these problems have been dealt with swiftly and systematically and there has been a remarkable recovery in a relatively short time. We have now transformed our sinking economy into a rejuvenated one, showing strong growth in agriculture and industrial output, a strong revival of domestic investment, a steady increase in foreign direct investment, renewed growth of employment and a comfortable foreign exchange position. Considering the time frame, bold economic policies and spectacular results achieved, the country's image has been fully restored to its rightful pre-eminence among the developing nations.

Sir, it is reassuring to note that the inflation rate which had recorded a menacing 11.41 per cent only a few months ago is now well under control and down to a welcome low figure of 8.5 per cent as announced on Doordarshan. We hope that this control will continue and the inflation rate kept well below the double digit figure.

It is noted with considerable satisfaction that the thrust of the Budget is not only upon poverty alleviation schemes but also on generations of employment in the rural sector. Approximately 50 per cent of the plan expenditure is earmarked for the development of the rural sector and a major share of the non-plan expenditure will be spent on food and fertiliser subsidies. These measures will greatly better the conditions of the common man.

Sir, I regret to point out that the proposed Finance Bill has once again bypassed the pressing problems of the salaried class or the middle income group of tax payers. Although the tax exemption limit has been raised from Rs. 35,000 to Rs. 40,000, all the hon. Members of this august House consider this as grossly inadequate and are unanimous that it should be increased to Rs. 50,000 taking into account the accumulated inflation of the past several years. Similarly, the rates of income tax are, far short of the rates recommended by the Tax Reforms Committee. The Chelliah Report had recommended a maximum tax of 40 per cent on incomes exceeding Rs. 2 lakh.

Whereas our Finance Bill proposes of a rate of 40 per cent on incomes exceeding Rs. 1,20,000. This imposes a harsh financial burden on the middle income group which constitutes the backbone of the nation.

Sir, there are a number of other sections of the Income-tax Act which require regular review and revision every two or three years so as to give timely financial relief to pensioners and salaried personnel. I will deal with a few of the more important and pressing ones. The first is Section 16 (1) on Standard Deduction. Under this Section, deduction is permitted up to one-third of salary or pension, subject to a maximum of Rs. 15,000. The purpose of this deduction is to defray petty expenses such as conveyance etc., in carrying out one's duty. These rates have been in force for a long time and a change is long overdue. Today salaries have increased very substantially and there is a huge difference between one-third of salary and the maximum deduction permitted of Rs. 15,000. I would humbly suggest it is time that the maximum deduction permitted be raised to Rs. 25,000, which is more in line with the present salary structure.

My second point is Section 80 (L). Deduction under this Section has been raised to Rs. 13,000. Actually, this is no increase because in 1991, the maximum deduction under this Section was also Rs. 13,000. In 1992, it was drastically reduced to Rs. 7,000. Section 80 (L) incidentally also includes dividends paid on shares which amount to double taxation on this source of income. I would humbly suggest that deduction under this Section should be increased liberally to Rs. 20,000 which will also stimulate investment in shares, whose prices in our Stock Exchanges have been steadily declining over the past one year.

My third point is about Section 80 (G.G). This Section permits a maximum deduction of Rs. 1,000 per month in respect of house rent paid in metropolitan cities. As you are aware Sir, house rents in big cities have increased manifold and the existing rate of deduction is very inadequate, to say the least. I would humbly suggest that bearing in mind the soaring rates of house rent, this deduction should be increased to Rs. 2,500 per month, which is more in keeping with the escalation rates of house rent in major cities.

Another harassment to middle income group tax payers is having to pay advance tax on the 15th of September, the 15th of December, the 15th of March and again on the 30th of June, each year. In order to give relief to the less affluent tax payer, I would suggest that in the case of tax payers whose income is less than Rs. 2,00,000 per year, they should be required to pay at least 90 per cent of their income tax for the financial year before the 31st of March, in one lump sum payment of in as many as desired.

This, to my mind, would reduce a lot of paper work and there would be no financial loss to the State.

Sir, finally a word about bank charges. The fariff rates recently announced by foreign banks are prohibitive. For example, the collection charges is clearing outstation cheques is Rs. 100 per transaction and for clearing cheques on overseas banks, a minimum charges of Rs. 250 is levied. These measures greatly affect our middle income tax payers and charitable institutions who rely on small remittance from well-wishers of relatives abroad.

DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR (Nasik) : Sir, I am extremely thankful to you for giving me this opportunity to speak. I am on my legs to support this Finance Bill.

Sir, the Budget is an expression of the Government's political will to improve the economic conditions of the nation and the people. If the people of a country become rich, then the nation becomes poor and if the nation becomes rich then the people become poor. Hence a balance has to be maintained. I am glad that our new economic policy, initiated under the leadership of our Prime Minister, Shri P/V. Narasimha Rao and our Finance Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh, we are on the path of liberalisation and privatisation and we have succeeded in restoring the impulse of growth to the nation.

I am happy that on the requests by the Members of Parliament and some associations, our Finance Minister has declared some reliefs on the 18th of May, 1995. To widen the tax base, for the professional and technical services, if the fees are more than Rs. 20,000, the tax collected as TDS has been reduced from 10 per cent to 5 per cent. For advertisement agencies, the tax has been brought down to one per cent. 100 per cent depreciation has been granted for the cost of books purchased for professional purposes. The exemption on the cotton hosiery is a welcome step. Full exemption of excise duty to sweet meats and snacks is also a welcome step. I am glad as a doctor, as 31 drugs have been declared as life saving drugs and they have been exempted from import duty; as well as the medical equipments which are used for the dentistry and E and T purposes have also been exempted.

The pressure Cookers where the aluminium circles are necessary, the duty has been brought down from 40 per cent to 25 per cent. The import duty on the paper and the paper boards have also been brought down to 20 per cent. The agricultural silos which are used in soyabean extraction units have also been brought down to 25 per cent. The duty on button cells has also been brought down from 50 per cent to 25 per cent. This will definitely give a strong boost to the economy while avoiding the burden on the common man.

I have got some suggestion to make. The tax exemption limit has been raised to Rs. 40,000. We were expecting that it would be raised to Rs. 50,000. The Chelliah Committee had recommended this exemption to the tune of Rs. 60,000. In the 1970s, the tax exemption limit was about Rs. 18,000. If we compare the conversion cost of Rs. 18.00 in 1970s, it comes to Rs. 52,000 in 1995. So, there is a rationale in asking for the increase in the tax exemption limit. I request the hon. Finance Minister to look into this matter.

Sir, in the banking sector, the new policy has been brought out by the Reserve Bank of India. New cooperative urban banks are being permitted to operate.

At the same time, TDS on the interest on the bank deposits of more than Rs. 10,000 will be collected by the banks. This will not only increase the work of banks but also violate the principle of secrecy. People will also not ready to deposit the maximum amount in banks and this will hamper the functioning of the banks. If this work cannot be curtailed, I request the Hon. Finance Minister to give some collection charges or service charges to the banks for working for the Income Tax Department.

The Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana for the educated unemployed or other anti-poverty programmes are being implemented by the banks. Definitely the bank are being over-burdened and as a result, the recovery of loan is very low. I learnt that about 92 per cent arrears are there with regard to the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana and, therefore, banks are not ready to give finance to the educated unemployed people. This matter should also be looked into. There are also a number of complaints about corruption in sanctioning of the loans to poor persons. This point should be given prior attention so that the basic goal of nationalising the banks, which was done by late Shrimati Indira Gandhi, be achieved in real sense.

The cooperative sector is working mainly for the farming community. This should be made tax free. There is a provision of 15 per cent dividend and the remaining is allowed to be converted into assets. So, if the cooperative sector is made tax free, it will boost its working. Our foodgrains production is of the order of 185-190 million tonnes. This year our sugar production is also maximum, which is about 142 lakh tonnes. Our farming community is doing a good job. Fertilizers are important for the farmers as they help in improving the yield per hectare. So, I request the hon. Finance Minister to increase the subsidy on fertilizers to give maximum benefit to our farmers.

For the professionals, like Chartered Accountant, doctors and lawyers the tax has been reduced from 10 per cent to 5 per cent. I appeal that it should be further

brought down to 2 per cent as in the case of contractors. When the contractors are paying only 2 per cent tax at source, why cannot this facility be given to the professionals?

Maximum provision is being made for the schemes like, Poverty Alleviation Scheme, Employment Generation Scheme in rural areas and to improve the Khadi Gramodyog industry. I welcome this step. I suggest that if some donation is given by an industry of an individual to the NGOs working in the field of population control, family welfare programme and the literacy mission, it should get hundred per cent tax exemption.

I do not understand the logic behind the excise on cement when we have announced to build 10 lakh houses in rural areas under the anti-poverty programmes. I request the Finance Minister to look into this. The manufacturers are not willing to pass on the excise cuts to the customers and hence the customers are always at a loss. Some step should be contemplated to see that the customers get the benefit of this excise cut.

There is a rational demand to abolish the dividend tax which involves double taxation and I request the hon. Finance Minister to look into this. Only nine months are left for the next Budget.

That means, this budget will not be for one year. So, why not think of a two-yearly budget formally? The budget can be presented every two years so that we do not change the tax pattern; so that we do not change the laws and the policy remains the same; so that the investors, the individuals who are working for the country get some benefit.

The Local Area Development Fund for the Members of Parliament is working properly and there are no recommendations on it. I request again that the amount of Rs. 1 crore presently reserved should be increased to Rs. 2 crore.

Sir, this budget and the Finance Bill are mainly inflation-controlling. This is an anti-poverty budget. It is far from truth to dub it as an electioneering budget. There are so many imaginative and innovative welfare schemes for the poor which would generate employment and improve the income of the poor. I am sure this new economic policy will definitely prove to be good for our country.

With these words I support this Finance Bill and I thank you for giving me this opportunity and time to take part in the debate.

SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA MUNDA (Keonjhar) : Sir, the Local Area Development Fund for Members of Parliament should be increased to Rs. 2 crore.

[Translation]

So far, Rs. one crore was given but now it should be increased to Rs. 2 crore.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me a chance to speak on this finance bill. This is the fifth budget of Dr. Manmohan Singh. In 1991 when he became the Finance Minister of the country we hoped that millions of workers of this country would get relief, but our hopes were belied. The fiscal position of the country which we expected would improve, rather deteriorated. The financial management of the country which needed large scale improvement also deteriorated. The estimates made in 1991 proved wrong and the expectations of millions of labourers of the country were watered down.

Sir, the Finance Minister had visualised that the Budget will give a fillip to our economy but the budgets presented by him did not succeed in providing dynamism to our economy. He made an effort which failed and the country continued to remain entangled in fiscal difficulties. The situation today is very bad and the plight of countrymen is pitiable and there is resentment among them.

Sir, the Finance Minister followed the policy of economic liberalisation with the hope of improving financial condition of the country and extending its benefit to the common people, but this policy has totally failed. No fiscal improvement could be brought about. The industrial sector was not encouraged. Import and export sectors also we could not achieve what was expected. We are a poor country, Workers' and agricultural country. Most of the population live in villages, but still subsidy on foodgrains and fertilizers have been reduced. I would plead for increase in the subsidy.

The Government must formulate such schemes which generate more rural employment opportunities. The Finance Minister has not spelled out any policy for farmers and workers and this is hampering the welfare of the poor of the country.

The budget allocation made for Defence Ministry in the budget for 1994-95 was inadequate because the prices, the cost of Defence material has escalated. The country is passing through a very critical time. The external enemy has encircled us and we have to give a befitting reply to it. I want, this aspect should be given fair consideration so that we are able to fight the enemy with courage.

The Energy, Irrigation and Railway departments have direct link with the people. Adequate provision have not been made for these departments. I would request the allocation for these departments be enhanced so that daily problems of citizens are removed.

The external debt is mounting day by day and the interest we are paying accounts for 51.5 per cent of our total income. So, if internal establishment expenses are not reduced the entire income of the nation will be spent on payment of interest on debts and we will be pushed to the situation of poverty and the development process will come to a stand-still. Therefore, it is necessary to impose cuts on internal establishment expenses.

The income tax exemption upto an income of Rs. 40,000 is inadequate. Many members have expressed their opinion very strongly on this issue. The speed with which prices are rising, I think this Rs. 40,000 limit is inadequate and it should be raised to Rs. 60,000. The increase in inflation should be checked and such schemes formulated as would benefit common man and encourage small industry. The deteriorating financial position of the country needs immediate improvement so as to provide relief to common man. I would request the Finance Minister to keep in mind the points made by me and deal with them in his reply. I want that the common man, the farmer, the worker, small entrepreneur and all should be given sufficient relief.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am very grateful to all the hon. Members who have taken part in this debate on the Finance Bill. Sir, because the House had inadequate time to have a general debate on the Budget, it was inevitable that the debate on the Finance Bill turned out to be a general debate on the Budget itself. And I certainly agree with hon. Shri Atal Behari Vajpayee that this is not adequate, that in future we must ponder as to how this House can deliberate much more effectively on the Budget and the financial proposal for a particular year. Since, as I said, the debate turned out to be a general debate on the economic philosophy.

I should begin by saying a few words about the underlying philosophy of the Budget what we set out to achieve and what we have succeeded in doing. From most Members of the Opposition the common refrain was that this is an election-budget and that this is a politician-budget. From that I judge that their criticism was lacking in substance. The fact that all these things have been discussed and what was said was often a repetition of what was said by the Members of the Opposition during the last four years. I thought by this time they would certainly have been convinced that the prophecies of gloom that they have been predicting and projecting in these last four years that these prophecies of doom have not materialised. Whether one likes it or not, the world accepts the fact that in these last four years the Indian economy has made a

remarkable turn around and in fact if you look at most international studies or programme of adjustment and structural change, people are now saying that the process of economic reforms in India has turned out to be much smoother than in most other countries and as an investment risk, India today compares favourably even with countries like China. Now, it is another matter that for partisan reasons we are not able to agree in this House on this basic fact. But the facts are there for everyone to see who cares to see them.

Sir, the basic objectives of this Budget are to carry forward the process of reforms which we began some four years ago. And the objectives have been to bring about a rapid expansion of economic activities, to bring about a rapid increase in employment, to mount a frontal attack on poverty and to strengthen the forces of self-reliance to reduce the dependence of this country on artificial props of foreign concessional aid from abroad.

In all these areas we have made substantial progress. Even though I would be the first one to admit that a long arduous task of getting rid of abject poverty which still afflicts millions of millions of people of this country cannot be accomplished in a short period of four years, yet I would respectfully submit that the two-track strategy that we have adopted, namely a strategy to strengthen the impulses of growth in our economy and secondly, to ensure that the fruit of development do reach the poorest segment of our society, that is, strengthening of all anti-poverty programmes, strengthening of social safety net, and education and health measures to ensure that the weaker sections of our society have more effective participation in the mainstream process of development. I submit to this hon. House that this strategy is working.

The growth rate of our economy in the year, that has just ended, was 5.3 per cent. If you look at the terms in the number of jobs that have been created, there is progress. In the year of crisis, only three million jobs were created. In the next two years, the average was about six million, 60 lakh jobs. In the year that has ended, because the growth rate was much higher, the job creation would be close to be addition in our labour force. If we persist with a growth rate of five-and-a-half per cent to six per cent, I am confident that within a period of less than a decade, we can remove the burden of abject poverty. The lessons of experience are all there to support us.

In India, if you look at the poverty profile, until 1980 very limited progress was made in reducing the proportion of people living below the poverty line. But in the 80s, on any conceivable indicator of measurement of poverty, there was a sharp reduction because there was a sharp increase in the growth rate of our economy,

from the previous average of 3.5 per cent to 5.5 per cent in 1980. If we maintain that momentum of growth in the next decade, I feel that we will succeed in not only alleviating poverty but in eradicating poverty.

We need broad base employment oriented growth, a growth which benefits both agriculture and industry, a growth process which takes into account the varied means of the complex polity that India is, which pays adequate attention to the backward regions of our country. That strategy if we pursue diligently, it is bound to enable us to get rid of this abject poverty.

Sir, several Members have referred to estimates of poverty. I do not know, on what basis arguments have been advanced that the reforms programmes has meant an accentuation in the profile of poverty. I respectfully submit, all the evidence that I have seen points to the contrary direction.

This is not to deny that in the initial years of reforms we were in crisis years. We had to compress the level of economic activities, we had to compress the level of imports, we had to cut the budget deficit sharply and therefore, there might have been some adverse development. But all the other indicators suggest that since 1992-93, there was a recovery and in 1993-94 even the real wages of agricultural labourers, the poorest segments of our society have risen above the crisis year of 1991-92.

The same picture emerges, if you look at the indices of infant mortality, the crude deficit and all this serves to substantiate that though in 1991-92, there was probably some retrogression which was inevitable in the adjustment process but by 1992-93 the process had reversed itself.

And, therefore, this ascertain that poverty has increased, I respectfully submit to this House, is not substantiated.

A reference has been made to the data of the Planning Commission. The National Samples Survey, every five years, conducts a sample survey of about 100,000 households to find out what is happening to the profile of poverty. The last published data was in 1987-88 when the proportion of people living below the poverty line was estimated officially by the Planning Commission at 29.9 per cent. The survey for the year 1993-94 has been completed. That data processing is in progress. When that data become available, I shall be glad to come back to this House, let there be a debate as to what has actually happened. But the Planning Commission does have the National Samples Survey Organisation, which, every year, conducts a thin sample of about 10,000 households. The latest available estimates, out of this thin sample are for the year, which is again the year of crisis. Even in that year of crisis,

this thin sample, which I do not regard statistically reliable - since a reference has been made to it, I am willing to share this information with the House - according to that thin sample survey, the proportion of people living below the poverty line was no more than 20.3 per cent. But I am not claiming too much because that sample is not statistically very significant. Therefore, the charge that I know something about the poverty profile and I am hiding this thing from the House has no substance.

The second major point of the Opposition's criticism, which has been made, is that of opening up of our economy, that liberalisation is leading us to sacrifice of self-reliance. I strongly repudiate this suggestion. What is self-reliance? In the modern world, no country can be wholly self-sufficient. Everywhere in the world imports do increase in the process of successful development. I know of no country in the world where imports do not increase. If imports are going to increase, it is your employment increase, it is your output increases. How are you going to finance your inputs? The answer was provided by Panditji himself in the First Chapter of the Third Five Year Plan, which I know that Panditji himself wrote. He said that self-reliance is a state of development in which a country can meet all its import requirements through its normal exports and normal receipts of capital without artificial props of concessional duty. If that is the definition - and I submit to this august House that that is the only sensible definition of self-reliance or of *swadeshi* in its true sense - then we are closer to self-reliance *swadeshi* today than we were ever before. In 1980s and before that, our exports financed less than 60 per cent of our imports. Today our exports, because of the rapid expansion of scrips and shares, in the last two years our exports have increased by 40 per cent. And the result is that today India is able to finance 90 per cent of its imports through its own exports. We have, over the last four years, reduced our dependence on foreign savings. In the year of crisis, in which the previous Government was presiding over the destinies of this country, the deficit on Current Account, that is, borrowings from abroad, was nine billion dollars. In recent years, we have reduced this borrowings drastically and in the year that is just ended, the Current Account deficit on the balance of payments was no more than 0.5 per cent of our GDP.

If you are looking at objective evidence of self-reliance, India is, in fact, moving in the right direction.

Sir, I think it was Shrimati Rita Verma, who said - I listened to her with great interest - that because we are reducing our tariffs on quantitative import restrictions, this is, some way, opening up the floodgates of imports which will hurt our industry. So what is the proof of that? Indian industry in 1994-95 increased at the rate of nearly nine per cent per annum. The capital goods industry

sector, where we have liberalized at the fastest pace, has increased by over 20 per cent. Can anybody say then that this liberalization policy is a policy of de-industrialization, as Mr. Indrajit Gupta said or some people in the Opposition implied? I respectfully submit that the evidence is quite contrary. We have, in fact, done a good job that while we are liberalizing our import regime, reducing tariffs, reducing quantitative import restriction but through a simultaneous use of the weapon of the exchange rate, we have ensured that Indian industry will continue to have reasonable degree of protection.

Some Members referred to the threat of dumping. Today we have an effective dumping legislation. So there should be no fear and no worry that we are going to allow foreign countries to dump their goods into our country. If any such things happen, a few months ago this House itself has passed the necessary legislation. The Government is, today, equipped with effective measures to deal with dumping of any goods. Therefore, there should be no doubt on that score altogether.

Now another argument has been advanced that while, on the one hand we are reducing imports, on the other hand we are increasing excise duties and, therefore, the argument is that we are not providing a level-playing field. First of all, Sir, I deny that we have been increasing excise duties. In fact, in the last four years, the process of reduction of excise duties, the extension of the MODVAT credit to most segments of Indian industry has reduced the cascading effects and the distortionary effects of excise duties. It has strengthened the competitiveness of the Indian industry. It has not weakened it. In the same way, in reducing import duties, we have taken care to see that the sharpest cuts are made in duties on inputs - all capital goods, so that the competitiveness of the Indian industry is improved and not weakened. And what is the proof of that? If the Indian industry were less competitive, why would our exports in dollar terms increase in 1993-94 by 20 per cent? Why would such an increase in the year 1994-95 be as much as 18 per cent? As a result, Sir, I submit that the policy of liberalisation is not a policy of de-industrialisation. It is a policy of strengthening India's industrial economy. It is a second Industrial Revolution, if you wish to call it. The industrial policy would see a lot more competition but out of it will emerge an Indian industry which is able to face the rest of the world on its own that we, as a nation, will be able to look everyone else's fate in the eye. Whether we like it or not, we live in a harsh competitive world. If anybody believes that India can keep its market through and that the rest of the world, therefore, will allow India's exports to enter freely without quantitative restrictions with moderate tariff trade, then, I respectfully submit that, that person is living in a world which does not exist today. We have seen, for example, the friction

between Japan and the United States in trade relations. If you want to take part in global economy, if you want India's exports to grow-and we do want India's export to grow because our exports of cotton textiles today are nearly 30 per cent of our exports, as millions of people, workers, handloom weavers and others depend on their livelihood for exports, and if you want to say that we will shut our economy from imports but the rest of the world should allow us, I respectfully submit to you that you need to rethink about your economics. We are not living in that world.

This does not mean that we should not take legitimate measures to protect our industries. We will take all possible measures to strengthen our industries, to strengthen our economy. There should be no fear that any international institution, whether it is the World Bank or the IMF or any other country, can dictate economic policies of this country. This country's economic policies have always been formulated keeping in view the national interests, and this Budget continues that process. Today, we do not have a programme with the IMF. Therefore, I was surprised when some Members said that there is the influence of the IMF. With the World Bank, today we have not central programme, except project assistance, and I can faithfully and honestly state to this House that there is no pressure on us at all from these international institutions. We are free to do what we like. We shall do what is good for the people of India. That has always been the paramount consideration and it will remain the paramount consideration...*(Interruptions)*

With regard to foreign investment, a lot of campaign of disinformation has been going on in this country. Even before 1991, India did allow hundred per cent foreign investment in export-oriented ventures. Even before 1991, India allowed seventy-four per cent equity to foreign investors in priority industries. But it was done through highly bureaucratic processes, case-by-case. There were delays. There were also complaints of corruption. So, the Prime Minister said: "Well, let us get rid of these bureaucratic hassles. Let us identify the priority industries where we want foreigners to come in on our terms but where there will be no rigmarole of clearances at several levels." That is why we identified thirty-four industries where we said we shall welcome foreign investment even if it wants to come on a majority basis. So, what we have done is the de-bureaucratization of the process of clearance. It is not a basic change in policy. Therefore, this saying that since 1991 we have adopted measures, selling this country to foreigners, or that we are doing anything which is against the interest of this country, is totally unrelated to the facts of the situation. Outside these thirty-four industries, each case is examined on its merits. As the Prime Minister has pointed out on several

occasions and as my other Ministerial colleagues have pointed out, we may not have got very large amount of direct investment. I admit when people say that we have got only limited amounts of foreign investment. But that was not unexpected. After all, this programme is only four years old. When people talk about China, the Chinese programme started in 1978. But our programme is only three and a half years old. So, I am not at all disappointed that there has been limited inflow of direct investment. But eighty per cent of this inflow has been in high-priority, in technology-intensive industries, including the agro-processing. Let me respectfully submit that when we talk of hi-tech, we always talk of steel. But today it is not steel which represents the commanding heights of the economy. It is the microchips in areas of agro-processing, bio-technologies and all that, which can bring about a sea change in opportunities for our farmers and for our consumers. Therefore, if you close your mind set, if your conception of what constitutes the commanding heights of the Indian economy is limited to what was discussed in 1956, I think that is no service to Pandit Ji. Pandit Ji always recognised and emphasised that we live in a dynamic world, that we cannot be prisoners of the past, and that our thinking has to adjust to the changing needs of our time. And that is precisely the foreign investment policy that we have followed. It is a policy, as I said, of strengthening self-reliance, not of weakening self-reliance, any suggestion to the country is not consistent with the facts that I have presented to this august House.

17.00 hrs.

Sir, I want to talk about the employment situation. The Members of the opposition have been arguing as if employment is falling and as if factories have been closing. But all evidence points to the contrary. I have already referred to the figures of employment generation produced by the Planning Commission. More recently, only two weeks ago, the Confederation of Indian Industry conducted a survey among its members. They have come out with a public study which falsifies this charge that over the reform period employment has been declined. Employment in the industries covered by the survey of the Confederation of Indian Industry clearly shows that the increase in employment has been roughly at the same rate as the increase in our population. I am not saying that this is enough. We need much higher growth rate. But, I think this propaganda that after the reforms, employment is falling and factories are closing has, in fact, no basis. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (Ahmedabad) : What about the textile industry?

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : Sir, in fact, I was looking recently at the investment intentions approved, after our

Government came into office. Until 31st March, 1995 we had approved, taken on record, 20,780 investment intentions covering an investment of Rs. 4,28,000 crore.

DR. ASIM BALA (Nabadwip) : What will happen to unemployment problems? How would you solve them?

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : I am coming to that. All these projects are now in various stages of implementation. When these projects are completed, they would add 40 lakh new jobs to the manufacturing sector of our economy.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR (Barrackpore) : The election assurance was for recruiting one crore people. You are now saying of 40 lakh only...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : I would like the House to appreciate that after 50 years of development, India's manufacturing sector, both in the private sector and the public sector, today employs no more than 70 to 75 lakh people. You consider that with the position in these last four years. If these approvals fructify, as they will in the next 4 to 5 years, we would have nearly added 70 per cent of the jobs that today exist in the manufacturing sector of our economy.

DR. ASIM BALA : But it has already gone down.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (Ahmedabad) : In Ahmedabad alone, 70,000 workers have become jobless. What have you got to say?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : Now I want to say something about this charge that small industry is the casualty of the reform process. Nothing could be farther from truth. The small industry in India is growing fast enough. And I want to say that all the sectors reserved for the small scale industry remain reserved and there is no dilution of policy on reservation. Import liberalisation has, on balance, particularly helped the small industry. They do not have to go to the canalising industry. They do not have to go to the licensing authorities for import licensing. They do not have to stock raw materials for two years now. They can get all these things on shelf and the proof that the Indian small industry is flourishing is shown by the growth rate. Last year the Indian small industry's growth rate was over seven per cent per annum...*(Interruptions)* Also, last year I asked the Confederation of Indian Industry and I also asked the National Institute of Public Finance to conduct a survey of the impact of our new policies particularly the fiscal policies on the small scale industries. Both these documents are public documents. If you care for the truth, please read these documents. Both these documents come to the conclusion that small scale industry is a beneficiary of the reforms process and not a victim of the reforms process.

As far as tax policies are concerned, preferential excise duty treatment of small scale industry is being

expanded. The limit on the use of the small scale excise concessions have been increased from Rs. Two crore to Rs. Three crore in the budget for 1995-96. The National Equity Fund is being expanded. The tax concessions for new small scale units under which they can deduct 30 per cent of their income if they are companies or 25 per cent of their income if they are not corporate entities for the first 10 years of operation has been continued in this year's budget.

Also, a provision of Rs. 220 crore Technology Development and Modernisation Fund has been established in SIDBI. A provision of Rs. 1,000 crore consortium lending has been arranged for village and small scale industries to ensure that the small, tiny enterprises in this country also benefit from the economic reform. A Seven Point Programme of reaching bank credit to the small industry people has been drawn up. Specialised bank branches catering specially to the needs of small scale industries will be established, in nearly 85 districts which have concentration of small industries of over 2,000. This year alone, we will establish at least 100 such branches.

The banking system has its problems. Several hon. Members have referred to this. I can assure the hon. House and the hon. Members that I am fully alive that our banking system needs to be streamlined, that it needs to be motivated so that the social objectives of banking are not neglected, even after the process of liberalisation gets going.

Now, Sir, I come to the role of agriculture, the role of food and fertilizer subsidies. Agriculture continues to be the base of our economy. No planning, no development in India can succeed if our farmers do not have an adequate incentive to produce more and our Government have acted on several fronts. We have reduced the disincentive against agriculture, the bias against agriculture built into our trade policies and excessive import substitution. We have, in the last three years, given remunerative prices to our farmers which more than offset the effects of increase in fertiliser prices and the result is that our farmers have responded handsomely to these initiatives. The fact that our foodgrains are so full, that we have over 30 million tonnes of foodgrains is an indication of the success of the new agricultural strategy.

I was Shri Nirmal Chatterjee who referred to the declining per capita availability. I think that is a statistical fiction. What has happened is, because remunerative prices are being offered, the private sector today does not stock foodgrains. All the stocks which were previously being held in the private sector have ended up in the public sector. The natural result is that it is a statistical illusion of a declining per capita availability of foodstocks. *(Interruptions)* The data is correct, but the inference that you are drawing is wrong. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum) : Are they not facts? Is it a fiction then?

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : But those facts do not lead you to draw the conclusion which you were drawing...*(Interruptions)*

Now, Sir, with regard to food and fertilizer subsidies, our Government has accepted that food subsidy is an integral part of our process of helping the weaker sections. The Public Distribution System is being particularly revamped in those areas, in those development blocks which contain the hardcore of poverty.

The food subsidy has been increased from Rs. 4000 crore last year's Budget to Rs. 5250 crore. Similarly, the fertilizer subsidy has been increased by nearly 50 per cent, i.e., from Rs. 4,000 crore last year to Rs. 5950 crore and I may inform the House that I would have been happy to spend more on these two things but the Finance Minister has to be conscious of such a thing as a resource constraint. We have a resource problem that limits the option and I may share with the House that before the Budget was formulated, I asked one of the non-Congress ruled State Chief Ministers as to what would be the right amount to spend in this year's Budget on food and fertilizer subsidy, taking into account the resource constraint that we have. That hon. Chief Minister wrote to me and to the Prime Minister that knowing the resource constraint, if you spend Rs. 5,000 crore towards food subsidy that would be an adequate response. We have done better than that. He said, "if you spend Rs. 6,000 crore on fertilizer subsidy that would be an adequate response". We have nearly met that demand. Our fertilizer subsidy bill is Rs. 5,950 crore, close to the figure of Rs. 6,000 crore.

Our Government shares the concern of all sections of the House that we should do as much as we can to strengthen our agricultural base. We would remain alive and alert to the needs of the farmers. The Budget is not the last word on what you can do in these areas.

Sir, I now come to the problem of inflation. I share the concern of the hon. Members with regard to inflation. I had said as much as I would in my Budget Speech. I had also said that there were some temporary factors why inflation had gone out of hand last year. Large inflow of external resources fed the expansion of money supply last year. Also, there were problems with regard to some sensitive commodities like raw cotton and vegetable oil. But this year, we are determined to bring inflation under control. Every week since the beginning of this financial year the inflation index has been declining. We will persist with that. I do share the anxiety of the Members. I also share the view that price rise is still a problem and that we need to do a lot more. But

through control of fiscal deficit, through proper monetary and credit policy, through reduction in import and excise duties, through liberal imports of essential commodities like cotton, vegetable, etc., through reduction in excise on essential products and through market sales of foodgrains, we will ensure that prices are kept under control. I think, it is possible to do so. Already the first six weeks of this year are an indication of what I said in my Budget Speech.

I now come to the fiscal situation. We have made progress; we have reduced the fiscal deficit, but not fast enough. I would be very honest with this House that if we do not contain fiscal deficit — and this is not today a Central problem alone. Today, this problem of the growing fiscal imbalances characterises the finances of most of the States of the Union. Most States are thinking that they can simply spend their way into prosperity. Inadequate emphasis is being laid on mobilising resources. Expanding non-Plan expenditure and subsidies today is affecting the finances of many Governments. Some Governments have gone to the extent of borrowing money from private moneylenders. I do not want to name them. Now, we as a nation, have to recognise that this is an unsustainable situation. We cannot go on increasing expenditure on Plan or on non-Plan or on subsidy and on everything else, and also simultaneously asking that taxes should be reduced, that exemption limit should be increased, and yet imagine that the Finance Minister can produce a rabbit out of his hat to say that fiscal deficit and our Government's deficit can go down! This is today a national problem.

We must tackle it. On the subject of external debt, we have today a problem which is much more manageable. But we have to be alert. The strategy that we are working is that the debt service ratio as a percentage of current receipts on the balance of payments which was about 27.7 per cent in 1994-95 should decline to about 20 per cent by the end of this decade. This requires vigorous export effort, this also requires prudent debt management to which we are committed. And therefore, with these measures, India's balance of payments can be taken care of.

Now, Sir, I come to some specific issues with regard to the Finance Bill. As the debate turned out, most Members did not have much to say on the provisions in the Finance Bill. From that, I take it that the House generally approves of all that I have done in this year. But a reference has been made to raising the exemption limit. Every year, since our Government came into office, we have raised the exemption limit. We have, this year, raised the exemption limit from Rs. 35,000 to Rs. 40,000. Today, Sir, the standard deduction is Rs. 15,000 for working men and Rs. 18,000 for working women.

Therefore, anybody who has a salaried income of Rs. 55,000 in the case of men or Rs. 58,000 in the case of women, he or she is not to bother about the tax. And in addition, if he or she is contributing to the Provident Fund or to an Insurance Policy, the tax incidence can still be lower. In addition, Sir, in this year's Budget, the provision for savings' deduction which was Rs. 10,000 in the last year's Budget, I have increased it to Rs. 13,000. If anybody has saved roughly one lakh rupees, on that, he gets an interest income of Rs. 13,000. In addition to this Rs. 55,000 tax exempt income, you can add another Rs. 13,000 tax exempt income. Considering India's poverty, considering India's per capita income I would like this House to take an objective view, whether the exemption limit needs to be raised. I sympathise with the plight of the middle class. The answer to their problem is that as a nation we must collectively improve the production; we must improve productivity and bring down the inflation. But we cannot achieve the results, we cannot provide genuine relief to the middle class through these gimmicks of raising the exemption limit. What would be the effect, if I raise the exemption limit from Rs. 40,000 to Rs. 60,000? There would be a loss of revenue of Rs. 2,000 crore. 77.5 per cent of that will be on account of the State Governments. If State Governments have less resources, they have less money for education, they have less money for health, they have less money for safe drinking water. Will the nation as a whole be better off? Well, I leave this to the judgement of this hon. House. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (Ahmedabad) : Please make it Rs. 50,000...*(Interruptions)*

DR. ASIM BALA (Nabadwip) : How are you going to control the black money?

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : A reference was made by Shrimati Rita Verma to certain anomalies in the import duties. It has been my effort in the last four years to simplify the tax structure to ensure that our tax structure sends the right signal that there is an incentive to send out manufactured goods rather than on raw-materials. But I will be the first person to admit that this process of restructuring is not complete. If there are any anomalies still in the system, we can always look at these things even after this Finance Bill is passed by this House.

Sir, another reference was made to the hike in excise duty on cement. It was not my intention to raise an effective burden of excise taxation on cement. And therefore, nobody, no manufacturers of cement should use the hike in excise duty as an occasion to raise his price. What I had done was I had extended the benefit of MODVAT on packaging to the cement industry.

To neutralise that and to see that cement industry did not pay less or more taxes, I raised marginally the

excise duties. The effective incidence of excise duty on cement industry has not increased as a result of the Budget and, therefore, there is no reason for anybody to complain that construction industry is being hurt as a result of what I have done in the Budget.

Shri B. Akber Pasha referred to the removal of export duty on leather. This has been done to encourage the production, to encourage our exports, but anything that may have been done by way of a cess, I think that that is a separate matter. That cess will benefit the industry. That does not benefit the Government. On my part, I have done my bit to encourage the leather industry which now employs millions of people in the small scale sector.

Finally, several Members have referred to reduction in excise duties. They welcomed this reduction. But they have argued whether these excise duty cuts will be passed on to the consumers. Last year, I had also made cuts on excise duties. I had asked the BICP to conduct a study. In most cases, these cuts on duties were passed on but, in some cases, there were problems. Our other Ministries have been taking up these matters with the concerned manufacturers. In particular, there has been concern in synthetic fibre industry. With slight reduction in duty, the prices have not come down. I propose to ask the BICP to conduct a thorough study of this matter and come up with any sensible suggestions. We allow it to ensure that wherever concessions have been given, these concessions are not for the benefit of the few, but they are for the benefit of the entire Indian people and if these concessions are not passed on, we will take up with the manufacturers and this Government has sufficient power to tackle that problem.

With these words, I commend the Finance Bill to the hon. House.

*(Interruptions)\**

MR. SPEAKER : It is not going on record.

Please sit down now. What is this? Rs. 2,000 crores have been allotted to textile industry.

*(Interruptions)\**

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing is going on record. Sit down now. It is not correct.

The question is :

"That the Bill to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the financial year 1995-96, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

New we will take up Clause-by-Clause consideration of the Bill.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Mohan Rawle, do not make a show. I do not appreciate it. You get back to your seat.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Are you going back to your seat or not? You have not heard anything at all.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : This kind of a thing is not appreciated. Please go back to your seat.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing is going on record.

*(Interruptions)...*

17.26 hrs.

*At this stage, Shri Mohan Rawle left the House*

MR. SPEAKER : Now, we take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

#### Clause 2 - Income Tax

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittorgarh) : Sir, I beg to move :

Page 2, line 56, —

*for "forty thousand" substitute "fifty thousand"(1)*

Page 2, line 57, —

*for "eighteen thousand" substitute "fifty thousand" (2)*

Page 3, line 3, —

*for "forty thousand" substitute "fifty thousand" (3)*

Page 3, line 4, —

*for "eighteen thousand" substitute "fifty thousand" (4)*

Page 3, line 15, —

*for "forty thousand" substitute "fifty thousand" (5)*

Page 3, line 17, —

*for "eighteen thousand" substitute "fifty thousand" (6)*

MR. SPEAKER : Now, I shall put amendment Nos. 1 to 6 moved by Shri Jaswant Singh to the vote of the House.

*Amendments No. 1 to 6 were put and negatived.*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Ram Naik, your amendments are the same as Shri Jaswant Singh's. So, they will not be put to the vote.

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North) : Sir, I understand that. But those amendments could be clubbed together.

MR. SPEAKER : Please understand that once the amendments of the same kind are put to the vote and negatived, other amendments are not mentioned.

\* Not Recorded.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur) : I beg to move :

Page 1, line 16,—

for "thirty-five thousand rupees" substitute "sixty thousand rupees" (63)

Page 1, line 17,—

for "eighteen thousand rupees" substitute "twenty-four thousand rupees" (64)

Page 1, line 21,—

for "thirty-five thousand rupees" substitute "sixty thousand rupees" (65)

Page 1, line 23,—

for "eighteen thousand rupees" substitute "twenty-four thousand rupees" (66)

MR. SPEAKER : Now, I shall put the amendment Nos. 63,64,65 and 66 moved by Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava to the vote of the House.

*Amendments No. 63,64,65 and 66 were put and negatived.*

MR. SPEAKER : Amendment Nos. 95 and 96 are the same as amendments negatived previously. Now, Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh to move his amendments.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : I beg to move:

Page 1, line 16,-

for "thirty-five thousand rupees" substitute "fifty-five thousand rupees" (100)

Page 1, line 17,-

for "eighteen thousand rupees" substitute "twenty-five thousand rupees" (101)

Page 1, line 21,-

for "thirty-five thousand rupees" substitute "fifty-five thousand rupees" (102)

Page 2, line 56,-

for "forty thousand" substitute "sixty thousand" (103)

Page 2, line 57,-

for "eighteen thousand" substitute "forty thousand" (104)

Page 3, line 3,-

for "forty thousand" substitute "fifty-five thousand" (105)

Page 3, line 15,-

for "forty thousand" substitute "sixty thousand" (106)

Page 3, line 17,-

for "eighteen thousand" substitute forty thousand" (107)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now, I shall put amendment Nos. 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106 and 107 moved by Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh to the vote of the House.

*The Amendments No. 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106 and 107 were put and negatived.*

MR. SPEAKER : The amendment Nos. 113 to 118 are the same as amendments negatived previously. So, I am not taking them up.

Dr. Laxminarayan Pandeya is not present.

The amendment Nos. 136 to 141 are identical and so they are not taken up.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That Clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 2 was added to the Bill*

MR. SPEAKER : The Question is :

"That clause 3 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted*

*Clause 3 was added to the Bill.*

#### Clause 4 - Amendment of Section 10

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittorgarh) : Sir, I beg to move :

Page 5,—

after line 28, insert—

'(8A) in clause (26) for the words, figures and letters "1st day of April, 1989, where such person is resident" the words, figures and letters "1st day of April, 1990, where such person is a *bona-fide* and permanent resident" shall be substituted. (7)

MR. SPEAKER : Now, I shall put amendment No. 7 moved by Shri Jaswant Singh to the vote of the House.

*Amendment No. 7 was put and negatived.*

MR. SPEAKER : The other amendments are of the identical nature. So, I am not putting them to the vote of the House.

The question is :

"That Clause 4 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 4 was added to the Bill.*

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That Clauses 5 to 13 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted*

*Clauses 5 to 13 were added to the Bill.*

**Clause 14 - Amendment of Section 55**

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : I beg to move :

Page 6, line 47, -

*for "taken to be nil" substitute "determined by the process of averaging" (8)*

MR. SPEAKER : Now I shall put Amendment No. 8 to Clause 14 to the vote of the House.

*Amendment No. 8 was put and negatived.*

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur) : I beg to move :

Page 6, line 45,-

*after "inserted" insert "with effect from the 1st April, 1995" (67)*

MR. SPEAKER : Now I shall put Amendment No. 67 to Clause 14 to the vote of the House.

*Amendment No. 67 was put and negatived.*

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That Clause 14 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 14 was added to the Bill.*

**Clause 15 - Insertion of new Section 80 DDA**

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : I beg to move :

Page 7, lines 14 and 15,-

*for "as the income of the previous year" substitute "at the rate of ten per cent" (9)*

MR. SPEAKER : Now I shall put Amendment No. 9 to Clause 15 to the vote of the House.

*Amendment No. 9 was put and negatived.*

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That Clause 15 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 15 was added to the Bill.*

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That Clauses 16 to 18 stand part of the Bill."

*The Motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 16 to 18 were added to the Bill.*

**Clause 19 - Amendment of Section 80-1A**

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : I beg to move :

Page 8, line 6,-

*after clause (iv), insert*

(i) in sub-clause (c), the following proviso shall be added, namely:

"Provided that the prescribed guidelines for identifying industrially backward districts shall also include the border desert districts of Gujarat and Rajasthan", and (ii) (10)

I seek your permission to just explain why I am moving this amendment. It will take me only a minute. The hon. Finance Minister is extremely partisan in granting benefits to certain hill areas. I can understand his preference and liking for hill areas because that is an area of particular interest and of partisan interest to him. But I would be thankful if he would be so good to extend the benefit that he is granting to those hill areas also, to the industrially, backward districts and also include to border desert districts of Rajasthan and Gujarat. This is a very reasonable plea. What the hills can get, why should not the desert get it? That is my plea to the Government.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : We support this. This is a request from all the Members from Gujarat.

MR. SPEAKER : Now I shall put Amendment No. 10 to Clause 19 to the vote of the House.

*Amendment No. 10 was put and negatived.*

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : I beg to move :

Page 8, line 6,-

*after clause (iv), insert-*

(i) in sub-clause (c), the following proviso shall be added, namely:

"Provided that the prescribed guidelines for identifying industrially backward districts shall also include the Uttarakhand region comprising the eight hill districts of Uttar Pradesh." (57)

MR. SPEAKER : Now I shall put Amendment No. 57 to Clause 19 to the vote of the House.

*Amendment No. 57 was put and negatived.*

[Translation]

SHRI RANJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : I beg to move :

Page 8, line 6,-

*after clause (iv), insert-*

(i) the sub-clause (c), the following proviso shall be added, namely:

"Provided that the prescribed guidelines for identifying industrially backward districts shall also include the Bundelkhand region comprising the six backward districts in Uttar Pradesh and 13 backward districts in Madhya Pradesh." (58)

Sir, Bundelkhand district is most backward and a no-industry district.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now I shall put amendment No. 58 moved by Shri Rajendra Agnihotri to the vote of the House.

*Amendment No. 58 was put and negatived.*

*[Translation]*

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur) : I beg to move :

Page 8, line 6,-

after clause (iv), insert

"(i) in sub-clause (c), the following proviso shall be added, namely :

"Provided that the prescribed guidelines for identifying backward districts shall also include the border desert districts of Haryana, Gujarat and Rajasthan"; and (ii)" (68)

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : Now I shall put amendment No. 68 moved by Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava to the vote of the House.

*Amendment No. 68 was put and negatived.*

SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO (Bapatla) : I beg to move :

Page 8, line 6, -

after clause (iv) insert-

'(i) in sub-clause (c), the following proviso shall be added, namely:

"Provided that the prescribed guidelines for identifying industrially backward districts shall also include the border backward desert districts of Bihar, Andhra Pradesh and Orissa", and (ii)' (89)

MR. SPEAKER : Now I shall put amendment No. 89 moved by Shri D. Venkateswara Rao to the vote of the House.

*Amendment No. 89 was put and negatived.*

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad): I beg to move:

Page 8, line 6, -

after "clause (iv)", insert-

(i) in sub-clause (c) the following proviso shall be added, namely:

"Provided that the prescribed guidelines for identifying industrially backward districts shall also include the backward and terrorist affected districts of Bihar", and (ii)' (109)

MR. SPEAKER : Now I shall put amendment No. 109 moved by Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh to the vote of the House.

*Amendment No. 109 was put and negatived.*

SHRI ANNA JOSHI (Pune) : I beg to move :

Page 8, line 6, -

after clause (iv), insert-

(i) in sub-clause (c), the following proviso shall be added, namely:

"Provided that the prescribed guidelines for identifying industrially backward districts shall also include eight hill districts of Uttar Pradesh." (146)

MR. SPEAKER : Now I shall put amendment No. 146 moved by Shri Anna Joshi to the vote of the House.

*Amendment No. 146 was put and negatived.*

Amendment made:

Page 8, for lines 31 and 33, substitute

'(e) in sub-section (6), after clause (iii) the following clause shall be inserted, namely :

"(iv) any ten consecutive assessment years falling within a period of twelve assessment years beginning with the assessment year in which an assessee begins operating and maintaining infrastructure facility":

(f) in sub-section (12)-

(i) for clause (c), the following clause shall be substituted, namely :

'(c) "initial assessment year" -

(1) in the case of an industrial undertaking or cold storage plant or ship or hotel, means the assessment year relevant to the previous year in which the industrial undertaking begins to manufacture or produce articles or things, or to operate its cold storage, plant or plants or the ship is first brought into use or the business of the hotel starts functioning;

(2) in the case of an enterprise, carrying on the business of developing, operating and maintaining any infrastructure facility, means the assessment year specified by the assessee at his option to be the initial year, not falling beyond the twelfth assessment year starting from the previous year in which the enterprise begins operating and maintaining the infrastructure facility'. (160)

(Shri Manmohan Singh)

MR. SPEAKER : The question is:

"That Clause 19, as amended, stand part of the bill."

*The motion was adopted*

*Clause 19, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

**Clause 20 - Amendment of Section 80 L**

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Jaswant Singhji, are you moving your amendment?

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : I am not moving now...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA (Padrauna) : I beg to move :

Page 8, line 38, -

for "thirteen thousand" substitute "fifteen thousand" (24)

MR. SPEAKER : Now I shall put amendment No. 24 moved by Shri Ram Nagina Mishra to the vote of the House.

*Amendment No. 24 was put and negatived.*

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad): I beg to move :

Page 8, line 38,-

for "thirteen thousand" substitute - "twenty-five thousand" (110)

MR. SPEAKER : I shall now put the amendment No. 110 moved by Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh to the vote of the House.

*Amendment No. 110 was put and negatived.*

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That Clause 20 stand part of the Bill"

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 20 was added to the Bill.*

**Clause 21 - Amendment of Section 80 U**

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Jaswant Singh - not moving. Shri Ram Naik - not moving. Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava - not moving. Shri Mohan Singh - not moving.

Shri Anna Joshi - not moving.

The question is :

"That Clause 21 stand part of the Bill"

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 21 was added to the Bill.*

**Clause 22 - Amendment of Section 88**

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Jaswant Singh - not moving. Shri Ram Naik - no moving.

Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava - not moving. Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh - not moving. Shri Anna Joshi.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI (Pune) I beg to move :

"Page 8, -

after line 43, insert-

'(la) in sub-section 6 -

(a) in clause (i), for "Seventeen thousand five hundred" "twenty seven thousand five hundred" shall be substituted;

(b) in clause (ii), for "twelve thousand" "twenty thousand" shall be substituted." (150)

MR. SPEAKER : I shall now put amendment No. 150 moved by Shri Anna Joshi to the vote of the House.

*Amendment No. 150 was put and negatived.*

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"The Clause 22 stand prt of the Bill"

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 22 was added to the Bill.*

MR. SPEAKER : The Question is:

"That Clauses 23 and 24 stand part of the Bill.

*The motion was adopted*

*Clauses 23 and 24 were added to the Bill.*

**Clause 25 - Amendment of Section 115 K**

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur) : I beg to move:

"Page 9, line 6, -

for "forty-seven" substitute "forty-five" (71)

"Page 9, line 8, -

for "six lakh rupees" substitute "seven lakh rupees" (72)

MR. SPEAKER : I shall now put amendments No.71 and No.72 moved by Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava to the vote the House.

*Amendments No.71 and 72 were put and negatived.*

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad): I beg to move :

"Page 9, line 6,

for "forty-seven" substitute "thirty-five" (112)

MR. SPEAKER : I shall now put amendment No. 112 moved by Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh to the vote the House.

*Amendment No.112 was put and negatived.*

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That Clause 25 stand part of the Bill"

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 25 was added to the Bill.*

MR. SPEAKER : The Question is :

"That clauses 26 to 29 stand part of the Bill.

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 26 to 29 were added to the Bill.*

**Clause 30 - Substitution of new Section  
for section 139 A**

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : I beg to move :

"Page 9, line 49, -

for "fifty thousand rupees" substitute -"one lakh rupees" (91)

MR. SPEAKER : I shall now put amendment No. 91 moved by Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava to the vote of the House.

*Amendment No. 91 was put and negatived.*

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That Clause 30 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 30 was added to the Bill.*

**Clause 31 - Substitution of New Section for  
Section 145**

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : I beg to move :

Page 10, line 49, -

after "may" insert -

"in consultation with the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India." (15)

Sir, I have to make just one word of appeal to the hon. the Finance Minister. This relates to the accountancy system. The recent changes have met with some very adverse comments and representations have been received by all of us against them. Even at this late stage, if the hon. the Finance Minister reconsiders this, I will withdraw my amendment.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : Sir, this is with regard to the provision that the Government will lay down the accounting standards. This is nothing unusual. Many other countries have this provision. The feeling which has been expressed that the Government will arbitrarily lay down the standards is not correct. I have stated when I introduced the finance Bill in this House that we would consult the Institute of Chartered Accountants and other professional bodies.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : As the hon. the Finance Minister has said that the Institute of Chartered Accountants will be consulted, I seek leave of the House to withdraw my amendment.

Amendment No.15 was, by leave, withdrawn.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clause 31 stand part of the Bill".

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 31 was added the Bill.*

**Clause 32 - Insertion of new chapter XIVB**

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : I beg to move:

Page 11

omit line 49 and 50 (92)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now, I shall put amendment No.92 moved by Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava to the vote of the House.

*Amendment No.92 was put and negatived.*

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clause 32 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 32 was added to the Bill.*

**Clause 33**

MR. SPEAKER : There is an amendment - amendment No.16 - by Shri Jaswant Singh. Are you moving your amendment?

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : No.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Ram Naik, are you moving your amendment No.49?

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North) : No, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : Amendemnt No.73. Are you moving it, Shri Bhargava?

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : No, Sir. I am not moving it.

MR. SPEAKER : Shrimati Mahajan, are you moving you amendment No.81?

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN (Indore) : No, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : There is another amendment by Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava. Are you moving your amendment No.93?

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : No, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : Amendment No. 152 by Shri Anna Joshi. Mr. Joshi, are you moving it?

SHRI ANNA JOSHI (Pune) : No, Sir. I am not moving it.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clause 33 stand part of the Bill".

*The motlon was adopted.*

*Clause 33 was added to the Bill.*

**Clause 34 - Amendment of Section 194C**

Amendement made :

Page 13, after line 29 insert—

(c) for the words "deduct an amount equal to two per cent of such sums as Income-tax on

income comprised therein" the following shall be substituted namely :

"deduct an amount equal to-

- (i) one per cent in case of advertising,
- (ii) in any other case two per cent of such sum as Income-tax on income comprised therein". (161)

(Shri Monmohan Singh)

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That Clause 34, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 34, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That Clause 35 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 35 was added to the Bill.*

**Clause 36 - Insertion of new sections  
194 J and 194 K**

MR. SPEAKER : Shri I Jaswant Singh, are you moving your Amendment Nos. 17 to 207

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : No, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : Amendment No. 50 to 53. Shri Naik, are you moving them?

SHRI RAM NAIK : No, Sir. I am not moving them.

MR. SPEAKER : There are Amendment Nos. 82 to 85 by Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan. Are you moving them?

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : No, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Bhargava, are you moving your Amendment No. 94?

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : No, Sir. I am not moving it.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Anna Joshi, are you moving your Amendment Nos. 153 to 156?

SHRI ANNA JOSHI : No, Sir.

Amendment made :

Page 13, in line 54, for "ten per cent" substitute "five per cent". (162)

(Shri Manmohan Singh)

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That Clause 36, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 36, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clause 37 to 40 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted*

*Clauses 37 to 40 were added to the Bill.*

**Clause 41 - Amendment of Section 230 A**

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Bhargava, are you moving your amendment?

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BARGAVA : No, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That Clause 41 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 41 was added to the Bill.*

**Clause 42 Amendment of Section 234 B**

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum) : beg to move :

Page 15, line 48,—

for "to the date of such regular assessment," substitute "up to the period of payment of tax." (128)

Sir, let me mention this. I have moved the amendemnt which says that instead of the date of such regular assessment, substitute upto the period of payment of tax. This really rewards the tax-payer who is paying the tax a little lately and punishes him if he does not pay even after regular assessment. Therefore, I have suggested this amendment. He is nodding his head; I think, he is approving of it.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : I think, that perception is not correct. There is a separate provision already for levy of interest on delayed payment of assessment tax after regular assessment has been made. So, the inference that the hon. Minister has drawn is not correct.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : But somebody pays the tax before regular assessment and what happens to him?

MR. SPEAKER : Now I shall put the amendment no. 128 moved by Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee to the vote of the House.

*Amendment No. 128 was put and negatived.*

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That Clause 42 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 42 was added to the Bill.*

MR. SPEAKER : The Question is :

"That Clauses 43 to 92 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 43 to 92 were added to the Bill.*

**First Schedule**

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : I beg to move :

Page, - 28

for line 40 to 47, substitute-

"Rates of Income-tax

- (1) where the total income Nil does not exceed Rs. 50,000

- (2) where the total income exceeds Rs. 50,000 but does not exceed Rs. 75,000 10 per cent of the amount by which the total income exceeds Rs. 50,000
- (3) where the total income Rs. 75,000 but does not exceed Rs. 1,50,000 Rs. 2,500 plus 20 per cent of the amount by which the total income exceeds Rs. 75,000
- (4) where the total income exceeds Rs. 1,50,000 but does not exceed Rs. 5,00,000 Rs. 17,500 plus 30 per cent of the amount by which the total income exceeds Rs. 1,50,000
- (5) where the total income exceeds Rs. 5,00,000 Rs. 1,22,500 plus 40 per cent of the amount by which the total income exceeds Rs. 5,00,000 (21)

Page 28, line 50, -

for "Rs. 40,000" substitute "Rs. 50,000" (22)

Page 28, -

for lines 51 to 56, substitute, -

"Rates of Income-tax

- (1) where the total income does not exceed Rs. 50,000 Nil
- (2) where the total income exceeds Rs. 50,000 but does not exceed Rs. 1,50,000 20 per cent of the amount by which the total income exceeds Rs. 50,000
- (3) where the total income exceeds Rs. 1,50,000 but does not exceed Rs. 5,00,000 Rs. 20,000 plus 30 per cent of the amount by which the total income exceeds Rs. 1,50,000
- (4) where the total income exceeds Rs. 5,00,000 Rs. 1,25,000 plus 40 per cent of the amount by which the total income exceeds Rs. 5,00,000" (23)

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had moved these amendments to the First Schedule. Even now I appeal to the hon. Finance Minister to grant benefits to the tax-payers and to change these rates as proposed in the amendments.

MR. SPEAKER : Now, I shall put the amendment nos. 21, 22 and 23 moved by Shri Jaswant Singh to the vote of the House.

*Amendments No. 21, 22 and 23 were put and negatived.*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Ram Nagina Mishra, are you moving your amendment?

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA (Padrauna) : No, Sir.  
SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack) : I beg to move :  
Page 28, -

for lines 40 to 47, substitute -

"Rates of Income-tax

- (1) where the total income does not exceed Rs. 55,000 Nil
- (2) where the total income exceeds 55,000 but does not exceed 1,00,000 15 per cent of the amount by which the total income exceeds Rs. 1,00,000
- (3) where the total income exceeds 1,00,000 but does not exceed 1,50,000 Rs. 6750 plus 20 per cent of the amount by which the total income exceeds 1,00,000
- (4) where the total income exceeds 1,50,000 Rs. 16,750 plus 30 per cent of the amount by which the total income exceeds 1,50,000." (60)

MR. SPEAKER : I shall now put the amendment no. 60 moved by Shri Srikanta Jena to the vote of the House.

*Amendment No. 60 was put and negatived.*

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : I beg to move:  
Page 28, - First  
for lines 40 to 47, substitute Schedule

"Rates of Income-tax

- (1) where the total income not exceed Rs. 60,000 Nil
- (2) Where the total income exceeds Rs. 60,000 but does not exceed Rs. 1,20,000 20 per cent of amount by which the total income exceeds Rs. 60,000
- (3) Where the total income exceeds Rs. 1,20,000 Rs. 12,000 plus 30 per cent of the amount by which the total income exceeds Rs. 1,20,000" (75)

Page 28, line 50, -

for "Rs. 40,000" substitute "60,000"

Page 28, -

for lines 51 to 56, substitute -

First  
Schedule (76)

First  
Schedule

- "Rates of Income-tax"
- (1) where the total income does not exceed Rs. 24,000 Nil
- (2) where the total income exceeds Rs. 24,000 but does not exceed Rs. 1,00,000 20 per cent of the amount by which the total income exceeds Rs. 24,000
- (3) where the total income exceeds Rs. 1,00,000 Rs. 15,200 plus 30 per cent of the amount by which the total income exceeds Rs. 1,00,000" (77)

Page 29, line 12 - First  
for "40 per cent." Schedule (78)  
substitute "20 per cent."

Page 29, - First  
omit lines 36 to 39. Schedule (79)

If the minimum exemption limit is raised from Rs. 40,000 to Rs. 50,000, it will help the poor. Therefore, I feel it should be raised to Rs. 50,000.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I shall now put Amendment Nos. 75, 76, 77, 78 and 79 moved by Shri G.L. Bhargava to the vote of the House.

*The amendment Nos. 75, 76, 77, 78 and 79 were put and negatived.*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum) : Sir, I beg to move :

Page 28, -  
for lines 40 to 47, substitute —

- "Rates of Income-tax"
- (1) where the total income does not exceed Rs. 40,000 Nil
- (2) where the total income exceeds Rs. 40,000 but does not exceed Rs. 60,000 10 per cent of the amount by which the total income exceeds Rs. 40,000
- (3) where the total income exceeds Rs. 60,000 but does not exceed Rs. 1,00,000 Rs. 2,000 plus 20 per cent of the amount by which the total income exceeds Rs. 60,000
- (4) where the total income exceeds Rs. 1,00,000 but does not exceed Rs. 2,00,000 Rs. 10,000 plus 30 per cent of the amount by which the total income exceeds Rs. 1,00,000

- (5) where the total income exceeds Rs. 2,00,000 Rs. 40,000 plus 45 per cent of the amount by which the total income exceeds Rs. 2,00,000" (129)

He has argued it at length as to why the exemption limit cannot be increased. In fact, what I have suggested is not an increase in the exemption limit but I have suggested that the lowest rates be reduced from 20 per cent to 10 per cent. At present, it is beyond Rs. 40,000. I have also suggested that at the highest level, instead of 40 per cent, it should be 45 per cent but that is above Rs. 2 lakhs. As far as I view, he was never able to oppose these proposals. But I do not know how he will react now. Even if the exemption limit cannot be raised, let him accept these amendments.

MR. SPEAKER : I shall now put Amendment No. 129 moved by Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee to the vote of the House.

*The amendment No. 129 was put and negatived.*

MR. SPEAKER : I shall now put the First Schedule to the vote of the House.

The question is :

"That the First Schedule stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*The First Schedule was added to the Bill.*

### Second Schedule

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, I beg to move :

"174. Page 32,  
omit lines 4 and 5." (174)

MR. SPEAKER : I shall now put Amendment No. 174 moved by Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee to the vote of the House.

*Amendment no. 174 was put and negatived.*

MR. SPEAKER : I shall now put the Second Schedule to the vote of the House.

The question is :

"That the Second Schedule stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*The Second Schedule was added to the Bill.*

### Third Schedule

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, I beg to move :

Page 70, line 25, -  
for "50%" substitute "65%" (26)

Page 70, line 26,  
for "50%" substitute "65%" (27)

Page 70, line 28,  
for "50%" substitute "65%" (28)

Page 70, line 41,  
for "50%" substitute "65%" (29)

Page 70, line 42,  
for "50%" substitute "65%" (30)

Page 71, line 8,  
for "50%" substitute "65%" (31)

MR. SPEAKER : I shall now put Amendments No. 26, 27, 28, 29, 30 and 31 moved by Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee to the vote of the House.

*Amendment Nos. 26, 27, 28, 29, 30 and 31 were put and negatived.*

*Amendments made:*

Page 38, in line 6, -  
for "(NOT RENDERED OR OTHERWISE EXTRACTED)", substitute "NOT RENDERED OR OTHERWISE EXTRACTED"; (163)

Page 40, -

(i) in line 4, -  
for "heading No. 18.06",  
substitute "heading No. 18.06 (heading No. 18.06)";

(ii) in line 37, -  
for "UNDENATURATED" substitute "UNDENATURED"; (164)

Page 42, after line 28, insert-  
"-OTHER film, without perforations of a width exceeding 105 mm."; (165)

Page 44, for line 28 and 29, substitute

(iii) in heading No. 47.07, -  
(a) for the entry in column (3), the following entry shall be substituted, namely :-  
"RECOVERED (WASTE AND SCRAP) PAPER OR PAPERBOARD";  
(b) in subheading No. 4707.10, for the entry in column (3), the following entry shall be substituted, namely :-  
"-Unbleached kraft paper or paperboard or corrugated paper or paperboard";  
(c) in subheading No. 4707.20, in column (3), for the words "Of other paper", the words "Other paper" shall be substituted;

(d) in subheading No. 4707.30, in column (3), for the words "Of paper", the word "Paper" shall be substituted'; (166)

Page 46, in line 28,  
for "Textile, fabrics", substitute "Textile fabrics"; (167)

Page 58, in line 31, -  
for "derivatives or acyclic", substitute "derivatives of acyclic"; (168)

Page 60, in line 8, -  
for "Subheading", substitute "Subheading Note 1 to this Chapter"; (169)

Page 63, in line 27, -  
for "-Other", substitute "-Other"; (170)

Page 71, -  
(a) in line 38, -  
for "red-lamps", substitute "arc-lamps";

(b) in line 39, -  
omit "Arc-lamps:" (171)

(Shri Manmohan Singh)

MR. SPEAKER : I shall now put the Third Schedule, as amended, to the vote of the House.

The question is :

"That the Third Schedule, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*The Third Schedule, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

18.00 hrs.

#### Fourth Schedule

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, I beg to move :

Page 82, line 53, -  
for "40%" substitute "60%" (32)

Page 83, line 2, -  
for "20%" substitute "30%" (33)

Page 75, -  
omit line 17. (130)

Page 75, -  
omit lines 27 and 28. (131)

Page 75,-  
omit lines 29 and 30. (132)

Page 75, -

omit lines 36 and 37. (133)

Page 75, -

omit lines 44 to 47 (134)

Page 81, line 15, -

for "20 per cent" substitute "10 per cent" (135)

MR. SPEAKER : I shall now put the Amendment Nos. 32, 33, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134 and 135 moved by Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee to the vote of the House.

*The Amendment Nos. 32, 33, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134 and 135 were put and negatived.*

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : If we continue working, it is supposed that we have agreed to work for, maybe beyond 6 O'Clock.

The time is extended.

*Amendments made :*

Page 74, in line 34, for

"fruit juice of flavoured with non-fruit flavours, such as rose, khjus, kewara"

substitute "fruit juice or flavoured with non-fruit flavours, such as rose, khus, kewra" (172)

Page 80, after line 43, insert -

(iv) in NOTE 6, for the figures "59.08", the figures "59.10" shall be substituted;

(v) in NOTE 7 -

(a) in the opening line, for the figures "59.09", the figures "59.11" shall be substituted;

(b) in clause (a), for the figures and word "59.07 and 59.08", the figures and word "59.08, 59.09 and 59.10" shall be substituted;

(c) in clause (b), for the figures and word "59.07 and 59.08", the figures and word "59.08, 59.09 and 59.10" shall be substituted;. (173)

(Shri Manmohan Singh)

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : I beg to move:

Page 96 line 44, -

for "20%" substitute "15%" (175)

Page 97, line 14, -

for "20%" substitute "10%" (176)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I shall now put the Amendment Nos. 175 and 176 moved by Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava to the vote of the House.

*Amendments No. 175 and 176 were put and negatived.*

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK : I beg to move :

Page 75, -

after line 32, insert-

(ii) 'For NOTE 7, the following NOTE, shall be substituted, namely :

"7. Heading No. 39.15 shall apply to waste, parings and scrap of single thermoplastic material, transformed into primary forms (heading Nos. 39.01 to 39.14).'" (180)

Sir, my amendment is very small but very important. A levy has been imposed on the recycled plastic, which is manufactured from plastic scraps collected from roadsides by Ragpickers. This plastic was never levied before. This is my amendment and I would request the hon. Finance Minister to consider it and, it will be better if he gives a reply in regard to this amendment.

[English]

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have considered this matter. I have discussed this matter also with the hon. Members. I appreciate the spirit. But I find, it is administratively difficult to implement these suggestions. Even then I would have further consideration.

SHRI RAM NAIK : Sir, we could not hear him properly.

MR. SPEAKER : No. no, I can tell you, He says, administratively it is difficult. He will discuss the matter. He appreciates the spirit with which you have moved it.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in view of the assurance given by the hon'ble Minister, I seek the permission of the House to withdraw the amendment.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Is it the pleasure of the House that the Amendment moved by Shri Ram Naik be withdrawn?

*Amendment No. 180 was, by leave, withdrawn*

MR. SPEAKER : I shall now put the Fourth Schedule, as amended, to the vote of the House.

The question is :

"That the Fourth Schedule, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

The Fourth Schedule, as amended, was added to the Bill.

### Fifth Schedule

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : I beg to move:

Page 105, line 19, -

for "Rs. 45 per quintal"

substitute "Rs. 35 per quintal" (177)

Page 105, line 26, -

for "Rs. 350 per thousand"

substitute "Rs. 330 per thousand" (178)

Page 105, line 40, -

for "Rs. 2.50 per thousand"

substitute "Rs. 2 per thousand" (179)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I shall now put Amendment Nos. 177, 178 and 179 moved by Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava to the vote of the House.

*Amendments No. 177, 178 and 179 were put and negatived.*

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Fifth Schedule stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*The Fifth Schedule was added to the Bill.*

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clause 1 the Enacting Formula and the Long Title stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.*

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : I beg to move :

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

MR. SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, kindly allow me to speak. What I say is purely for record's sake. I have mentioned it this morning also. He has talked about the per capita availability of foodgrains. Now I am giving the figures which are from the 'Economic Survey'. In 1984, the per capita per day availability of foodgrains was 424.2 grams.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Chatterjee, is it the stage to give all those details?

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : As I have said, it is purely for the purpose of record.

MR. SPEAKER : Okay, I will allow you. As it is, it takes more time resisting you!

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : So, in that year the per capita per day availability of foodgrains was 424.2 grams. This was not the first time. In the year 1985, it was 479.7 grams. Then in 1990, it was 494.5 grams. In 1991, it was 476.4 grams.

AN HON. MEMBER : What is it?

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : These are figures relating to per capita availability of foodgrains per day.

In 1992, it was 510 grams. Today, it is 474 grams. The whole point that I am making is that these figures are from your own publication.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : It is a wrong interpretation.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : They are denying their own publication! My question is simple. In earlier years, when you had much larger per capita availability, you could not export. Today, you had a large stock of foodgrains and you are promoting exports also, while the per capita availability is reduced. Then the only conclusion that any sensible person including Dr. Jakhar would arrive at is that people are eating less. This is point number one.

Secondly, what you have not stated in your reply is that all this is happening either with a stationary rate of saving or investment in the economy or there may even be a decline in the savings rate. Of course, he may get a Nobel Prize for achieving a higher growth rate in the economy with a declining rate of saving! Now, these are to be explained by him.

Thirdly Sir, I have made a suggestion that instead of having tax deductions in income in so many clauses, why there cannot be just one deduction in tax, just as in Section 88 in place of so many sub-sections in Section 80 of the Income-tax Act. I would like to hear his response.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are two issues that I want bring to the notice of this House. I have raised these issues many times before and I want to repeat them now that both the Finance Minister and the Prime Minister are also present here. This is about the Central sector industrial units which are before the BIFR. What is happening is very very disturbing, to put it very mildly. Now, the whole process takes so much time. Production is not taking place. Workers are totally uncertain about their future. These are units which have occupied a very important position in the Indian industry and these include companies like the Indian Iron and Steel Company. These have been taken over by the Government for revival. Merely saying that under the law, these have been referred to the BIFR or that the BIFR will appoint

an operating agency, etc., will not absolve your responsibility. This process takes months and months and years. Now, there may be different views. We have certain views and others may have certain other views. But whatever may be the perception of the Government, unless it is looked into and tackled very seriously and sincerely, this will have a very deleterious effect on our economy as a whole. You cannot have lakhs and lakhs of people facing privation, misery and uncertainty. For whose benefit is this happening? That is why, we have been requesting very sincerely that this matter be solved immediately. We have been raising this issue repeatedly in this House. I have raised it with the Finance Minister as also the Prime Minister that they may please with all seriousness, do a unit by unit study within a particular time frame.

As you know, three or four or five units have already been found to be viable and they have been brought out of the list. BIFR has already stated that they are viable and they need not go into those units. Therefore, they can be revived. A concern like Bengal Chemicals which was founded by Acharya Prafulla Chandra Roy and which was a part of our national movement....

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : That unit has been revived.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Yes, that unit has been revived. That shows that units, in that list of 43, that infamous list, out of that so many of them are being revived. The plea is: take it seriously. There have been units where there have been no Managing Directors, no Director (Finance), no capital input, large amounts of old loans are outstanding on which interest is making the accounts red and from looking at the balance sheet, one will say, this is a company which should not survive although they are making a cash profit. These are creating havoc. My earnest request to you is, whatever may be our difference in perception, difference in our feeling about the economic policies and all that, please do not ignore this. BIFR is no solution. Unfortunately, BIFR is not the solution. The solution is, the Government should sit with us, sit with the people from the Trade Unions and all the Departments should meet together and decide. Let a study be made. Many of these units can be revived.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : Are you able to convert...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : I do not appear before the BIFR. What I have been told as to the comments that are made from the Bench show that they have no sympathy. They are taking it as a routine matter. You come with some proposals, Mr. Chidambaram. Everything cannot be commerce.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Everything is also not West Bengal Industrial Development.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : I know, this West Bengal Industrial Development has become your bugbear. I know, you are envious.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I am making a suggestion to you. Do you agree with me?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : I have never said no. But I must see what is your concept. You just stand here and say something. I would like to know if it is result oriented. Therefore, I would like to request the hon. Prime Minister - some of them are good people there, though not all - the Finance Minister, the Commerce Minister and even the Minister of Steel, though I do not know what his present attitude is...

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : BIFR recommended that wage negotiation should not take place; but it was because of the intervention by the Prime Minister that we have given IISCO the benefit of wage negotiation.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : I congratulate you for that.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : You are complimenting me...*(Interruptions)*. Let me finish. You are talking of only one aspect. In other respects, the Prime Minister has formed a Group of Ministers, of which, the Finance Minister is the President and Pranab Babu and the Labour Minister are the Members. Each and every case referred by the BIFR has to be decided on merit. We are not taking a view that we will accept whatever BIFR would recommend. We shall examine it, our view point would be heard and wherever we can protect, we will give protection. Take for example, the Heavy Engineering Corporation which is being revived. Some of them can be revived.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : What about MAMC?

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Do not tell everything. Try to appreciate also.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Have you exhausted yourself? I am quite used to such things and it does not affect me.

Sir, some wage negotiations have ended in favour of the workers. It is good. I think, to that extent he deserves some congratulation, for a change. Therefore, what I am saying is, he himself has said that there is some Committee of the Ministers, but they are not involving others in that; they are not involving the unions in that...

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : He is going into all the aspects.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Call people who are interested in this.

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : Hardly a day goes without our friends coming up with something or the other before the BIFR. They are more vociferous when it is going to be decided. That is the only timing that they do. It is perfect timing.

I have received representations from them and from others. I am taking it personally as a matter of great importance and urgency. I have explained this to them. For instance, Sir, I feel come what may, we should not allow the Heavy Engineering Corporation in Ranchi to die down.

AN HON. MEMBER : What about Haldia?

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : I am not going into the individual cases. This is the one which I remember very well, the opening, the beginning of which I remember very well. This is the industry which is the mother of all other machines. So, it is just like killing the mother if this particular industry is killed or allowed to be killed. We will not let that happen, Sir. But it is a very complicated thing, mismanaged over a long period of years. We will have to go it. It will take some time.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : I am thankful to the hon. Prime Minister for this. But some time frame would be very very desirable. Uncertainly does not help either the people, the industry, the economy or the industrial scene. Please understand that.

The second thing is very serious. I sincerely ask the Finance Minister, how corruption is affecting the reform programme initiated by the Government. People have been telling us that it is seriously affecting the reform programme. Please do not ignore it. I would like to know whether the Government is taking any serious step in this direction. Many important decisions have been held up or taken for reasons which are suspected. I do not know, I am not a participant in that. But there are strong complaints, which have been made regularly, that it is affecting the programme seriously. What will happen to the Prime Minister, the Finance Minister or the Government, we all know! But so long as you are there, what are you doing in this regard?

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Sir, unfortunately, when the Finance Minister replied to the debate he did not touch about regional imbalance. Because of the new economic policy of the Government, Eastern States like, Orissa, Bihar and West Bengal and also the Northeastern States are being neglected. Whatever investment is there, it is being made in some part of the country, to be more precise only in States where the infrastructure is in a readymade stage. As a result of this, the backward States will remain backward only. The Finance Minister did not even say a word about the regional imbalance which is going to be created because of the new economic policy. The successive Governments in the State of Orissa have been

demanding, whether it was a Congress Government, Janata Dal or any other party Government, that it should be treated as a backward State and all the benefits that are due to a backward State should be extended to it.

In Orissa we have two major public sector units, that is the Rourkela Steel Plant and NALCO. NALCO is the only public sector unit which is giving Rs. 500 crore profit. Rourkela Steel Plant is also giving profit.

MR. SPEAKER : Let us not discuss it State-wise. It becomes complicated.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : The profit that is being generated is not being recycled there itself. It is rather flown to the other States. This is creating the regional imbalance.

MR. SPEAKER : The point, which you have made about the regional imbalance, is a good point but you are reducing its value by taking it to the individual State.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Sir, I am just giving this information. We are supplying coal to other States. We are supplying so many other things but that State is particularly neglected when it comes to making investment. I would say that because of the new economic policy the backward States are going to suffer a lot. This point was not at all touched by the hon. Finance Minister when he replied to the debate. Please do not think that the entire country is around Delhi or Bombay. Whatever investment has been made so far, it has been made only in some particular area. Let me have your reaction about this regional imbalance.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : That is not correct. It is completely wrong.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I refer very briefly, at this stage of the debate in passing this Bill, to two aspects of the Finance Minister's direct responsibility which have not been adequately answered by him. It is the corrosive consequence, Sir, of corruption, as briefly mentioned by my esteemed colleague. This consequence, Sir, is functional, it is also directly related to the investment confidence of India. I will not go into an analysis of what this results in but certainly when we examine the record of this Government, with the continued uncertainty about Bofors, about the lack of information on punishment meted out to the banking and securities scam, sugar scandal about which so many still remain unpunished, and the disinvestment matter. The hon. Finance Minister, Sir, just now cited that earlier there used to be a case-by-case consideration. May I remind him that it is his own Ministry dealing with Telecommunications where there is a case-by-case consideration. ... (Interruptions)... It is your Government. Sir, it is a case-by-case consideration. What is happening in Telecommunications? What is after all happening in Power? The list, Sir, is

endless. My senior colleague Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee just pointed out investment placement of Rs. 1000 crore by the Unit Trust in a very prominent business house resulting in a loss of Rs. 250 crore to the Unit Trust. I am not naming the business house but this is a fact of life. The hon. Finance Minister, Sir, has kept completely quiet about it.

MR. SPEAKER : At this stage we discuss why a Bill should be passed or why it should not be passed.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : This is why it should not be passed, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : No, no.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : I say this because the hon. Finance Minister has given no information. He has not reacted to it. At least let him give some assurance.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Ram Nagina Mishra.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You please understand that Rs. 2000 crore have been provided for it.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Uttar Pradesh has been neglected in matter of industrial development. A decision has been taken to sell several sugar mills of Uttar Pradesh...(Interruptions). Arrears of billions of rupees of canegrowers are outstanding. What will happen to sugar factories, where will the canegrowers go?...(Interruptions) Sugarcane is the only crop on which the people of Uttar Pradesh sustain...(Interruptions) I would like to know from the hon. Finance Minister as to how the sugar factories there will be developed, how the canegrowers will be paid their arrears. This has also to be looked into...(Interruptions)

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani) : Mr. Speaker...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Bhogendra Ji, I have not allowed, it is not going on record. Please do not speak.

(Interruptions)\*...

MR. SPEAKER : It is not going on record, why are you speaking?

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, some points have been raised with regard to the per capita availability of foodgrains by Mr. Nirmal Chatterjee. I was not challenging the facts. I was challenging the inferences he was drawing from those facts. The plain truth is that in the last two-three years because our Government has offered handsome remunerative prices, private stocks have declined. While private stocks are

counted as part of the availability, when they go to the public sector those are not considered a part of the availability. Therefore, you have a statistical phenomenon which, despite such good production, appears the way Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee presented it. His inference that, therefore, people are eating less, I do not buy that. ... (Interruptions)...

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : This morning it is said that the farmers are having too much stocks and that is why the prices are rising.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : Sir, with regard to the approach to the sick units, the House has heard the hon. Prime Minister and I have nothing to add. But I would like to say, Sir, that since this Government came into office, we have rehabilitated 24 sick units and we have structured programmes of restructuring or reviving sick units. Never in the history of this country has such a structured programme of reviving sick units been implemented.

Now, Sir, I will come to the issue of regional imbalance. I do agree that regional imbalances exist. We cannot leave it entirely to the market forces or to the private enterprises to take care of them. That is why in the last three years, I have been providing special tax incentives for backward regions. Shri Jaswant Singh was saying that he was not happy because I was providing incentives for hilly regions. If he considers the North-Eastern region of our country as unimportant, if he considers Jammu and Kashmir as unimportant, well, I leave it to see that I do not owe any apology for having given tax concessions to accelerate development of those regions.

I would say that the Government is now disengaging itself gradually from direct investments in prosperous areas. The increased manoeuvrability that our Government has, the funds that will be at the disposal of our Government, we will be better able to invest those funds in the backward regions viz., the North-Eastern region, Bihar and Orissa. But the problems of Bihar and Orissa are not problems of lack of investments. If you look at the *per capita* investments of the public sector in Bihar and Orissa, they figure very prominently. They are much better. The real problems of Bihar and Orissa lie in the continued low productivity, poor administration, and poor electricity generation. If you deal with those problems, I can assure you that a lot more public and private investments will come into Orissa. (Interruptions)

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : I totally disagree with the Finance Minister. Do you know what are the *per capita* investments of Railways, roadways or any other public sector in Orissa?

You are totally wrong Mr. Finance Minister. You may say political administration or whatever it is, Sir, a wrong signal is being sent to the entire nation. Orissa gives

maximum to the Railway authorities but the Railway investment is less compared to other States ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Jena, what is going on there?

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Sir, the attitude of the Finance Minister towards a particular State is really bad. We are concerned about this. We are giving the maximum revenue.

MR. SPEAKER : If you think that his figures are wrong, you have your method of proving that you are correct.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : We are giving the maximum revenue...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : This is not good. This is pleading a weak case.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Orissa is the richest State. We are rich in all sectors but because of continuous neglect of Delhi, we are in such a position. If the Finance Minister wants a debate on this issue, we are prepared to debate on this issue. His attitude really concerns us.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Jena, this is not proper. I have allowed you but cannot continue like this.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : What is the Finance Minister's attitude towards Orissa?

MR. SPEAKER : You please take your seat. You cannot shout him down on this. He is on his legs. This is not correct.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : This is most unfortunate.

MR. SPEAKER : This not correct. This is not the way of arguing the case.

18.30 hrs.

*At this stage, Shri Srikanta Jena and some other hon. Members left the House*

*(Interruptions)\**

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA (Balasore) : Sir, I am on a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER : I must hear Mr. Patra's point of order.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA : Sir, According to rule 94 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business, the scope of debate on motion for passing of Bill is limited. When the hon. Finance Minister moves that the Bill be passed, at that time there is no scope for hon. Members to go for a debate. The Members cannot refer to the details of the Bill further.

\* Not Recorded.

MR. SPEAKER : I must say that Mr. Patra's point of order is in order. All the same I am allowing the Members to have their say because they have cooperated in a very excellent manner.

*(Interruptions)*

AN HON. MEMBER : Sir, it is misleading.

MR. SPEAKER : It is not misleading. If his statement is not correct, confront him by following the rules...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, with regard to this issue of corruption, I would like to say that our economic policy reforms are designed to reduce the scope for corruption. The fact that we have eliminated industrial licensing; the fact that we have nearly eliminated discretionary import licensing and the fact that we have liberalised imports which will reduce the scope for smuggling of gold and silver, show that all these are designed to reduce the scope for corruption and reduce the scope for generation of black money.

Sir, the hon. Shri Vajpayeeji and Shri Jaswant Singhji referred to a particular transaction of the Unit Trust of India. Sir, the Unit Trust of India operates on its own. I can categorically state that there has been no Government influence in this transaction. And I would also say that if you have come across any credible evidence that any wrong has been done, I would have it investigated. But merely because the security that the Unit Trust of India bought for a long period and are going to hold it for a five year period, the stock market prices fluctuate and merely because the prices today go down, does not warrant a conclusion that anything has been done wrong. But if you have any evidence, you have my assurance that I would have it properly investigated.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : You may say that your reforms are designed to reduce corruption. But has it happened? I would like to have a sincere comment on this. Therefore, it seems that this Government is totally unconcerned about corruption and there is no point in continuing the dialogue with them.

I know he is not allowed to say what he feels. He cannot say what he feels. Therefore, there is no point to see that this rule is printed in the Rules.

We walk out on this point.

18.36 hrs.

*At this stage, Shri Somnath Chatterjee and some other hon. Members left the House.*

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : I beg to move :

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. SPEAKER : Please allow me to say that the discussion on the Finance Bill was good and all Members cooperated. We would like to thank them very profusely. Thank you.

*Now the House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow the 24th May, 1995 at 11.00 a.m.*

**18.37 hrs.**

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, May 24, 1995/Jyaistha 3, 1917 (*Saka*)*

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