

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

**Fourteenth Session  
(Tenth Lok Sabha)**



*(Vol. XLIV contains Nos. 11 to 20)*

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
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Corrigenda to Lok Sabha Debates

(English Version)

Friday, August 25, 1995/ Bhadra 3, 1917 (Saka)

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**LOK SABHA**

Friday, August 25, 1995/Bhadra 3, 1917 (Saka)

(The Lok Sabha met at two Minutes past Eleven of the Clock)

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

**ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**

**Road Side Tourist Centres**

[English]

\*321 SHRI ANIL BASU : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received proposals from the State Governments for setting up road side tourist centres; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM) (SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR) : (a) and (b): The Department of Tourism receives proposals from the State Governments/UTs for setting up of wayside amenities. The amount sanctioned for setting up of various wayside amenities by the States/Union Territories for new projects during the last three years is as follows:

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Amount Sanctioned
1992-93	77.47
1993-94	77.45
1994-95	65.47

SHRI ANIL BASU : In the reply, the Minister has said that she has received proposals from the State Governments but regarding the proposals she has not said anything. Then, she has said about the sanctioned amount and the figures given here in the reply reflects that the sanctioned amount is getting reduced year after year, i.e., from Rs. 77.47 lakh, it has come down to Rs. 65.47 lakh.

Sir, it is very difficult to understand that when the Government is giving so much importance to the domestic tourism and also to the foreign tourists coming to our country, the facilities which should be provided to the tourists, the sanctioned amount is getting reduced year after year. In view of the reply given by the hon. Minister, I would like to put a question through you: What are the proposals received from the State Governments and what is the fate of those proposals? How much amount has been sanctioned to each of the State Government as per the proposals sent by them? Whether she has received any proposal from the Tourism Department of

the West Bengal Government for setting up of a wayside Tourist Complex by the side of Darakeswar River at Arambagh in the District Hoogly? If yes, what is the fate of the proposal?

SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR : Let me explain to the hon. Member about the amount he has mentioned. I would like to answer the second part first. It is, in fact, encouraging to note that private sector is also taking an initiative and is setting up wayside amenities, and this amount is only what the Central Government has given as assistance to the State Governments. The State Governments from their own funds also have set up wayside amenities. But the figures, of course, I do not have. I do not have the figures regarding how much amount each State has spent. It need not, in any way, be taken as neglect on the part of the Central Government that amount sanctioned or the figures showing that the amount is decreasing.

Secondly, I have here the total projects which we had taken up in the last three years. In 1993-94, for Andhra Pradesh we have sanctioned one wayside amenities project. If you like, I would read them out. Otherwise, I will just give figures of West Bengal. For West Bengal, we have sanctioned one project in 1993-94.

The total cost, on Manudweep, is Rs. 14.99 lakh. The total amount which we have spent on the State, I can get those figures and give later on but what we have spent on the wayside amenities is already given.

SHRI ANIL BASU : I asked a very specific question regarding my constituency, whether there has been any proposal by the West Bengal Government to the Department of Tourism in the Union Government. She has not replied to that.

SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR : I will give that.

SHRI ANIL BASU : You can send it to me. Otherwise, it will take much time of the House.

If you permit, I would put my question in two parts.

My constituency is a constituency of our country where the great sons of our country hail from, like Shri Vidyasagar, Ramakrishna Dev, Raja Ram Mohan Roy, etc. I am very much fortunate that these great sons hail from my constituency. Lakhs and lakhs of pilgrims from all over the country converge at the Tarakeswar Temple of Lord Shiva at Tarakeswar during April to August carrying Ganga water, walking on foot covering a distance of 16 kms from the Baidyabati Ghat of River Ganga to Tarakeswar. There is no proper place where they can stay for some short time. In order to encourage domestic tourism and for providing a wayside stay for the pilgrims, a wayside tourist complex is very urgently necessary at Hanipal between Tarakeswar and Baidyabati. They can take shelter and food there. So, I would like to know

whether Minister is ready to examine this proposal and sanction the same on an urgent basis.

The next part is this. Has the Government decided to set up Regional Tourist Centres to boost tourism in various States?

MR. SPEAKER : This kind of a question, to my mind, may not be replied. You are asking about your constituency, about the regions, about the States and all these things. If so, what are the locations of such proposed tourist centres?

SHRI ANIL BASU : All these are connected with the tourism aspect.

MR. SPEAKER : If you have the information, you can give it. Otherwise, you send it to him in writing.

SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR : I can give it, Sir.

SHRI ANIL BASU : This is connected with tourism.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government has identified eight integrated tourism projects, which are to be funded by the State Governments, Union Government and the private parties.

MR. SPEAKER : Please conclude now.

SHRI ANIL BASU : If so, the details thereof, I would also like to know whether West Bengal and Eastern India have been included in these ten projects. If not, the reasons therefor.

SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR : I will give a general answer.

We have decided to set up regional centres. We had the State Tourism Ministers' Conference on the 5th and the 6th of August, in which it was decided that we would have regional circuits so that three or four States could jointly have a circuit. We are going to have them. It is not only that we are going to have regional centres, as such, there could also be a regional advisory committee, which would be taking all the decisions in what areas we are going to have these centres. It is not going to be just in one area. As far as West Bengal is concerned, I would like to say that, we are giving as much financial assistance as possible. In 1992-93, we gave Rs. 94 lakh; in 1993-94, we gave Rs. 1.67 crore and in 1994-95, we have given Rs. 1.45 crore.

As far as your particular constituency is concerned, you must appreciate that it is a State subject and it is primarily the State Government, which has to send us its proposals. We would be very happy to consider them. I can inform the hon. Members that as many project proposals come to us, if they fulfil all the requirements, we sanction money for them.

SHRI ANIL BASU : Thank you.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, of late tourism has become an important and major source of foreign exchange earnings. Would the hon. Minister

be able to tell us what is the percentage of the budget that the Government of India spends to promote tourism further and what percentage of the States' budget does the Centre give to the States for this purpose?

SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR : This is a very very important question; though it does not relate to the main question, I would like to answer it. But before I answer this, I would like to say a few words.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : It relates to tourism.

SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR : Yes, it does.

Tourism today is the largest growing industry in the world. Tourism receipts are growing at a larger rate than any other commodity. I would like to mention that the percentage is 12.7 for tourism and 11.5 for other commodities. In India also, today it holds the third position in the gross earnings of foreign exchange and second in the net earnings of foreign exchange.

The other aspect is employment generation. I would also like to say it in terms of labour-capital ratio. I am giving it in a little detailed way because it is a very very important one. If you spend Rs. 10 lakh in agriculture for example, the jobs created are 44.7 per cent, in manufacturing it is 12.6 per cent, in mining and others it is 2.6 per cent.

MR. SPEAKER : Is this reply directed to the Finance Minister?

SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR : No, Sir. In tourism, it is 47.5 per cent; and if you take out the segment of hotel and restaurant, it goes up to 89 per cent. Unfortunately, tourism has not got the importance as it should. I do not have all the details; but I have the details for some of the States.

MR. SPEAKER : We have left it to the private sector.

SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR : Yes, Sir.

If you take Himachal Pradesh for instance, out of their Budget of Rs. 750 crores, its percentage is 1.03; in the case of Madhya Pradesh it is only 0.17 per cent of their Budget. The Minister had held meetings and we had urged upon the State Governments to try and give at least 10 per cent of their Budget to tourism.

[Translation]

SHRI BRISHIN PATEL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the Government as to how many proposals, have been received from Bihar Government for setting up tourism Centres and what is the latest position thereof. I would also like to know the policy of the Government regarding maintenance of Tourism Centres.

[English]

SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR : Sir, I cannot say as to how many proposals have been received. What

happens is that every year the State Governments send their representatives, we hold discussions with them, then the projects are selected and then only we fund them. I can give the details - I have the details of wayside amenities - for Bihar, if they would like to know. I would like to assure the hon. Members that whatever projects are brought to us, we do fund them as much as possible.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw Government's attention to Sauripur - Bateshwar which is a major place of pilgrimage of western Uttar Pradesh. I have written to hon. Minister three-four times in this regard. The Ministry has allocated a sum of Rs. 40 lakh for the development of this place. May I know from the hon. Minister whether this amount is being utilised properly by the Uttar Pradesh Government and whether any proposal has been received from U.P. Government for declaring this place as tourist centre?

SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR : Sir, this amount of Rs. 40 lakh has been allocated only on receipt of a proposal from Uttar Pradesh Government. The hon. Member has met me. We are taking up the development work in consultation with U.P. Government.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Sultan  
Salahuddin Owaisi — Not present.  
Shri Jagmeet Singh Brar — Not present.  
Shri Guman Mal Lodha — Not present.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No, please. We have gone to the third question now. Q. No : 324, Shri Anna Joshi.

[Translation]

### Import of Consumer Items

+

324. SHRI ANNA JOSHI :

SHRI KUNJEE LAL :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision to liberalise import of consumer goods;

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

(c) its likely impact on local industries engaged in production of such goods, outflow of foreign currency and prices of these items in the market; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to increase the production of local consumer items?

(English)

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

### STATEMENT

(a) and (b). Under the current Export and Import Policy, as amended upto 31st March, 1995, import of consumer goods is not permitted except against an import licence or in accordance with Public Notice. However, 75 items of consumer goods nature, as listed in the Export and Import Policy (Chapter XV, Part II) are freely importable. In addition, import of 75 items listed in the Policy (Handbook of Procedures — Vol. I), are permitted against freely transferable special import licences.

(c) It is too early to assess the impact of recent amendments in the Export and Import Policy, particularly relating to the consumer goods imports.

(d) Measures taken by the Government to increase the production of local consumer items include economic reform policies to promote growth of incomes and purchasing power, rationalisation of excise and customs duties, extension of MODVAT system to a number of consumer goods items, enhancement of the Small Scale Industry (SSI) Excise exemption scheme, and steps to improve availability of credit from the banking and financial institution system for the small scale sector.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI : Sir, in answer to parts (a) and (b) of the question, it is said that under the current Export and Import Policy as amended, import of consumer goods is not permitted except for some items.

Two lists of 75 items each have been given in the Annexure of the Policy Handbook. I would like to know whether 150 items mentioned in the two lists are not available in India; or are they not of the standard of good quality? If not, what efforts has the Government made to improve their quality for that purpose and also to stop the import?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, these two lists of 75 commodities each represent a very small proportion of India's total consumption. In many cases, these things are not produced or they are in short supply. For instance, take the case of pulses. Pulses in India are in chronic short supply. Therefore, pulses are on the Open General Licence with a nominal duty of five per cent.

Simultaneously, the Government has launched an integrated large-scale programme to improve the domestic productivity of pulses.

Similarly, we have the vegetable oils edible grade with the exception of coconut oil placed on the OGL with a concessional duty of 30 per cent.

For the public distribution system, we are importing 1.5 lakh tonnes of vegetable oils at a lower duty of 20 per cent because prices have risen and the domestic production is not equal to match the supply.

Several other consumer goods are needed because they provide employment. We have a large cashewnut production industry. We are short of domestic supply of raw nuts. Therefore, we import large quantities of raw nuts. We reprocess them. We create employment through them and we export the processed products. The commodities that are in the list are essential commodities which are either not produced in our country or which are in short supply.

I would like to assure the House that our current level of protection of 50 per cent is adequate enough to take care of the needs of domestic industry. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANNA JOSHI : We take it for granted on your word that these 150 items are not produced in India sufficiently. Is it correct?

I have asked what efforts has the Government made for adequate supply of these things from the local market or local producers. You have not answered that.

In part (d) of the reply, you have said that the measures taken by the Government to increase the production of local consumer items include economic reform policies, etc. After reading this, we think, one will be ...

MR. SPEAKER : We should come to the supplementary question after reading this.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI : I am coming to that only. It shows that they have given full protection and support to the small scale industry sector which is not correct. The small scale industry is dying because of the new economic policy.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : It is absolutely wrong. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANNA JOSHI : In all these things, since you are for the revival of the small scale industries, one more thing that can be added to that is to give them protection. Why are you not giving protection to the products of small scale industries.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : It is totally wrong to say that our Government is not giving adequate protection to small scale industries.

All the items which were reserved for the small scale sector ...

SHRI ANNA JOSHI : But you have reduced that list.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : This is not true. For all those items which have remained reserved for the small scale sector, we have increased the provision of credit and reduced the licensing requirement. I would also like to say about concession in excise duties.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI : What about production?

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : I am coming to that.

As regards concession in excise duties, the limit has been raised from Rs. 2 crores to Rs. 3 crores. You have asked about the figures of production. I am sorry that the BJP is so badly informed. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANNA JOSHI : Where is the question of BJP here? Are you speaking on behalf of Congress or the Government of India? What is it? I am asking the question as a Member of the House ...*(Interruptions)*...

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : Sir, as a non-politician, he is talking too much of politics ...*(Interruptions)*... You are not a politician; do not talk too much of politics ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : I am going to give the figures; please listen to me.

SHRI RAM NAIK : We will listen to you but why this type of a comment? I think it does not become of you. We could understand if it could have come from any other Minister.

MR. SPEAKER : Sometimes, you should also bear with this from this side also.

...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : For the information of the House, I will read out the production figures. All this propaganda that is being done that because of import liberalisation, consumer goods sector or capital goods sector is suffering, is totally wrong. I have the figures of consumer goods and I am reading out those figures. In 1994-95, total industrial production of consumer goods in our country increased by 8.2 per cent.

SHRI RAM NAIK : What is the price increase? Please tell us that also.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : These are real index figures of production.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI : Sir, I want your protection. I have asked something else.

MR. SPEAKER : You will get full protection and he is giving you the protection.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : The production of consumer durables increased by 9.5 per cent and production of non-consumer durables increased by 7.9 per cent.

Regarding your statement that the small scale industry is languishing, the figures that I have show a growth rate of 7.1 per cent.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH DEORIA : Sir, many essential consumer items included in the Import List are exported proportionately at a time when they are in short supply in the country, which results in price rise. An example of pulses has been cited just now. As per my information, the pulses imported were of very inferior quality but the price thereof in international market was double that of Indian pulses. The same was imported for purpose of export after processing it. But fact is that indigenous pulses were processed and exported. As a result the prices thereof shot up to the extent that they went beyond the purchasing capacity of common consumer. So, may I know from the hon. Minister whether he will consider framing a policy of banning of export and allowing free import of essential consumer items whose domestic prices tend to increase?

[English]

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : The hon. Member has raised a specific issue with regard to pulses. My information is that very small quantity of pulses is exported. The total amount of pulses which are permissible for exporting from India do not exceed 10,000 tonnes. Now, anybody who claims that the prices of pulses in India are rising because we are allowing export of 10,000 tonnes, I am afraid, is wrong. As against total production of 14 million tonnes, we are exporting only 10,000 tonnes.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH DEORIA : But the other hon. Minister said that no export was made. An hon. Minister had a week ago, said on the floor of this House that no pulse whatsoever was exported, while you say export was made.

[English]

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : Who said that? I never said that.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH DEORIA : You have not said, but your colleague has said.

[English]

SHRI PETER MARBANIANG : Sir, in my parliamentary constituency, there is an export point called Dawki from where we export to Bangladesh. In the months of April-May-June, I found that hundreds of tonnes of fine rice and also rice which appeared to have come from PDS were being exported to Bangladesh. Sugar was also being exported to Bangladesh. Then, I had to go and

meet the local officer in Shillong who showed me the notification of the Government of India that they can export. Is it true that after March, rice and sugar can be exported to Bangladesh?

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : This year, we have a record production of sugar. I think it is in the interest of the country to allow export of sugar. Similarly, we have today a record amount of food stocks and if we do not allow export, there is a great danger that the quality of these things will rust. Therefore, it is in the national interest and in the interest of our farmers that these export opportunities, wherever they exist, ought to be fully exploited.

[Translation]

SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the Government whether it is a fact that certain consumer goods are sold in the country after putting foreign trade mark on them?

[English]

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : This is a question about counterfeiting. I am afraid that I do not have the information. The hon. Member should put a specific question to the concerned Ministry.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Sir, reduction in customs duty has harmed a number of indigenous industry. I can cite one example because I had met the Commerce Minister and the Finance Ministers regarding reduction in customs duty, in the case of flint button, from 80 per cent to 35 per cent and bringing it from restricted category to liberalised category. Now, the price of imported flint button, either from Russia or China, is cheaper than indigenous Flint button manufactured in Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Factory Limited at Durgapur. This unit has been referred to BIFR. If it is revived, even after its revival, this unit will incur losses because imported flint button will be cheaper than the indigenous one. When the Import Policy was being finalised, I requested the Finance Minister and he said that even this 35 per cent was higher than the international standard and to approach the Commerce Minister. This request was made by the Industry Minister also, namely, flint button should be brought to restricted category. In view of this, may I know from the hon. Minister whether this particular item will be brought to restricted category in order to save the only one industry in our country, the Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Factory Limited, Durgapur?

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : This question relates to the Ministry of Commerce. But, in general, I would say that in fixing the tariff policies, the import policies as well as other tax items, one has to balance the interest of the producer and the consumer. All these years, we have run

an economy which has not paid adequate attention that after 50 years, the Indian consumers are entitled to quality goods at reasonable cost of production.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Is it by destroying our own industry?

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : Therefore, I think, by giving a level of protection which is excessive, I do not think we are helping the interest of our country.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : The hon. Minister has allayed the fear of danger to the small industry. The Government has not increased excise duty or other taxes. They continue at the old rate. As a result, the foreign companies coming to India are taking advantage of it. Our small industry is unable to stand competition with foreign companies due to high excise incidence. May I know whether small industries such as soap, chappal or biscuit manufacturing units will be exempted from excise duty?

[English]

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : Sir, as I had mentioned, our Excise Duty Policy specifically provides for protection for small-scale industries. Upto Rs. 30 lakhs, they are totally exempt in most cases from the payment of duty. Between Rs. 30 lakh and Rs. 50 lakh, the small-scale units get 10 per cent duty lower than the duty payable by the large-scale units. Between Rs. 50 and Rs. 75 lakh they get 5 per cent lower duty than payable by the large-scale units, and these concessions can be carried on to a total turn-over — which until this year's Budget was Rs. 2 crore — I have raised it to Rs. 3 crore.

So, the present Policy makes adequate provision for protecting the interests of small-sale industries. I have further stated that in this year's Budget, the measures that we are taking to see that the credit needs of the small-scale industries are fully met, are: Two hundred dedicated branches are being set up to cater specifically to the needs of the small-scale industries where there is a cluster of these industries.

And, I would further say, Sir, that the liberalization of Import Policy and removal of licencing procedure have helped the small-scale industries the most. These are not the people who could have licencing offices in Delhi. In the old licencing system, everything required a permit. The small-scale industry was the biggest sufferer and I think we have removed those sufferings of the small-scale industries.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Sir, there is considerable potential in India particularly in Bihar for

production of pulses and oil seeds which we are importing. If the areas having potential for the production of these commodities are developed and the farmers are offered greater incentives, we can stop importing these items. Will the Government chalk out a programme for production of pulses and oil seeds in Bihar which has a large potential for the same?

MR. SPEAKER : You can request the State Government.

[English]

SHRI UMRAO SINGH : Sir, I would like to know from the Finance Minister, whether watches and watch movements are freely allowed to be imported under the OGL and under less duty; and if so, is it a fact that such an import is affecting greatly our local manufacturers and they are closing their own manufacturing units.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : You can have the answer from the written public document.

[English]

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA : Hon. Speaker, Sir, the Government is taking measures to increase production of local consumer items. I would like to know, what are the reasons for the Union Government to go in for the liberalization in import of consumer goods and in what percentage..

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : This has already been answered.

#### Earning of IA AND AI

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\* 326. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH :

SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:

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

(a) the total revenue earned by the Indian Airlines and Air India during the last three years;

(b) the percentage of the revenue earned by the Indian Airlines and Air India from flights to Gulf countries, Pakistan and Bangladesh; and

(c) the details of the measures taken by the Indian Airlines and Air India to increase their revenue from this sector?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM

(SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

### STATEMENT

(a) and (b) : The details of total revenue earned and percentage of revenue earning on the India-Gulf, India-Bangladesh and India-Pakistan Sectors during the last 3 years are, as under :-

#### Air India

Year	Total Revenue (Rs. in crores)	India Gulf	India Bangladesh
1992-93	2583.19	33.9%	0.1%
1993-94	2767.96	30.6%	0.2%
1994-95	3102.18 (prov.)	28.6%	No operation

#### Indian Airlines

Year	Total Revenue	India -Gulf	India-Pakistan	India-Bangladesh
1992-93	1578.83	4.50%	0.81%	0.31%
1993-94	1816.37	6.00%	0.21%	0.37%
1994-95	2040.75	7.40%	0.14%	0.31%
(Prov.)				

(c) Air India and Indian Airlines are taking steps to improve their product, image and on time performance to attract more passengers and increase their revenue; the number of services will also be increased depending upon additional entitlements and traffic demand.

#### [Translation]

SHRIRAJVEER SINGH : Sir, the reply shows increase in revenue every year. May I know whether this increase is due to increase in fares or because of increase in the number of passengers transported by Indian Airlines and Air India? Secondly, what is the total loss suffered by these airlines despite increase in their revenue?

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as far as revenue aspect is concerned, it increased in respect of both airlines but at the same time, the losses also went up. There are several factors which contributed to this cause. The Air India earned a profit of about Rs. 333 crore during the first two years which went down to 201 crore during the following year and it went down further during the third year. We had to pay about Rs. 200 crore as depreciation during the last two years for the new aircraft procured by us. The plague epidemic last year also contributed towards a loss of Rs. 100 crore to Air

India. We also had to pay a sum of Rs. 70 crore by way of depreciation for the purchase of an aircraft last year. Thus the total loss amounts to Rs. 370 crore. This was the main reason for this loss. As far as Indian Airlines is concerned it had been running on profit till 1990. But after that it started incurring loss.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER : The loss started after you took over the portfolio.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : In 1990, it incurred a loss of Rs. 320 crore. The Airlines had to be grounded and the loss for the first year amounted to Rs. 197 crore. The devaluation of rupee is also one factor. This accounted for a loss of Rs. 70 crore in foreign exchange. But the major factor for loss is reduction in local market. The entry of private airlines caused us a loss of Rs. 545 crore. We also suffered a loss of about Rs. 47 crore because of agitations launched by pilots. We have incurred and are incurring losses because of the Indian Airlines and Air India.

About passengers, there is not much variation. The Air India carried 2.2 million passengers in 1992-93, 1.99 million in 1993-94 and 2.2 million passengers in 1994-95.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : Sir, as the hon. Minister has said, the increase in passenger traffic was nominal in spite of procurement of new aircrafts and payment of depreciation. There were losses but he tried to make up the same. The efficiency has declined in these airlines particularly in Indian Airlines. I had brought an incident to his notice but no action was taken. The morning flight was due to take off at six but no decision was taken about the crew who would fly the aircraft. The passengers made a hue and cry for 3-4 hours and only then the crew took charge of the aircraft. The people are preferring travelling by private airlines because of low efficiency in government airlines. May I know from the honourable Minister whether he will try to remove these shortcomings and fix accountability either on himself or the management for this inefficiency?

SHRIGHULAMNABIAZAD : Sir, I think, hon. Members belonging to all the parties will appreciate that inflight service has improved during the last one year ..

(Interruptions).

There is no flight for Bareilly now. How does he know when he does not make use of the flight. Only those know who travel daily.. (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI ANIL BASU : No improvement has taken place ...

(Interruptions)

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : I think, the hon. Member

is saying that considerable improvement has taken place. Thank you.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : Sir, the hon. Minister has ridiculed our poverty. We have been requesting the hon. Minister for the last several years to provide an aerodrome at Bareilly which is a tourist centre, a centre for onward journey to hill stations of west Uttar Pradesh. He made promises but did nothing. He is applying salt to our wounds. Instead of providing an aerodrome in our area he is making a joke of us.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : Sir, the hon. Member is a friend of mine. If he travels far and wide, he will realise how much change has taken place during the last two-three years.

As far as 'on time performance' is concerned the position has changed on this front also. It is true that some times, flights are cancelled. It is known to entire House that during the last 2-3 years, about 146 of our pilots have joined foreign and private airlines. But our fleet has increased considerably during these last 2-3 years and we are managing with half the strength of commanders. I think the hon. Members must pat us for operating the fleet with efficiency.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : The staff strength has been reduced to half, but still loss is mounting.

[English]

SHRI A. CHARLES : Sir, from the answer it is seen that the Gulf sector is the most profit making sector of the Air India. The Indian Airlines, of course, runs only a few flights in this sector. But, in spite of the fact that this is a profit making sector, sufficient number of flights are not operated in this sector from Trivandrum. There is a persistent demand from the State and through the reliable sources I have come to know that the Air India, Trivandrum has requested for operation of about a dozen flights in this sector. The workers working in the Gulf sector have to wait for weeks together to get a berth. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, whether in view of the fact that the Gulf sector is a profit making sector, at least sufficient number of flights — as demanded by the Air India — will be operated in this sector.

MR. SPEAKER : Does it come out of this question?

SHRI A. CHARLES : Yes, Sir.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : Sir, actually the question relates to Gulf only. So, I think this is the most relevant part of the question.

I agree with the hon. Member that 30 to 33 per cent of the revenue of the Air India comes from the Gulf region alone. Keeping this in view, yesterday I had a meeting

with the officials and I requested them that as far as in-flight service, on-time performance and conduct and behaviour of the cabin crew is concerned, it has to be improved. We have decided to recruit special officers for the Gulf region and the reason being this is the region which contributes one-third of the revenue of the Air India.

So far as Gulf region is concerned, we are running flights from Bombay, Delhi, Trivandrum, Madras, Hyderabad and Calicut. Out of these routes the maximum number of passengers are being carried on the route from Trivandrum to Gulf. In 1992-93 we carried 1,37,000 passengers and in 1993-94 about 1,80,000 passengers were carried on this route. So far as Delhi, Madras, Hyderabad and Calicut is concerned, the number is much less. The fact that while 1,80,000 passengers have been carried from Trivandrum to Gulf as against 44,000 from Calicut and 7,000 from Madras, that itself shows that much more flights are operating between Trivandrum and Gulf.

Sir, we would love to operate more flights in this sector but we have a problem of runways. We are in the process of extending the runways. We also have a problem of the terminal building. We are in the process of constructing a new terminal building. Meanwhile, Trivandrum will get the first priority as far as the Gulf region is concerned.

SHRI MUMTAZ ANSARI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it has been stated by the hon. Minister of Civil Aviation that one of the most important reasons for reduction in the income of the Indian Airlines and the Air India is the depreciation. As a student of Economics I fail to understand this theory because depreciation is a regular charge on the profit and loss account of any concern. He has told in the House that because the new aircraft have been purchased from foreign countries, they charge heavy depreciation on these aircraft. I would like to have some sort of a clarification on the principle of depreciation. How can they charge heavy depreciation on new aircraft because so far as I understand, this is a regular expenditure?

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : When we buy new aircraft, we take loan from the foreign banks. On that loan, we have to pay the interest. So, it is basically the interest that we have to pay.

SHRI MUMTAZ ANSARI : Sir, interest cannot be considered as a part of the depreciation. Depreciation is a different item and interest is altogether a different item.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : That is why I said that the depreciation includes interest and all that.

[Translation]

SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the services of Air-India and Indian Airlines are very poor. The private airlines want to charge lower fares. But he is

not prepared to reduce the fares because of monopoly. Many private airlines are prepared to provide efficient service provided he is prepared to permit them to reduce their fares. Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister to allow them to reduce their fares in the interest of the people of the country. May I also request the hon. Minister to take up construction of an airport in our backward region which was inaugurated by former Minister, Shri Gadhavi 20 years ago?

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : Sir, this is absolutely incorrect to say that private airlines are prepared to operate on lower fares. Rather, they say that fares are on a very lower side, Same is the case of Indian Airlines; the reason being that the aviation fuel cost in India is 166% more than that is obtaining in other countries. Keeping this in view our fare structure is the lowest. So, there is no question of reduction in fares.

SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA: There are two-three companies which want to reduce their fare. If you permit, I shall name them.

SHRI RATILAL VARMA : Two or three companies already have lower fare structure.. (Interruptions)

SHRI HARADHAN ROY : The hon. Minister has said that because of the entry of foreign companies both of our airlines incurred a loss Rs. 70 crore and Rs. 535 crore which together comes to more than Rs. 600 crore. If this kind of loss continues, our airlines will have to be wound up. What is the official policy in this regard? Why does not the government ban operation of flights by foreign companies and operate its own airlines? This he has to answer.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : Sir, there is some misunderstanding. No foreign airline company is operating here. They are Indian Companies..

(Interruptions)

You will have to differentiate between private and foreign companies.

[English]

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Sir it seems to me that both Air India and Indian Airlines have been following their earlier policy of trying to market their services in only the ethnic routes where Indians are by far the majority of passengers. This policy has been followed from the very inception. I do not know why. We have before us examples of very small countries, of course not very small economies, like Singapore and Hong Kong. One is a case of 27 lakh people and the other is a case of 50 lakh people. They have been flying very successfully airlines much bigger than Air India because they are not flying their own people, they are flying other people. This is a service they are selling to the whole world.

I feel that Dr. Manmohan Singh's policy of globalisation somehow has not got into the area where they should have gone global and where nobody would have minded their going global. In other cases when Indian economy goes global, some interest is hurt and so we do not want to do it. Does Air India, or Indian Airlines, or the Ministry have any policy of extending these services to non-traditional routes and try to sell this service to the entire world.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : Sir, I am very thankful to the hon. Member that at least he is talking of globalisation of late.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : In this area only.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : After all they have fallen in line with our policy.

SHRI AMAL DUTTA : You have no policy and that is what I am saying.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : It is true that we are still carrying mostly the ethnic passengers but we would definitely like to go to the areas where we have not been going.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : What is the policy?

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : The reason was the constraint of the fleet. But in the very recent past we have gone to a number of areas. We have gone to South Africa; we have gone to Australia after a long time. We are acquiring some more aircraft. As and when new aircraft are acquired we will be going to some other areas.

SHRI AMAL DUTTA : You charter them; you can double the aircraft in 24 hours if you charter.

[Translation]

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH : Sir, one of the reasons for the difficulty being faced by Indian Airlines and Air India in their operation in other countries, particularly in Gulf-countries is that the other airlines charge lower fares and the passengers prefer travelling by those airlines. That is why the volume of traffic of Indian Airlines and Air-India is not increasing. Will the hon. Minister take steps to stop this under cutting of prices?

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : He has asked specifically about Gulf-countries. As far as my knowledge goes there is an agreement between Air-India and Indian Airlines and all the Gulf airlines that they shall charge the same amount of fares. All are operating under this agreement.

DR. G.L. KANAUJIA : Sir, the hon. Minister has said that no Airline is prepared to reduce the fares. If that is so, whether he will give an assurance to that effect? All the routes on which our airlines are operating, are profitable and hence he is not allowing other airlines to operate on

them. In case he allows them, the Indian Airlines will suffer further losses. What has he to say on this?

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : If the hon. Member gives me in writing that such and such airlines is prepared to operate on fares lower than that of Indian Airlines, I shall issue permission within 24 hours, but the responsibility for operation on lower fares will be his.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : He is promising funds.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : I promise.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : Lest he may cancel their licence. (Interruptions).

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : That is not the policy of the Government.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the loss of Indian Airlines is attributed mainly to two reasons, one is the grounding of A-320. I think grounding of A-320 aircraft has resulted in a loss of about Rs. 197 crore.

Secondly because of competition from the private airlines, these services were not introduced. Sir, I would like to know at this point of time from the hon. Minister whether the decision to ground A-320 aircraft was correct or was that not avoidable at that point of time. It is because, now, these aircraft are running properly.

Thirdly, is there any element of connivance between them - because, now, there are allegations - because of which many of our pilots after retirement or after resigning, are joining private airlines on very lucrative scales with the result that you have to suffer losses? In addition to this, because of this competition, I want to know whether there is more saturation in some of the airlines. There are many areas which have been left without any air services. So, I want to know whether the Government is thinking of regularising or rationalising these air services.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : As far as part (a) of his question is concerned, I would like to say that the grounding was done, unfortunately, on the basis of political consideration.

As far as Part (b) of his question is concerned, I would like to say that the loss was not only on account of the coming in of private airlines but as I have said earlier, the loss was also on account of a number of reasons viz., shortage of pilots and so on. Because of shortage of pilots, optimum utilisation of the aircraft was not possible.

As far as Part (c) of his question is concerned, I would like to say that rationalisation of all the routes had already been done. Both the Government-owned airlines and the private airlines have to operate both in the profit-making and loss-making routes.

[Translation]

SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI : Sir, I would like to know whether introduction of private airlines is not one of the factors for losses being incurred by the Air-India and Indian Airlines. What are the arrangements the Government has made to check the private airlines from charging higher fares than that of Indian Airlines and whether the excess amount so charged goes to Government account? What measures have been stipulated to bring down the fares? The two airlines operating on Delhi-Bombay sector are charging more than the Indian Airlines and we have to pay the difference from our own pocket. This has to be checked.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : There are contradictions in it. His friends say that private airline operators are charging less and he complains that they are charging more. It is not correct to say that both airlines are running in loss. Air India is not incurring loss. As for charging higher fare, there is no provision to control the fares. It is for the airlines to charge less or more keeping in view the market factors.

[English]

DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask in relation to Part (a) of the question, whether the Government has effected any changes in the policy of seating capacity of the aircraft so that they can cater to the needs of the sub-trunk routes like Nasik-Bombay and Bombay-Pune-Nasik.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : Sir, because the hon. Member is very much concerned about it, I had promised him the services of one of the aircraft. So, last year, we had announced that we will not allow big aircraft like A-737 and above to operate till the infrastructure is through, but we will allow bigger aircraft only through the private airlines which are scheduled ones.

As far as new-comers are concerned, we will not allow the bigger aircraft but we will allow the 30-seater aircraft. Our experience in the past was that the 30-seater aircraft were either not available for operation or if they were available, they were not making profits.

So we have decided to extend this facility from 30 seater to 50 seater.

MR. SPEAKER : The Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

#### Jute Prices

322. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have invoked the

provisions of Jute Licencing and Control Order, 1961 and Essential Commodities Act, 1955 to impose restrictive measures on raw jute stocks;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the prices of TD-5 touched the all time high recently;

(d) if so, the extent upto which the aforesaid steps have helped in curbing the rising jute prices; and

(e) the other steps being taken to check the price rise of raw jute?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (e) There was an increase in prices of raw jute, including TD-5 grade of raw jute, during the last quarter of the 1994-95 jute season primarily because of mismatch between supply and demand. This was accentuated by uncertain crop prospects for 1995-96 season due to adverse weather at sowing time and, consequently, the anticipated delayed arrival of the crop in the market. In order to curb the upward trend in raw jute prices, at that time, several steps were taken by the Government; viz :

- (i) Mills holding inventory of 8 weeks consumption requirement and above were directed under the Jute (Licensing and Control) order 1961 to suspend further purchase;
- (ii) Raw jute traders holding stocks in excess of 500 qntrs. were asked to declare their stocks of Jute Commissioner's Office;
- (iii) Import of raw jute is allowed under OGL; and
- (iv) The State Government of West Bengal was requested to mobilise its licensing/enforcement machinery.

The upswing in prices of raw jute has since been arrested and prices have been showing a declining trend.

[Translation]

#### Legal Undertaking Clause For Export Obligation

\*323. SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR :

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem appearing in the *Observer* dated June 9, 1995 under caption "Legal undertaking clause for export obligation goes";

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the likely impact on our export by providing such facilities to the exporters during the next two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c) : Yes Sir. The said news item appeared in "The Observer" dated 9th June, 1995.

Bond with surety and security is now required to be furnished to the Customs authorities for the duty amount saved under the Duty Exemption Scheme and EPCG Scheme. So far as fulfilment of export obligation is concerned, the applicant is required to give a declaration/undertaking in the prescribed form for obtaining licences issued under these schemes. This has been done to obviate the need to give bank guarantee to both the licensing authority as well as to the Customs authority and will, therefore, facilitate exports.

[English]

#### Joint Ventures For Export of Tea

\*325. SHRI RAM KAPSE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Tea producers have decided to sign joint ventures to get a share of their tea in the Global market during 1994-95 and 1995-96 till date;

(b) whether the Government have received any representation from the tea planters of Assam in this regard during the above period;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken by the Government in this regard and to redress the grievances of these planters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (d) : During 1994-95 and till June, 1995, only one case of joint venture between Tata Tea Ltd. and a subsidiary of Lyons Tetley Group of Companies has been reported to promote Indian tea abroad. No representations have been received either by the Government or Tea Board from tea planters of Assam conveying their grievances with regard to joint ventures. However, the Indian Tea Association has recently sent a communication informing the Government that for promoting a brand of pure Indian teas in the Russian market, it has proposed to form a consortium of Indian tea producers and it would also be holding negotiations with M/s ITC Global Holdings (IGH) with regard to marketing of 'India Blend' tea in Russia.

[Translation]

### Price Rise

327. SHRI VILASRAONAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR:  
SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether inspite of the coming down of the rate of inflation and wholesale price index during 1995-96, the prices of items of daily need and essential items are increasing;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the concrete measures the Government propose to take to bring down the prices of essential commodities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARAMURTHY): (a) to (c) Fairly steady deceleration in the inflation rate observed after March this year implies that the rise in prices is much lower so far in the current financial year. In the first four months (April-July) wholesale prices rose by 2.8 per cent compared to 5.5 per cent rise in the corresponding period last year. Out of 447 commodities whose wholesale prices are monitored, *nearly 109 commodities recorded absolute decline in price after February, 1995*. The overall increase in the prices of 30 essential commodities registered a rise of 5.5 per cent which is less than the rise of 8.4 per cent recorded by this group in the corresponding period last year. Within this group, absolute fall in wholesale price was recorded in wheat, gram, mustard oil, vanaspati, fish, atta, coconut oil, safety matches and coffee.

The rise in the index of essential commodities has largely been contributed by the escalation in the prices of vegetables, rice, pulses, tea and gur which is partly seasonal in nature.

Government remains vigilant and has taken a number of steps to moderate the prices of essential commodities. These are:

- (i) continuation of FCB's open market sales of rice and wheat through current fiscal year to check market price.
- (ii) allowing import of edible vegetable oils (except coconut oil) under OGL at a reduced duty of 30 per cent.
- (iii) importing 1.5 lakh tonnes of palmolein at concessional duty of 20 per cent for supply through PDS.
- (iv) continuing OGL import policy for sugar and allowing imports for augmenting PDS stocks.

- (v) increase by 5 per cent the levy sugar allocation for PDS.
- (vi) import of pulses under OGL with duty reduced to 5 per cent.
- (vii) stock limits for imported essential products waived.
- (viii) adjustment in trade and tariff policies in the current financial year to contain inflation in the prices of industrial products.
- (ix) aiming to reduce the fiscal deficit in 1995-96 to 5.5 per cent of GDP as against 6.7 per cent (Revised Estimates) in the last financial year.
- (x) Moderating the growth of money supply.

### Smuggling of Gold

328. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether recently some officials of Airlines have been found involved in the smuggling of gold;

(b) if so, whether the Government have conducted any enquiry in this regard;

(c) if so, outcome thereof;

(d) the action taken by the Government in this regard;

(e) the number of cases of smuggling of gold unearthed during the year 1994 and during the current year till date;

(f) whether the number of such cases is on the increase;

(g) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(h) the remedial steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (h). Two cases have been detected in the last 12 months where employees of airlines were involved in the smuggling of gold. On 13.12.1994, 466.6 gms. of gold valued at Rs. 2.10 lakhs was recovered from an employee of a foreign airline while she was clearing through Customs at Sahar Airport, Bombay. On 31.7.1995, 2.124 Kgs. of gold valued at Rs. 8.01 lakhs was recovered from a carrier at I.G.I. Airport, Delhi, who was being assisted by an employee of an airline. The first case has already been adjudicated with the confiscation of the gold and imposition of personal penalty of Rs. 25,000 on the offender. The second case is still under investigation. The total number of cases of smuggling of gold detected at international airports in the country are as follows:-

1994	:	606 cases
1995	:	447 cases

(Till 31.7.95)

Reports indicate a decline in the quantum of gold attempted to be smuggled through international airports.

Anti-smuggling activities remain intensified at all international airports. Close watch is kept on suspect persons and sensitive areas. Close coordination among all agencies involved in the detection and prevention of smuggling is being maintained.

#### Shortage of Bank and Currency Note Paper

329. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :

SHRI S.S.R. RAJENDRA KUMAR :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is acute shortage of bank and currency note paper in the different currency note presses resulting in the shortage of small denomination Notes in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons and factors responsible for the shortage; and

(c) the efforts being made to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIM.V.CHANDRASHEKHARAMURTHY):

(a) No, Sir.

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

#### Closure of Textile Mills

330. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of textile mills in the private sector have been closed down rendering over two lakh employees jobless;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Joint Action Committee comprising major trade unions in textiles industry has demanded the Government to convene a tripartite meeting to study the problem of closure of textile mills in private sector; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) and (b). No mill is closed under I.D. Act. 31 Cotton/Man-made Fibre Textile Mills were reported to be closed under Official Liquidation and 114 Cotton/Man-made Fibre Textile Mills were temporarily closed mainly due to financial problems, strikes and lock-out etc. 190766 works were affected due to closure of 145 mills.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Restructuring of R.R.Bs.

331. SHRI RABI RAY :

DR. K.D. JESWANI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the NABARD has decided to give representation to the States in the Committee constituted for restructuring of Regional Rural Banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a Standing Committee has also been constituted to examine the issues covering managerial and restructuring of R.R.Bs on a continual basis; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Committee has been broad based by including representatives from four State Governments.

(c) and (d). In order to examine the major policy issues concerning the managerial and financial restructuring of RRBs taken up during 1994-95 and continued in 1995-96 and to monitor the progress of the said exercise, an Expert Group has been constituted by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) with the Chairman and Managing Director of Syndicate Bank as its Chairman. An Officer each of Govt. of India, RBI, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development, Bank of Baroda, Oriental Bank of Commerce, Syndicate Bank, Canara Bank and Chairman, Gorakhpur Gramin Bank are members of the Group.

The Group has been set up to make recommendations on policy issues to the RBI on an ongoing basis and report progress in the restructuring exercise at quarterly intervals.

#### Return of Exported Items Due to Poor Packaging

332 SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE :

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large quantity of the various export items and engineering products are being returned by the foreign countries or are damaged due to packaging defects;

(b) if so, the total value of engineering products, readymade garments and food items returned or damaged in transportation during each of the last three years; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government so far to improve the situation in this regard and outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c) :

1. A per information available with the concerned Export Promotion Councils, no specific report has so far been received by them in this regard.
2. Recognising the importance of proper packaging of export products to safeguard contents from damages in transit, Export Promotion Councils and other institutions encourage Indian exporters through Training Programmes, Seminars, Workshops and Exhibitions to improve the quality of packaging to be of international standards. The Indian Institute of Packaging provide technical consultancy and testing services on packaging. In particular, the Institute of Packaging has evolved packaging systems for garments in association with the Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPCC) and a code of practice for export of machine tools in collaboration with the Indian Machine Tools Manufacturers Association. In addition, the Agricultural Processed Food Products Export Development Authority has developed standard packaging for a number of fresh fruits and vegetable products.
3. The various Export Promotion Schemes also enable exporters to avail the latest packaging equipment and raw-materials at concessional/zero duty for improving packaging of export items.

#### Surplus Land of National Textiles Corporation

333. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA :

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the total area of surplus land disposed by various National Textile Mills in the country particularly in Maharashtra during the last two years, mill-wise and State-wise;
- (b) the criteria applied for disposal of the land; and
- (c) the total amount realised as sale proceeds from these disposals.

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a). No land has been sold by NTC Mills during the last two years.

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

#### Sale of Cars by AI

334. SHRI SANTAKUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that Air India have sold out cars at throw away price to its retiring officers;

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

(c) the rules and practice for the disposal of the used cars of Air India?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). The decision of the Air India Board permitting retention of cars by retiring executives has been stayed. Instructions have also been issued to take back cars already given to retired executives, if any.

(c) The practice followed by Air India for disposal of used cars is as under :-

Once the decision for scrapping the cars is taken by the competent authority, M/s Metals Scrap Trade Corporation (MSTC), a Government of India undertaking with whom Air India has entered into a contract, handles the disposal of old/used cars of Air India. Public advertisement is issued in newspapers and sales offers received by M/s Metals Scrap Trade Corporation are scrutinised and evaluated by Air India. The cars are sold to the highest bidder, through M/s MSTC Ltd.

[Translation]

#### Modernisation of Airports in Gujarat

335. SHRI N.J. RATHVA :

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :

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

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from Gujarat for modernisation of airports in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon;

(c) the decision taken by the Union Government in this regard;

(d) whether any time frame has been fixed for completion of the work this year; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (e). The State Government of Gujarat have requested the Airports Authority of India (AAI) for extension of runway of Ahmedabad airport from 9000 ft. to 12000 ft. and for taking over of Surat airport for its upgradation.

AAI has requested the State Government to acquire about 100 acres of land at Ahmedabad airport for the runway extension.

Surat airport belongs to the State Government of Gujarat. Keeping in view the availability of funds and priority of projects taken/to be taken, it is not possible for AAI to take over this airport for its upgradation.

### Debt Burden

336. MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI :

SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) year-wise amount of interest paid by the Union Government on the domestic and foreign loans, separately, during the last three years;

(b) the year-wise amount of interest which was to be paid during the above period, but could not be paid in time and the reasons for not making the payment thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to reduce the expenditure on the payment of interest on such loans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a). The amount of interest paid by the Union Government on the domestic and foreign loans during the last three years is given below year-wise :

	(Rs. crore)		
	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95 (RE)
Interest on Internal debt and other liabilities	27546	33016	39890
Interest on external debt	3529	3724	4110
Total	31075	36740	44000

(b). Government has not defaulted on paying the interest dues on its borrowings.

(c). As part of its efforts to reduce the burden of interest and principal repayments on debt, Government is seeking to reduce its fiscal deficit. The fiscal deficit which was 8.4 percent of GDP in 1990-91, 7.7% of GDP in 1993-94 and 6.7% of GDP in 1994-95 (RE) has been kept at 5.5% of the GDP in 1995-96(BE). This reduction will have a positive impact on Government interest liability. Reduction in the rate of inflation will also help to reduce interest rates in general and interest liability on new government debt.

[English]

### Decline in Price of Coffee in International Market

337. SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any decline in the prices of coffee in the international market as a result of good crop in Brazil ;

(b) if so, the impact of this fall on price of Indian coffee in the international market as well as domestic market;

(c) the fall in price per kilo in the country;

(d) whether the Government envisage further fall in the price of coffee; and

(e) if so, the steps taken to prevent further fall in the prices of coffee which will adversely affect the small and medium farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (e). Due to reported crop loss in Brazil owing to frost, there was an unprecedented rise in the international price of coffee in 1994 reaching a peak of 220.10 US cents/lb for Arabica in September, 1994 from a level of 71.21 US cents/lb for Arabica in January, 1994. While official estimates about coffee production in the current season in major coffee-producing countries are not available, there have been no reports of any significant crop loss in any of these countries. Due to steady supply of coffee in the international market, the prices had come down to a level of 129.92 US cents/lb for Arabica in the international market in the first week of July, 1995 but have since shown a modest upward trend and are currently hovering in the range of 140 to 150 US cents/lb for Arabica. Domestic as well as export prices of Indian coffee have been influenced by the price behaviour in the international market. The details of prices of coffee seeds in the domestic market over the last four months are as follows:

Monthly Average Price	Plantation (A)	Arabica Chy.	Robusta Chy.
(IN RUPEES PER KG.)			
April	130	108	103
May	121	111	98
June	109	103	91
July	97	89	85

While no further sharp fall in the price of coffee in the international market is envisaged, price trends in the domestic and international markets are being monitored closely for appropriate action as and when required.

[Translation]

### Investment by USA

\*338. SHRIMATI MAHENDRA KUMARI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number and names of the American companies which have invested capital in India and the State-wise amount invested by them;

(b) whether the capital investment by USA is likely to be increased during the forthcoming years;

(c) if so, the expectations thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to attract more capital inflows from USA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) (a) to (d). Government have accorded approval to 627 foreign collaboration proposals involving equity participation of over Rs. 10,200 crores from American Companies during the period from 1-8-91 to 30-6-95.

2. Names of these companies are published by the Indian Investment Centre as a supplement to their monthly Newsletter. Copies of the Newsletter are regularly furnished to the Parliament Library. The details include the name of the Indian company, item of manufacture, the name of the foreign collaborator, country of origin of the foreign investment and the quantum of investment approved in each proposal.

3. A statement showing State-wise break up of foreign investment from American companies is attached.

4. As the approvals for foreign direct investment proposals are accorded on the receipt of application from the entrepreneurs, future projection cannot be made.

5. The Policy measures for attracting foreign investment are detailed in the Satatam of Industrial Policy tabled in both Houses of Parliament on 24th July, 1991. Government constantly reviews the policy framework for foreign investment so as to make it increasingly investor friendly and internationally competitive.

### STATEMENT

*Foreign Direct Investment Cases Approved of USA for the period August, 1991 to June, 1995*

State	Aug. 1991 - June, 1995	
	No.	Invest. (Rs. Crore)
OTHERS	238	2799.87
MAHARASHTRA	94	2003.05
WEST BENGAL	20	1993-87
TAMIL NADU	56	1200.95

DELHI	47	631.44
ANDHRA PRADESH	19	425.29
GUJARAT	30	260.58
MADHYA PRADESH	6	237.11
HARYANA	21	133.84
KARNATAKA	40	124.48
UTTAR PRADESH	17	98.83
PONDICHERRY	3	97.46
CHANDIGARH	4	69.51
BIHAR	3	69.27
RAJASTHAN	7	33.15
GOA	4	23.13
ARUNACHAL PRADESH	1	10.50
KERALA	7	9.70
PUNJAB	4	5.91
HIMACHAL PRADESH	2	1.87
DADRA & NAGAR HAVELI	1	0.84
ASSAM	2	0.72
ORISSA	1	0.10
	627	10231.46

### Import of Cotton

\*339. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity and value of cotton imported during the last three years and the quantity and value of cotton likely to be imported during the current year;

(b) the impact of this import to domestic market; and

(c) the concrete steps taken to minimise the import of cotton?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a). The quantity and value of cotton imported during the last three years and for the current year is as follows :

YEAR	QUANTITY (LAKH BALES)	VALUE (In Rs. CRS)
1991-92	3.00	194.00
1992-93	1.15	90.00
1993-94	3.00	306.00
1994-95	4.50	543.15

(Provisional)

(b) and (c) Cotton is being imported by textile mills under O.G.L. which helps the availability of the raw material according to demand. The current policy is

based on demand, supply and prices of cotton which is constantly reviewed.

[English]

### Financial Assistance by ICICI to State Products

340. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India has offered to finance infrastructural facilities to certain projects of State Governments;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any such project has been cleared so far in the recent past;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the offer of ICICI has been circulated to all the States; and

(f) if so, the response of the State Governments thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (f) : The Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India Ltd. (ICICI) has reported that it has not directly financed any State Government infrastructure project so far. It has also not made any offer to any State Government in this regard. ICICI has, however, further reported that it has, at the request of State Governments of West Bengal and Kerala, taken initiative to form joint venture companies in these States. These companies are expected to play the role of a facilitator in promoting development of infrastructure through private participation. This is proposed to be achieved through study of infrastructure requirements, carrying out feasibility studies, structuring infrastructure projects as commercially viable entities and inviting private capital into such projects.

### Security Press, Mysore

3296. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the time by which the Government Security Press, Mysore is likely to start functioning;

(b) whether a number of farmers have given their lands for the above press;

(c) whether there is any proposal to give jobs to those who have become landless and also to local people in the proposed Security Press; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

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

MURTHY). (a) The first phase of production in New Note Press, Mysore is expected to start by March, 1996.

(b) The New Note Press, Mysore had not acquired any land. But land measuring approximately 328 acres had been acquired by Karnataka Industrial Area Development Board (KIARD) and allotted to the New Note Press, Reserve Bank of India and an amount of Rs. 1.78 crores had also been paid by them towards cost of the land.

(c) and (d) : In the matter of recruitment to various posts in New Note Press, the Government of India's guidelines are followed.

### Transfer of Yarn by Spinning Mills

3297. SHRI SANDIPAN BHAGWAN THORAT : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of spinning mills which submit their returns regarding transfer of yarn under bank yarn obligation;

(b) the amount of yarn transferred with quantity thereof;

(c) the number of cases filed against the defaulting spinning mills which did not fulfil hank yarn obligation, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government propose to remove hank yarn obligations rule; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) A total number of 428 Spinning Mills fulfilled their Hank Yarn Obligation by transfer during the quarter January — March 1995.

(b) Total quantity of 203.64 lakh kg. of hank yarn was transferred.

(c) State-wise details of First Information Reports (FIRs) filed against the spinning mills which defaulted in fulfilling their Hank Yarn Obligation for the quarter January-March 1995 till 16th June, 1995 are given below :—

Sl. No.	State	No. of FIRs filed
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11
2.	Assam	1
3.	Bihar	1
4.	Haryana	2
5.	Karnataka	2
6.	Kerala	1
7.	Madhya Pradesh	16
8.	Maharashtra	81
9.	Orissa	4
10.	Rajasthan	3
11.	Tamil Nadu	38
12.	West Bengal	1
Total :		161

(d) No, Sir.

(e). In order to meet the demand of hank yarn for handloom sector and to ensure stability in its prices it is not possible to relax the stipulation laid down by the Government of India on the Packing of hank yarn by spinning mills including cooperative spinning mills.

### Schemes For NRIs

3298. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has constructed a working group to analyse into the various schemes and incentives provided to Non-Resident Indians;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the working group is likely to submit its recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A Working Group was set up by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on 14.10.1994 with representations from RBI and Government. The Working Group was constituted to review the various Schemes and incentives available to Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) for investment in India, the operative procedures and to recommend modification/amendment to the schemes and procedures as considered necessary, to the Government of India.

(c) The Working Group has submitted their recommendations to the RBI in May, 1995.

[Translation]

### Mine Accidents

3299. SHRI SURESHANAND SWAMI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of accidents occurred in various mines in the country mine-wise and the number of persons injured and the number of those who died therein so far during the year 1994-95; and

(b) the remedial steps taken by the Government to prevent recurrence of such accidents?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) The number of accidents which occurred in various coal mines and non-coal mines and the number of persons injured died therein are as under :-

	Number of		Persons	
	Fatal	Serious	Killed	Injured
Coal Mines	142	760	169	822
Non-Coal Mines	67	2671	98	283

Provisional

(b) Provisions for safety of persons employed in mines are contained in the Mines Act, 1952 and the rules and regulations framed thereunder. These Laws are kept under constant review and amended from time to time. During the year 1990, the Coal Mines Regulations, 1957, were comprehensively amended. The Directorate General of Mines Safety also issues guidelines in the form of circulars to the managements for improving safety measures. These provisions are required to be complied with by the mine managements. The officers of the Directorate General of Mines Safety inspect the mines periodically to oversee the status of compliance of the safety provisions, and take action as provided for under the Mines Act, 1952, in case of default.

Besides the legislative measures, the Government is promoting a number of other initiatives, such as :

- Holding of conferences on Safety in Mines;
- Self regulation by managements;
- Workers' participation in safety management;
- Tripartite and Bipartite reviews at various levels;
- Training of workpersons;
- Observance of safety weeks and safety campaigns;
- National Safety Awards.

[English]

### Exemption of Excise Duty to Paper Industries

3300. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYA SADUL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had provided an exemption in excise duty for 10 years to the industrial units set up for manufacture of paper from sugarcane bagasse (from sugar factories) in the past;

(b) if so, the number of such paper units set up and provided exemption in excise duty till 1994;

(c) whether the requests for excise duty exemption for setting up of units to manufacture bagasse-based durable particle board are pending consideration;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a). Writing and printing paper containing not less than 75% by weight of pulp made from bagasse was exempt from excise duty from 8.12.80 to 28.2.94. A similar exemption was enjoyed by uncoated kraft paper from 8.7.81 to 28.2.94.

(b). Such information is not maintained. However, it is reported that more than 300 units were availing full

exemption from excise duty on writing paper, printing paper and uncoated kraft paper containing not less than 75% by weight of pulp made from rice straw, wheat straw, jute (including jute waste), mesta or bagasse, prior to the 1994-95 Budget.

(c) to (e). Requests received for extending excise duty exemption to the bagasse-based particle and fibre boards industry for a period of 5 – 10 years have been examined and it has not been found possible to accede to the request.

#### **Auction of Coffee by Coffee Board**

3301. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMIAH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coffee Board have made any plans to have a regular fortnightly auction from May 17, 1995 onwards;

(b) if so, whether the earlier decision of weekly auction have not been held since February 22, 1995 and the reasons for changing the decision;

(c) the total quantity of coffee pooled by the Coffee Board so far and likely to be pooled by the end of the year; and

(d) to what extent this decision of fortnightly auction would be beneficial to coffee growers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Coffee Board have introduced fortnightly auction since May, 1995 in place of weekly auction due to substantial reduction in the volume of pool coffee after introduction of Free Sale Quota. Due to non-availability of stock with the Coffee Board, weekly auction could not be held since Feb., 1995.

(c) The total quantity of coffee pooled with the coffee Board at the end of 1994-95 season (i.e. as on 30.6.95) was 10,846 tonnes. The quantity likely to be pooled during 1995-96 will depend on the new crop and therefore, cannot be estimated now.

(d) The frequency of holding auction whether on weekly basis or on fortnightly basis is dependent on the coffee stocks available in the pool in marketable form (i.e. cured form). There is no direct correlation between frequency of auction and benefits accruable to coffee growers since the entire realisation from the sale proceeds of coffee goes to the growers after deducting Board's marketing expenses.

[Translation]

#### **Income Earned Through Taxes**

3302. SHRI SURAJBHANU SOLANKI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Finance Commission lays down formula for the distribution of income earned through taxes and duties between Centre and States;

(b) if so, whether the amount received by each State during the period of recommendation is also calculated on the basis of that formula;

(c) whether any action being taken by the Government to make good the losses being suffered in recommended transferable amount by backward and poor States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) (a) and (b). The Tenth Finance Commission has recommended that 77.5% of the net proceeds of Income-tax, 47.5% of the net proceeds of Union excise duties be distributed amongst the States. Under Additional excise duties the entire proceeds other than the portion attributable to Union Territories are distributed amongst the States. These taxes and duties are distributed amongst the States in accordance with the percentage shares recommended by the Tenth Finance Commission.

(c). The total devolution to States as per the award of the Tenth Finance Commission for the period 1995-2000 is estimated to be Rs. 2,26,643 crores as compared to Rs. 1,06,036 crores recommended by the Ninth Finance Commission during 1990-95. There is increase in the devolutions to all States as recommended by the Tenth Finance Commission as compared to Ninth Finance Commission. As such, there is no proposal under consideration of the Government to give additional Non-Plan grants to States in addition to what is already recommended by the Tenth Finance Commission.

(d). Question does not arise.

[English]

#### **Committee for the Welfare of Beedi Workers**

3303. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Committee under his Ministry enquired into welfare measures of Beedi workers;

(b) whether officials of his Ministry gave evidence before such a Committee;

(c) whether his Ministry officials favour cigarettes over beedi;

(d) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(e) the steps proposed to rebut such arguments?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a). The Lok Sabha Standing Committee on Labour & Welfare (1994-95) held a detailed discussion last year on the welfare of beedi workers.

- (b) Yes Sir.
- (c) No. Sir.
- (d) and (e). Does not arise.

#### Projects selected for Loan Assistance by RBI

3304. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO :  
SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects selected for loan assistance by the Reserve Bank of India during 1993-94 and 1994-95;

(b) the extent upto which the private sector investment has helped for real growth in private corporate sector; and

(c) the details of the investments by the private sector companies and the States where such investment needs to be diverted, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that it does not undertake any direct project financing.

(b) and (c). RBI has reported that it has not undertaken any study to assess the impact of private sector investment on the growth in private corporate sector. RBI does not also have the details of the investment by the private sector companies. However, the Department of Statistical Analysis and Computer Services of RBI conducts annual studies on Corporate Investment Forecast and publishes the results in RBI bulletins. The study based on the projects sanctioned assistance during 1993-94 was published in June 1994 issue of the RBI bulletin. A copy of the RBI bulletin will be placed in the Parliament House Library.

#### Removal of Officer of SIDBI

3305. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) issued a press release stating the names of the top officers who were removed;

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

(c) the reasons for issuing the press release in this case and the charges labelled against these officers;

(d) whether departmental enquiry has been ordered in these cases; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

MURTHY) (a) to (e). Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has reported that a press release authorised by the then Managing Director was issued on July 14, 1995. In the press release, four General Managers, one Chief Accountant, one Legal Adviser and one Manager were stated to have been removed. The charges against the above mentioned officers included, *inter alia*, refusal of posting to North East Region, reluctance to posting at Head Office and breach of SIDBI Staff Regulations.

A Committee consisting of two Executive Directors was constituted by chairman SIDBI for reviewing the cases of above mentioned officers. The recommendations of the committee together with the appeals/intentions by some of the aggrieved officers to join back the bank was considered by SIDBI and it was decided that out of the above mentioned officers, two may be reinstated in the bank's service. It was also decided that Chairman SIDBI may, keeping in view the circumstances of the case, take a decision in one case.

#### Shares of UTI in Loss Making Companies

3306. DR. R. MALLU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that various large companies in which Unit Trust of India has shares are siphoning off funds and showing losses in foreign exchange transactions; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Export of Horticulture Products

3307. SHRI A. INDRAKARAN REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the total quantity of horticulture products exported alongwith its value and the foreign exchange earned therefrom during each of the last three years, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : The total quantity and value of horticulture products exported during the last 3 years *i.e.* 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 are as under :

QTY : IN MTS  
VALUE : RS. IN CRORES

1992-93		1993-94		1994-95	
Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
520015	386	484471	429	420426	430

(Source : DGCI&S, Calcutta and Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA))

Countrywise details of exports of horticulture products are available in the Monthly Statistics of the Foreign Trade of India published by the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics, Calcutta, copies of which are available in the Parliament House Library.

#### Advances by Public Sector Banks

3308. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- the total advances and loans during 1994-95 by the public sector banks;
- the total advances and loans under DRI;
- the break-up of the (b) above by social groups;
- the break-up of the (b) above by economic sector; and
- the total amount outstanding under DRI as on April 31, 1995 and its break-up in the above terms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a). As per the information furnished by Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the net bank credit by Public Sector Banks as on last Friday of March 1995 was Rs. 169037.54 crores.

(b). Reserve Bank of India has reported that the data regarding the total amount disbursed under the DRI Scheme during 1994-95 is not available. However, the amount disbursed under the DRI Scheme for the year 1992-93 (latest available) was Rs. 155.16 crores.

(c) and (d). Reserve Bank of India has reported that the present data compilation system does not generate information in the manner asked for. The data compilation system generates information for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes (SCs/STs) only. The amount of loans disbursed by the public sector banks under DRI Scheme to SCs/STs for the year 1992-93 (latest available) was Rs. 83.43 crores.

(e). The total amount outstanding under DRI Scheme as on the last Friday of March, 1995 in respect of Public Sector Banks was Rs. 701.84 crores, of which SCs/STs accounted for Rs. 420.79 crores.

[Translation]

#### Sugar Mills

3309. SHRI MOHAN SINGH (DEORIA) : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

- The quantum of sugar produced by sugar mills in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar which are under the control of Ministry of Textiles during the current crushing seasons;
- The quantum of sugar sold out of it and quantum of sugar stored in godowns;
- the outstanding dues of farmers against these mills; and
- the steps taken by the Government to clear these dues?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (d). No sugar company is under the administrative control of this Ministry. However, on account of holding 47% shares in Cawnoore Sugar Works Ltd., BIC is managing their mills. Its production during 1994-95 was 6.50 lakh quintals, the quantum of sugar sold and stock as on 4.8.95 is 3.04 lakh quintals and 3.47 lakh quintals respectively. The outstanding dues to the farmers are Rs. 21.55 crores.

Since the above sugar company is not nationalised company, Government does not normally provide any budgetary support to it.

[English]

#### Turnover in S.T.C.

3310. DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

- the total turnover of the State Trading Corporation of India Ltd. during each of the last three years and the trade done, country-wise;
- whether there is any decline in the trading activities of STC with Gulf countries, Russia and some European countries; and
- if so, the steps the Government propose to take to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Total turnover of STC during each of the last three years is as under :—

Year	Rs. crore
1992-93	1013
1993-94	1117
1994-95	1861

As the countrywise details for trade during 1994-95 have yet to be compiled, details for the year 1992-93 & 1993-94 for exports (FOB Value) and imports (CIF Value) are annexed as statements.

(b) and (c). STC's exports to Gulf countries, Russia and European countries have increased from a level of Rs. 260 crores in 1992-93 to Rs. 372 crores in 1993-94. Similarly against import of Rs. 19 crores in 1992-93 from these areas, STCs imports reached the level of Rs. 38 crores in 1993-94. Further steps being taken by STC for increasing trade with Russia include :

- (i) barter trade through escrow A/c mechanism;
- (ii) consignment sale/stock and sale of fast moving items like tea.

### STATEMENT

COUNTRYWISE (FOB VALUE - RS. CRORES)  
EXPORTS

REGION/COUNTRY	1992-93	1993-94
<b>NORTH AMERICA</b>		
CANADA	5.40	2.71
U.S.A.	80.08	61.20
<b>LATIN AMERICA</b>		
ARGENTINA	1.29	3.10
BRAZIL	0.97	10.16
CHILE	0.05	0.06
COLOMBIA	0.14	0.09
EQUADOR	-	0.01
GUATEMALA	-	0.14
MEXICO	0.86	3.04
PANAMA REPUBLIC	-	-
PARAGUAY	-	0.55
PERU	-	0.02
URUGUAY	0.11	0.16
VENEZUELA	-	0.05
EL SALVADOR	-	-
COSTA RICA	0.02	0.03
<b>EAST AND WEST EUROPE</b>		
BULGARIA	0.23	-
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	-	0.75
HUNGARY	0.57	0.06
POLAND	0.11	9.18
RUMANIA	-	0.55
YUGOSLAVIA	0.41	0.41
SOLVENIA	0.40	-
CROATIA	-	0.08
BELGIUM	10.92	8.76

DENMARK	2.06	0.45
GERMANY	69.62	93.99
FRANCE	19.04	27.11
IRELAND	-	0.19
ITALY	11.36	18.62
NETHERLANDS	15.55	25.51
UNITED KINGDOM	24.93	33.11
AUSTRIA	2.48	4.49
NORWAY	0.51	0.50
PORTUGAL	0.65	1.73
SWEDEN	8.73	5.62
SWITZERLAND	27.68	27.19
CYPRUS	0.11	-
FINLAND	0.32	0.76
GREECE	0.96	1.42
MALTA	-	0.01
SPAIN	4.45	8.64
TURKEY	10.79	3.99
RUSSIA	14.46	24.07
C.I.S	-	23.19
<b>AFRICA</b>		
A.R.E.	1.33	1.32
ALGERIA	-	1.15
ETHIOPIA	-	0.35
GHANA	0.52	0.04
CIRUTI	2.22	-
KENYA	0.02	0.37
LIBYA	-	2.35
MAURITIUS	0.10	0.01
MOROCCO	0.68	0.14
MOZAMBIQUE	-	2.62
NIGERIA	0.72	1.43
SEYCHELLES	0.83	1.40
SUDAN	-	0.13
TANZANIA REPUBLIC IC	0.05	1.11
TUNISIA	-	0.48
UGANDA	0.14	0.24
ZAMBIA	0.08	0.26
ZIMBABWE	0.34	0.50
AFRICA	-	0.07
JAMAICA	-	-
NAMIBIA	0.02	0.08
WEST INDIES	0.02	-
TOGO	-	0.07
SOUTH AFRICA	-	0.10

REGION/COUNTRY	1992-93	1993-94
<b>WEST ASIA</b>		
BAHRAIN	0.03	0.09
IRAN	8.57	19.89
ISRAEL	-	0.16
JORDAN	0.11	0.15
KUWAIT	3.62	4.03
LEBANON	-	0.39
OMAN & MUSCAT	0.24	-
QATAR	0.12	0.05
SAUDI ARABIA	12.57	17.21
SYRIA	1.91	0.52
U.A.E.	5.71	30.87
YEMEN ARAB REPUB.	0.78	1.31
<b>ASIA EXCT. W. ASIA</b>		
AFGHANISTAN	1.50	2.50
BANGLADESH	0.56	4.22
TAIWAN	5.56	5.81
CHINA PEOPLES REP.	-	19.10
HONGKONG	7.82	15.29
INDONESIA	4.20	8.04
JAPAN	42.96	60.32
KOREA REPUBLIC	5.30	9.06
MALAYSIA	10.53	7.46
MALDIVE ISLANDS	0.16	1.45
NEPAL	8.84	34.62
NEW GUINEA	-	-
PAKISTAN	1.95	1.60
PHILIPPINES	9.34	0.11
SINGAPORE	19.43	35.30
SRI LANKA	32.06	20.98
THAILAND	4.21	16.64
VIETNAM REPUBLIC	0.04	0.43
<b>AUSTRALIA &amp; NEWZEALAND</b>		
AUSTRALIA	11.21	15.91
NEWZEALAND	0.31	1.70

COUNTRYWISE (CIF VALUE - RS. CRORES)  
**IMPORTS**

REGION/COUNTRY	1992-93	1993-94
<b>NORTH AMERICA</b>		
CANADA	23.57	5.27
U.S.A.	58.44	104.19
<b>LATIN AMERICA</b>		
MEXICO	-	-
<b>EAST &amp; WEST EUROPE</b>		
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	-	0.49
HUNGARY	-	0.91

POLAND	3.84	-
RUMANIA	-	-
BELGIUM	0.11	-
GERMANY	2.45	7.31
FRANCE	-	-
ITALY	-	0.54
UNITED KINGDOM	0.63	0.82
EEC	-	-
AUSTRIA	-	0.08
SWEDEN	1.38	-
SWITZERLAND	-	0.12
FINLAND	0.01	-
TURKEY	-	2.14
<b>RUSSIA</b>	11.37	25.92
<b>AFRICA</b>		
TANZANIA REPUBLIC	-	1.94
<b>ASIA EXCL. W. ASIA</b>		
BANGLADESH	0.05	-
CHINA PEOPLES REP.	-	-
HONGKONG	-	0.02
INDONESIA	3.45	1.82
JAPAN	0.08	0.21
KOREA REPUBLIC	0.56	-
MALAYSIA	40.71	49.19
SINGAPORE	-	0.01
SRI LANKA	-	0.09
<b>AUSTRALIA &amp; NEWZEALAND</b>		
AUSTRALIA	-	6.75
NEWZEALAND	-	-
	146.65	207.82

### Export of Rice to Bangladesh

3311. SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the rice is being exported to Bangladesh from West Bengal;

(b) if so, whether the Government have given any permit/licence in this regard;

(c) if so, the details of condition thereof; and

(d) if not, the steps taken by the Government to stop the export of rice from West Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (d): Exim policy provides for export of rice without any price

and quantity restrictions. The Food Corporation of India has also been permitted to export/sell for export upto 2.0 million tonnes of fine and superfine varieties of rice from the public stocks. Such exports would also include export of rice to Bangladesh. Statewise-data on export is not being maintained.

[Translation]

### Minimum Wages

3312. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have taken any decision on its proposal for national minimum wages;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) to (c): The issue relating to national minimum wage has been considered by various fora in the past. A Group of State Labour Ministers in September, 1985 decided that it might not be feasible to frame a National Wage Policy at the present stage. This subject was also considered by the Indian Labour Conference (ILC) held in November, 1985. The ILC expressed the view that "till such time a national wage is feasible it would be desirable to have regional minimum wage in regard to which the Central Government may lay down the guidelines. The minimum wages should be linked with rise in cost of living." Accordingly, the Government have issued guidelines on Regional Minimum Wages in July, 1987 to all the State Governments and U.T. Administrations. The State Governments/U.T. Administrations were requested to provide for variable Dearness Allowance linked to Consumer Price Index, as a part of minimum wages, to be revised every six months. The country was divided into six regions namely, Eastern Region, North-Eastern Region, Southern Region, Northern Region, Western Region and Central Region. The first round meetings of the Regional Minimum Wages Advisory Committee, renamed as Regional Labour Ministers' Conference, were held during 1987 and 1992. The second round of Conferences of the Regional Labour Ministers were held in 1994 & 1995.

[English]

### Conversion of Cooperative Banks into Commercial Banks

3313. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state; (a) whether the Government propose to allow scheduled urban

cooperatives banks to convert themselves into commercial banks as has been reported in the "Hindustan Times", dated June 6, 1995; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

### Setting up of National Tourism Board

3314. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYA SADUL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some of the leading Hotel Managements have requested the Union Government to set up National Tourism Board and also creation of special funds for development of tourism in the country;
- (b) if so, details therefor; and
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No Sir.

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

### Private Banks

3315: SHRI SHIV SHARAN VERMA:  
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO:  
SHRI BOLIA BULLI RAMAIAH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether leading corporate houses of the country interested in setting up private banks, are mounting big pressure on the RBI to change its latest selection norms which virtually disallows the established companies from entering into the banking sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether RBI has decided a three formula for selection of the private sector banks;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the number of banks likely to be set up in private sector in the country in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c): No, Sir. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that as per the policy being followed by it in taking up for consideration the applications for setting up new banks in the private sector, initially preference was given to financial institutions because of their built-up expertise in credit appraisal, good track record in respect of managerial competence and profitability. Thereafter,

preference was given to non-banking financial companies because they undertake a broad spectrum of activities, such as, investment dealings, equipment leasing, hire purchase and housing finance, financing consumer durables etc. and to promoters having professional banking background. Weightage was also given to promoter groups seeking to establish new banks in the under-developed and under-banked areas and those with business focus on rural development.

(d) RBI has reported that although it is not considering putting a cap on the number of private sector banks to be set up, it is not possible to indicate, at this point of time, the number of banks likely to be set up in the private sector in the country.

### **Cancellation of Calcutta Silchar Flights**

3316. SHRI DWARAKA NATH DAS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that Indian Airlines flights from Calcutta to Silchar are cancelled off and on causing serious inconveniences to the passengers;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore

(c) whether landing and take off facilities of flights are also not improved at Silchar Airport:

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to improve these facilities;

(e) whether the Government propose to allow to private airlines to operate from Calcutta to Silchar; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b): During the period January, 1995 to July, 1995, only 7 flights of Indian Airlines between Calcutta and Silchar were cancelled, out of a total number of 173 flights scheduled, 3 flights were cancelled due to agitation of pilots and 4 due to non-availability of Commanders.

(c) and (d): Precision Approach Path Indicator (PAPI) and Very High Frequency Omni Range (VOR) equipment are already available at Silchar airport. Airports Authority of India has also drawn up plans to provide additional facilities for landing and take off within a year.

(e) and (f): NEPC Airlines has already started operating four services a week on Calcutta- Imphal-Guwahati-Silchar sector.

### **Bombay-Calicut Flight**

3317. SHRIMULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be

pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bombay-Calicut Indian Airlines flight has been converted from the domestic to an international flight;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government are aware that the domestic passengers on the above flight are facing immense difficulties and delay; and

(d) if so, the remedial steps the Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b): With a view to provide connections to/from Calicut to passengers travelling between Calicut and other countries over Bombay, the Bombay-Calicut-Bombay service of Indian Airlines has been converted into an international service.

(c) No complaints have been received against the above arrangement.

(d) Does not arise.

### **Demands of Beedi and Cigar Workers**

3318. SHRI RAMCHANDRA MAROTRAO GHANGARE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any representation from the All India Beedi, Cigar and Tobacco Workers Federation, Ahmednagar (Maharashtra);

(b) if so, the main demands raised by them;

(c) whether the Government have permitted the multi-national cigarette Companies including prominent Indian Cigarette Companies to manufacture macro-cigarettes since 1994 and also reduced excise duty on them from Rs. 120/- to Rs. 60/- per thousand;

(d) if so, whether the Government are aware that these steps have thrown lacs of indigenious beedi workers mostly women out of employment and forced their families to starvation; and

(e) if so, the steps the Government contemplate to save the beedi industry of the country?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) (a) and (b): Yes, Sir. The main demands raised therein relate to minimum wages, dearness allowance, supply of raw material, implementation of Labour Laws, abolition of contract labour, issue of identity card, pension and insurance scheme in respect of beedi workers and implementation of 1991 Supreme Court decision in respect of Tamil Nadu in all States etc.

(c) to (e): The Government have received representations from the manufacturers of beedis and the Associations of beedi workers stating that the present

rate of specific excise duty on non-filter cigarettes of length not exceeding 60 mm is affecting the beedi industry and workers. Since the incidence of excise duty on cigarettes is substantially higher than on beedis, it is unlikely that the system of central excise duty levied on cigarettes based on the length has adverse effect on the beedi industry and workers.

### Consultancy Service to Run Hotels and Restaurants

3319. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether ITDC is providing Consultancy services on turnkey basis for running hotels and restaurants in India and abroad;

(b) whether the Management of ITDC is inviting private contractors to run its own restaurants in ITDC hotels itself; and

(c) if so, the details of restaurants in ITDC hotels given on contract basis during the last three years or likely to be given in the current financial year and the amount spent by ITDC on the construction and renovation for

such restaurants?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) ITDC provides consultancy services for running hotels & restaurants in India and abroad.

(b) and (c): The restaurants are leased out with a view to cater to the requirements of speciality cuisines for which either ITDC do not have the expertise or operation of the activity is not economical due to high overhead cost etc. The details of the restaurants leased out during the last three years alongwith their cost of construction/renovation are given in the attached statement. Presently, ITDC is also considering leasing out the following restaurants:-

Name of the Hotel	Name of the Restaurants
1. Ashok Hotel, New Delhi	(i) Discotheque (ii) Mexican Cuisine Restaurant (iii) Kashmiri Food Restaurant
2. Hotel Janpath, New Delhi	— South Indian Restaurant
3. Hotel Samrat, New Delhi	— South Indian Restaurant

### Statement

*Details of Restaurants/ Space for Restaurant leased out to private parties in ITDC Hotels for the last three years (1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95)*

Name of the Hotel	Name of the Restaurant	Amount Spent on Construction/ Renovation
		(Rs. in lakhs)
1. Ashok Hotel, New Delhi	Jewel of the East (Chinese Restaurant)	26.58
2. Ashok Yatri Niwas, New Delhi	Bagia bar-be-que (Avadh Dishes)	Nil (The restaurant was given on contract basis on as is where is basis).
3. Hotel Janpath, New Delhi	Food Plaza (Fast Food Restaurant)	16.16
4. Hotel Agra Ashok, Agra	Mandarin (Chinese Restaurant) Taj Restaurant (Multi Cuisine)	15.68 31.00
5. Temple Bay Ashok Beach Resort, Mamallapuram	Ashoka Restaurant (Snack Bar)	Nil. (The Restaurant was given on contract on as is where is basis)

### Embezzlement in Parishad Cooperative Bank

3320. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the "Times of India" dated July 18, 1995 under the caption "Judicial Custody for 4 in Parishad bank case";

(b) if so, whether the RBI has empowered the Parishad Cooperative Bank to pay upto Rs. 30,000/- to depositors and creditors of the bank;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the above facilities are also applicable to those depositors who were earlier issued pay orders on maturity;

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

(f) the time by which the payments for the aforesaid pay orders is likely to be made?

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

(b) to (f): Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

### Economic Offences

3321. SHRI M.G. REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Bureau of Investigation has an economic offences cell;

(b) if so, the details of the functions thereof;

(c) whether there are any instances when the C.B.I. moved on newspaper reports without specific complaints from share holders or Government officials;

(d) if so, whether C.B.I. has acted to stem fraud and corruption in instances where massive fraud was reported in newspapers in large companies in private sector who have received aid and assistance from financial institutions like IFCI, etc.; and

(e) the details of action taken by the C.B.I. to move and

apprehend culprits who committed massive frauds of crores of rupees during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b) : Central Bureau of investigation (CBI) have reported that the Economic Offences Division in CBI has been entrusted with investigations into offences falling under various Sections of Indian Penal Code and Special Acts notified under Delhi Special Police Establishment Act predominantly pertaining to serious frauds in Banks, Stock-Exchanges, Financial Institutions, violation of Foreign Exchange Regulations Act, Customs Act, etc.

(c) to (e) : CBI by its charter of duties and functions operates to register and investigate criminal cases pertaining to corruption related criminal misconduct of public servants under the control of Government of India. Similarly, economic offences like frauds in the Banks and other Financial Institutions under the control of Government of India are also investigated by CBI on a regular basis. CBI have reported that it had registered 911 cases of bank frauds during 1992-94. CBI have reported that no case has been registered by it solely on the basis of newspaper reports.

### Loan under DRI

3322 SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the number of people and the quantum of loans disbursed under DRI (Differential Rate of Interest) to weaker sections of the society during each of the last three years, bank-wise and State-wise.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): All the beneficiaries of Differential Rate of Interest (DRI) Scheme have been categorised as belonging to 'Weaker Sections' in priority sector. Statements showing position of disbursements Bank-wise and State/Union Territory-wise under the DRI scheme by all Indian Scheduled Commercial Banks during the years ended March, 1991, March, 1992 and March, 1993 (latest available) are given in the attached statement-I and II respectively.

## Statement

*Bank-wise position of disbursements both in terms of number of accounts and amount disbursed under the Differential Rate of Interest (DRI) Scheme by all Indian scheduled commercial banks during the years ended March, 1991, March, 1992 and March, 1993 (latest available)*

(Amount Rs. in Lakhs)

S. Name of the No. Banks		Years ended March					
		1991		1992		1993	
		No. of A/cs	Amount disbursed	No. of A/cs	Amount disbursed	No. of A/cs	Amount disbursed
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	State Bank of India	313166	2655.13	147290	2943.72	75379	1482.57
2.	State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur	10611	276.98	3563	186.96	1985	540.40
3.	State of Bank of Hyderabad	10709	265.09	12963	233.43	20233	463.20
4.	State Bank of Mysore	5422	231.14	2064	48.11	3136	63.97
5.	State Bank of Patiala	6315	711.44	4209	868.38	4263	879.68
6.	State Bank of Saurashtra	4585	196.13	1702	35.16	6013	73.29
7.	State Bank of Travancore	68511	1282.50	70311	1375.35	66946	1399.99
8.	State Bank of Indore	1182	32.31	498	24.39	1809	263.07
<b>A. SBI GROUP</b>		<b>420501</b>	<b>5650.72</b>	<b>242600</b>	<b>5715.50</b>	<b>179764</b>	<b>5166.17</b>
9.	Allahabad Bank	23288	941.93	11372	532.27	4959	437.81
10.	Andhra Bank	11603	579.58	6177	461.35	4586	174.95
11.	Bank of Baroda	22628	557.91	10485	1465.49	5019	2411.93
12.	Bank of India	22866	973.19	34735	1552.20	18265	582.50
13.	Bank of Maharashtra	3212	146.41	2286	952.13	1775	108.63
14.	Canara Bank	65294	1284.96	54436	2083.45	49618	1362.95
15.	Central Bank of India	20197	473.83	19618	426.54	576	18.39
16.	Corporation Bank	6048	254.29	3579	97.10	4020	136.01
17.	Dena Bank	1020	39.39	1731	12.84	3994	119.81
18.	Indian Bank	15996	547.30	85779	1888.50	45233	1248.73
19.	Indian Overseas Bank	21592	279.06	8835	302.62	5460	155.60
20.	New Bank of India	1501	105.41	533	23.18	509	17.73
21.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	6108	284.10	5070	565.55	9518	589.95
22.	Punjab National Bank	33490	1575.07	23052	1618.21	16757	1216.87
23.	Punjab & Sind Bank	693	58.26	725	146.84	371	42.47
24.	Syndicate Bank	16987	280.08	4628	65.56	3071	132.37
25.	UCO Bank	6218	129.13	2260	45.97	3945	95.63
26.	Union Bank of India	16821	382.45	7873	185.75	6992	884.76
27.	United Bank of India	4822	134.50	17345	459.97	5599	227.69
28.	Vijaya Bank	911	24.14	330	8.03	132	29.87
<b>B. Nationalised Banks</b>		<b>301295</b>	<b>9050.99</b>	<b>300849</b>	<b>12893.55</b>	<b>190339</b>	<b>9989.65</b>

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
C.	Public Sector Banks	721796	14701.71	543449	18609.05	370103	15155.82
29.	Bank of Madura	305	2.40	1.26	1.07	109	0.92
30.	Bank of Rajasthan	197	2.74	12	0.50	28	1.46
31.	Bank of Karad	55	1.78	18	0.66	-	-
32.	Bareilly Corporation Bank	22	0.75	12	0.57	15	0.62
33.	Benares State Bank	52	1.32	1	0.05	-	-
34.	Catholic Syrian Bank	1226	36.08	1348	33.26	1132	38.83
35.	Kumbakonam C.U. Bank	50	15.99	51	15.57	55	15.61
36.	Karur Vysya Bank	303	15.09	303	15.08	2	0.10
37.	Lakshmi Vilas bank	28	0.22	16	0.22	16	0.51
38.	Nedungudi Bank	432	9.39	192	5.38	245	10.15
39.	Ratnakar Bank	7	0.18	1	0.06	-	-
40.	Sangli Bank	366	12.77	298	11.46	169	6.82
41.	Tamil Nadu Mercantile Bank	1099	35.75	1000	30.45	712	24.08
42.	Federal Bank	1433	30.90	673	16.54	627	20.19
43.	Karnataka Bank	1265	29.12	376	9.19	174	4.22
44.	Nainital Bank	17	0.69	16	0.69	13	0.55
45.	Bharat Overseas Bank	878	23.72	408	10.11	870	25.19
46.	South Indian Bank	1595	37.25	1114	27.76	884	24.76
47.	Lord Krishna Bank	76	0.61	15	0.14	11	0.09
48.	Vysya Bank	1183	34.33	997	47.20	445	64.90
49.	Jammu & Kashmir Bank	3261	112.52	3261	112.52	3261	112.52
50.	United Western Bank	493	16.86	182	7.26	253	7.98
51.	Punjab Coop. Bank	-	-	2	0.06	2	0.06
52.	Dhanalakshmi Bank	26	0.67	15	0.21	98	0.24
D.	Indian Private Banks	14369	421.13	10437	346.01	9031	359.80
E.	All Scheduled Commercial Banks	736165	15122.84	553886	18955.06	379134	15515.62

### Statement-II

*State/Union Territory-wise position of disbursements both in term of number of accounts and amount disbursed under the Differential Rate of Interest (DRI) Scheme by all Indian Scheduled Commercial Banks during the years ended March, 1991, March, 1992 and March, 1993 (latest available)*

(Amount Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the Regions/States/ Union Territories	1991		1992		1993	
		No. of A/cs	Amount Disbursed	No. of A/cs	Amount Disbursed	No. of A/cs	Amount Disbursed
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>NORTHERN REGION</b>		50487	1908.90	46180	295235	23544	2158.14
1.	Haryana	10018	380.18	7286	185.65	3042	120.95
2.	Himachal Pradesh	4531	154.13	3754	145.67	3153	126.84
3.	Jammu & Kashmir	3453	116.53	3368	116.35	3306	118.00
4.	Punjab	11981	668.13	8326	486.51	6608	397.40
5.	Rajasthan	15621	423.83	16106	890.80	6412	285.56

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
6. Chandigarh		848	33.98	528	133.72	204	9.71
7. NCT of Delhi		4035	132.12	6812	993.65	819	1099.68
<b>NORTH EASTERN REGION</b>		<b>13145</b>	<b>282.06</b>	<b>7374</b>	<b>176.25</b>	<b>3498</b>	<b>94.50</b>
8. Assam		6063	123.02	3654	95.48	1220	30.38
9. Manipur		472	10.68	258	6.53	743	15.13
10. Meghalaya		2400	54.11	798	17.28	423	13.65
11. Nagaland		620	25.44	451	14.14	418	3.39
12. Tripura		1197	26.54	599	15.40	609	20.78
13. Arunachal Pradesh		248	5.14	179	4.77	21	0.60
14. Sikkim		1920	32.51	1259	20.80	64	0.57
15. Mizoram		225	4.62	176	4.85	-	-
<b>EASTERN REGION</b>		<b>191555</b>	<b>2380.23</b>	<b>166047</b>	<b>3638.23</b>	<b>71858</b>	<b>1517.60</b>
16. Bihar		25453	748.75	14733	563.96	17603	347.83
17. Orissa		154404	582.92	103753	2158.12	41985	865.61
18. West Bengal		60470	1045.05	47390	912.99	10358	287.84
19. Andaman & Nicobar		228	3.51	171	3.16	1912	16.32
<b>CENTRAL REGION</b>		<b>61443</b>	<b>2273.27</b>	<b>72678</b>	<b>3708.90</b>	<b>30881</b>	<b>4223.65</b>
20. Madhya Pradesh		13426	423.18	6766	233.48	157	176.52
21. Uttar Pradesh		48017	1850.09	65912	3475.42	6724	4046.53
<b>WESTERN REGION</b>		<b>58034</b>	<b>1864.89</b>	<b>44789</b>	<b>1227.89</b>	<b>47138</b>	<b>1153.26</b>
22. Gujarat		16337	670.52	9257	319.80	11564	358.47
23. Maharashtra		39313	1125.99	33738	860.26	34904	773.26
24. Daman & Diu		105	2.58	10	0.22	19	0.26
25. Goa		2275	65.60	1784	47.61	651	21.27
26. Dadra & Nagar Haveli		6	0.20	-	-	-	-
<b>SOUTHERN REGION</b>		<b>361501</b>	<b>6413.49</b>	<b>216818</b>	<b>7251.44</b>	<b>202215</b>	<b>6369.07</b>
27. Andhra Pradesh		64123	1402.35	45738	2884.63	55411	2448.31
28. Karnataka		52835	1353.69	30599	1468.64	23593	1212.66
29. Kerala		143580	2111.29	65227	1783.72	78211	1712.90
30. Tamil Nadu		8655	1502.14	54814	1092.21	43980	973.95
31. Pondicherry		2336	42.61	437	21.86	1009	20.67
32. Lakshdweep		62	1.41	8	0.38	11	0.58
<b>Total</b>		<b>736165</b>	<b>15122.84</b>	<b>553886</b>	<b>18955.06</b>	<b>379134</b>	<b>15515.62</b>

### Representation from Beedi and Cigar Workers

[Translation]

3323. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any representations from Beedi Unions protesting against false propaganda being done by cigarette companies;

(b) if so, whether this misleading reports on the comparative demerits of beedies have been planted in the newspapers;

(c) whether the Government have undertaken any enquiry into the matter; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

### Trade with Malaysia

3324. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VERMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of balance of trade between India and Malaysia during each of the last three years; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to boost our export to that country, area-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The details of balance of trade between India and Malaysia during the last three years is as follows:-

(Value in US\$ Million)

Year	Exports	Imports	Balance of Trade
1992-93	187.04	405.23	(-) 218.19
1993-94	246.00	247.00	(-) 1.00
1994-95	284.83	486.68	(-) 201.85

(Source : DGCI&amp;S)

(b) A number of trade/business level delegations from India have been encouraged to visit Malaysia to boost our exports. The products covered by the delegations included oil and gas, handicrafts, telecommunications, electrical goods and electronics, power, dyestuffs and intermediates, coffee, etc. Indian companies have also been participating in various exhibitions and trade fairs in Malaysia in order to increase our exports.

*[English]*

#### Draft Facilities in Regional Rural Banks

3325. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Regional Rural Banks have been allowed to introduce draft facilities;

(b) if so, the date since when these banks have been allowed such facilities;

(c) the details of the Regional Rural Banks that have started giving such draft facilities to their customers;

(d) whether majority of the Regional Rural Banks have failed to introduce such facility due to non co-operation of the sponsoring banks; and

(e) if so, the action taken in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (e): Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had vide its circular dated 20th May, 1980 allowed Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) to issue drafts in consultation with their sponsor banks taking into account the needs of the area and capability of their branch personnel. National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) vide a circular dated 22nd December, 1993 advised all Regional Rural Banks to make appropriate arrangements with their sponsor banks in this regard. NABARD has reported that as per information made available by 166 Regional Rural Banks, this facility has been extended by 34 RRBs. Other RRBs are consulting the sponsor banks for working out appropriate arrangements.

#### Salbani Mint

3326. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the Salbani Mint, West Bengal which is under construction; and

(b) the time by which it is likely to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) No Mint is being set up at Salbani in West Bengal.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Benefits/facilities to Sale Agents

3327. SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether different airlines besides approved commission give a number of other benefits/facilities to their sale agencies; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the agencies functioning for the booking of air-tickets for different airlines at present?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b): Besides the agency commission, Air India and Indian Airlines give upto two tickets at 75% concession per year to the full time employees of each agent and 50% concessions to accompanying spouse. In addition Air India also gives productivity linked bonus ranging from 1 to 7 percent to selected agents in certain regions based on their revenue performance. Information regarding other airlines is not available.

#### Corruption and Mismanagement of ITDC

3328. SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received a complaint letter dated 22nd March, 1994 from All India ITDC Employees' Union duly demanding a high level probe into various acts of corruption and mismanagement by the then GM, ATT, ITDC;

(b) if so, the details of the complaints/irregularities pointed out by the above-mentioned Union;

(c) whether any probe has been made based on the complaint referred above, if so, by whom and result thereof as on date; and

(d) the action taken, if any, against the officials found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) to (d). A letter dated 22.5.94 was received by the Govt. from All India ITDC Workers' Union demanding probe into alleged acts of corruption etc. by the then GM of Ashok Tours and Travels Division of ITDC. The allegations made therein and the position thereon is as follows :-

S. No.	Allegation	Result of the Investigation
1.	Unauthorised consumption of food in ITDC hotel	An amount of Rs. 646 was recovered from the officer.
2.	Possession of disproportionate assets	The investigations revealed that the officer had committed certain procedural lapses and not reported certain transactions and sale of jewellery to the competent authority. Therefore, he was cautioned to be more careful in future.
3.	Promotion of the officer concerned in spite of blamished records	This promotion was in accordance with the Rules which provide that no disciplinary case should be pending against the officer at the time of promotion.
4.	He was involved in the fake L.T.C. tours' case	No specific investigation is pending against the then GM, Ashok Tours & Travels.

### Kolar Gold Mines

3329. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the labour unrest in Kolar Gold Mines:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the major demands of the workers; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to resolve the same?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) to (c): Yes, Sir. About 6500 workers of Bharat Gold Mines, Kolar resorted to strike from 2.8.95. The major demands of the workers are (i) interim relief (ii) payment of difference of D.A., (iii) payment of difference of ex-gratia/bonus (iv) payment of advance of Rs. 15,000/- (Rs. fifteen thousand only) per workman towards the said benefits.

(d) Central Industrial Relation Machinery of the Ministry of Labour intervened in the matter and held conciliations and efforts are being made to resolve the issues.

An appeal was also made by the Hon'ble Minister of State, Mines to the workers not to continue the strike.

### New Note Press Project

3330. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a company called "Bharatiya Reserve Bank Note Mudran Private Ltd.", has been incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956 to take over the New Note Press Projects from Reserve Bank of India;

(b) if so, the date of its incorporation and the reasons in detail due to which such a company has been flouted in violation of sections 24 and 25 of the R.B.I. Act, 1956;

(c) whether it is a wholly owned subsidiary of Reserve Bank of India;

(d) if so, the main shareholders of this company and

the places where its registered offices are likely to be opened; and

(e) the category-wise salary and allowances and perks of the officials of this company and how they are compared with the officials of R.B.I.?

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

(b) 3rd February, 1995. There is no violation of Section 24 and 25 of the Reserve Bank of India Act.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) All shares would be allotted by the Reserve bank of India. The Registered office of the company is located at Bangalore.

(a) The category-wise scales of the officials of the company are as under :—

Designation	Scale of Pay
Asstt. Manager	Rs. 2075-100-2875-125-3750
Deputy Manager	Rs. 2400-125-3150-150-4200
Manager	Rs. 3200-150-3650-175-5225
Asstt. Gen. Manager	Rs. 4000-175-5750
Deputy Gen. Manager	Rs. 4800-175-6200
General Manager	Rs. 6100-200-6900
<i>Industrial Workmen</i>	
Grade I	Rs. 850-25-1000-40-1200
Grade II	Rs. 950-40-1150-EB-50-1500
Grade III	Rs. 1200-50-1500-60-1800-EB-80-2040.
Grade IV	Rs. 1400-60-1640-80-2200-EB-100-2600
Grade V	Rs. 1640-80-2040-100-2540-120-2900

Other allowances connected with the pay scales, such as Dearness Allowance, House Rent Allowance, etc. are also on the lines of Government Rules. The other service conditions have not been finalised by the Board of the company. The above pay sales are lower than RBI's pay scales.

[English]

### Airport at Ajmer

3331. SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA) Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Airports Authority of India has received a proposal from the Government of Rajasthan to construct a new airport at Ajmer.

(b) if so, whether the Government are contemplating to implement this scheme on the condition of allotment of land free of cost by the State Government:

(c) whether such condition has been laid down for any other airport also; and

(d) the time by which work for Ajmer airport is likely to be started and by when the airport becomes operational?

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

(b) to (d) : The proposal of construction of airport at Ajmer is not included in the 8th Five Year Plan. However, Airports Authority of India will examine its economic viability and then take a final decision in the matter.

### Employment Abroad

3332. SHRI SURESHANAND SWAMI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian labourers went abroad to get employment during 1994-95;

(b) the names of the countries where they went; and

(c) the number of labourers left their jobs abroad and came back to India?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) : During 1994-95, Protectors of Emigrants have granted emigration clearances to 4936 labourers for jobs mainly for Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Oman and Bahrain.

(c) This information is not being maintained in this Ministry.

[English]

### Removal of Cotton from Essential Commodities Act

3333. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH: Will the Minister of

TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to remove textiles from the list of items under the Essential Commodities Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) Presently, there is no proposal for removal of textiles from the list of items under the Essential Commodities Act.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

### Committee for Financial Institutions

3334. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up a high level committee to discuss infrastructure financing by financial institutions:

(b) if so, the details of members of this high level committee;

(c) whether industrial finance would suffer due to this requirement of infrastructure financing; and

(d) the steps proposed to assess such needs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. An Expert Group on commercialisation of infrastructure projects has been set up in October, 1994 with representatives from the various Departments of the Central Government, from National Stock Exchange, Securities and Exchange Board of India, Housing & Urban Development Corporation of India, Infrastructure Leasing and Financial Services Ltd., Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd., Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India Ltd. and from Private Sector.

(c) and (d) : The Expert Group would examine problems relating to Institutional, legal framework and specific sector constraints that are presently inhibiting the flow of resources to the sector and in particular recommend suitable ways and means to facilitate private sector participation, private-public sector partnership in financing infrastructural projects and way of harnessing private international capital flows for infrastructural development also.

[Translation]

### Beautification of Haridwar

3335. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI: Will the

Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any project from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh for financial assistance to beautify Haridwar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b): No, Sir.

(c) Development and beautification of tourist places including pilgrim centres is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. For the development of religious places of Haridwar the State Government had sanctioned the following schemes during 1992-93:-

		(Rs. in lakhs)
Sr. No.	Name of the schemes	Amount sanctioned
1.	Tourist rest house	29.25
2.	Signboard (guide map)	1.50
3.	Renovation of Subash Ghat	35.00
4.	Construction of concrete road	29.53

**Development of Tourism in Coastal Areas of Tamil Nadu and Kerala**

3336. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to develop the tourism industry in coastal areas of Tamil Nadu and Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM. (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c): The development of tourism in the State including the coastal areas is primarily the responsibility of the State Govt. of Tamil Nadu and Kerala. However, in the coastal areas, the Department of Tourism, Government of India sanctioned three projects/schemes amounting to Rs. 69.21 lakhs for Tamil Nadu and six projects/schemes sanctioned for Rs. 159.90 lakhs during first three years of Eighth Five Year Plan. The details of the projects/schemes sanctioned with amount and year of sanction for development of Beach Tourism are given below:

			(Rs. in lacs)
Name of the project/scheme	Year of sanction	Amount sanctioned	
<b>TAMIL NADU</b>			
1. Yatri Niwas at Rameshwaram	1992-93	44.78	
2. Water sports equipment for Muttukadu backwater and Pulicat Lake	1993-94	14.94	
3. Tourist Reception Centre at Tranquebar	1994-95	29.49	
<b>KERALA</b>			
4. Beach Resort at Paravoor	1993-94	26.13	
5. Beach Resort at Cherthala	1993-94	24.69	
6. Yatri Niwas at Alleppey	1994-95	38.93	
7. Upgradation-cum-extension of Hotel Samudra at Kovalam	1994-95	37.50	
8. Purchase of boats for Kovalam and Quilon	1994-95	17.65	
9. Assistance for boat race at Emakulam	1994-95	15.00	

#### Loan Waiver Scheme of NABARD

3337. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development has requested the Union Government to examine the proposal of urging the Election Commission to treat announcement of interest and loan waiver

schemes by political parties on the eve of election as an electoral malpractice; and

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

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

(b) The matter is under examination.

### World Bank Funding

3338: SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

- whether the World Bank is withdrawing assistance from rehabilitation work going on in Marathwada region;
- the reasons for change in policy by the World Bank;
- the amount proposed to be given by the World Bank for the said work and the amount already received therefrom; and
- the total amount received for the project from other countries?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) No Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) The World Bank has agreed to extend an IDA credit of US \$ 246 million. Out of this \$ 26.853 million have been received from the World Bank as on 30.6.95.

(d) Rs. 56.54 crores was received in cash.

[English]

### Generation of Employment

3339: SHRI M. RAMANNA RAI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- the number of employment generated in public sector and private sector industries since the liberalisation of Indian economy; and
- the public sector industries which have generated maximum skilled and unskilled jobs?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) and (b): The Employment in the organised sector (all public sector establishments and those non-agricultural establishments in the private sector employing 10 or more workers) as on 31st March, 1991, 1992, 1993 and 1994 was as under:-

Year (as on 31st March)	Employment (in lakhs)		
	Public	Private	Total
1991	190.57	76.76	267.33
1992	192.10	78.46	270.56
1993	193.26	78.51	271.77
1994(P)	193.85	78.66	272.51

P: Provisional.

Total may not tally due to rounding off.

The information relating to increase in skilled and unskilled jobs is not available. However, substantial

increase in Employment has not been noticed in the public sector.

### Delhi-Chandigarh and other Flights

3340. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

- whether the daily flights of Indian Airlines operated between Delhi-Chandigarh, Chandigarh-Jammu-Srinagar besides operating Chandigarh-Leh sector and Vayudoot daily service on Delhi-Chandigarh-Ludhiana flights have been discontinued now;
- if so, the reasons therefor;
- whether the Government propose to resume these services; and
- if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) The services were discontinued due to poor load factor and shortage of operating crew.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

### Selection of Vendors for Airports

3341. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

- the norms prescribed for selection of vendors at various places in the premises of airports in the country;
- whether vendors are not under any restraint with regard to and type of merchandise sold; and
- the steps the Government propose to take to have better supervision of vendors at Airports so as to reduce the price of beverages and eatables to normal rates and not more than labelled maximum price?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) The Airports Authority of India selects vendors on the basis of tenders. At times, proposals of reputed brand names are also considered.

(b) and (c) There is a specific clause in the licence agreement to sell merchandise at rates approved by the Airports Authority of India from time to time. The prices of merchandise sold at the airports are fixed commensurate with the facilities provided and their location in the airport.

### ILO Norms for Jute Sector

3342. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the details of International Labour Organization Convention of Plantations;

(b) whether the Government propose to implement ILO convention for Jute Sector; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (c): On plantations, the International Labour Organisation adopted Convention No. 110 in 1958 and a Protocol in 1982. These standards regulate the conditions of employment of plantation workers and cover, *inter alia*, issues such as Wages, Annual Holidays, Weekly Rest, Maternity Protection, Workmen's Compensation, Housing Medical Care, Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining, Labour Inspection, etc. Although the ILO has not adopted any international labour standards specifically for the Jute Sector, the above standards, *inter alia*, covers fibres such as Jute. India has not ratified the above Convention and Protocol so far, as the Standards therein cover cultivation of a large number of agricultural and horticultural crops which are presently not covered under the Indian Plantation Labour Laws.

### Air Freight Subsidy for Export of Food Items

3343. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have introduced Air-Freight Subsidy for the export of food and agro-products to establish a strong foot-hold in the foreign markets; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE

(SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

### Joint Ventures of Essar Group

3344 SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 761 on August 4, 1995 and state:

(a) whether India and Russia have agreed that a part of India's rupee debt repayments to Russia could be utilised towards Russian investments in joint ventures in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received any proposal from Russian companies for investment in joint ventures in India;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have received any proposal from M/s. Essar Gujarat Ltd., for investing in a joint venture with Russian companies;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether a proposal of M/s. Essar Gujarat Ltd. for investing US \$ 80 million in joint venture company in Italy has also been received; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b): The two Governments have agreed to this, in principle, the details in this regard are yet to be finalised.

(c) to (f): Government have received a proposal for a joint venture in India from M/s. Essar Gujarat Ltd. involving the use of rupee debt funds. Preliminary suggestions from some Russian companies have also been received.

(g) and (h): Yes, Sir M/s. Essar Gujarat Ltd. had submitted a proposal for an investment of US \$ 76.8 million in a steel venture in Italy.

[Translation]

### Industrial Unit Involved in Securities Scam

3345. SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether several industrial companies involved in the securities scam of 1992 have violated the Companies Act, 1996;

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

(c) the action taken against these industrial units;

(d) whether some officers involved in the scam are still working with these companies; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (e): Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

### Air Traffic Control through Satellite Technology

3346. DR. AMRIT LAL KALIDAS PATEL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a programme to develop air traffic control system based on satellite technology;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of the international airports in the country where this system is likely to be introduced?

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

(b) The Airports Authority of India have taken up the projects of Automatic Dependent Surveillance System, Global Positioning System and Satellite Communication Network for voice and data communication for development of Satellite based Air Traffic Control Systems.

(c) The systems are to be provided at Bombay, Calcutta, Madras & Delhi international airports.

[English]

#### Assistant Administrative Officers in L.I.C.

3347. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Life Insurance Corporation of India have recently invited applications for the post of the Assistant Administrative Officers from the candidates having a minimum 50% marks in the aggregate in Bachelor's degree ignoring the claims of other candidates having less than 50% marks in graduation;

(b) if so, whether the Government are aware of a large number of cases in which the High Courts and the Supreme Court have issued directives to the concerned departments that the candidates must be allowed/called at a minimum qualification for the purpose irrespective of considering higher marks in the degree examination or educational Board's examination; and

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

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

(b) and (c): Requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House

#### Beedi Workers

3348. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated number of Beedi workers and the

number of workers covered under the Employees' State Insurance Corporation;

(b) the number of hospitals and dispensaries that cater to the health needs of Beedi workers; and

(c) the steps taken to provide benefits of welfare schemes set up specifically for Beedi workers?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) The approximate number of beedi workers is 42.59 lakhs, out of which 21,725 workers have been covered under the Employees' State Insurance Scheme.

(b) A chain of 155 dispensaries and 3 hospitals have been set up under the Beedi Workers Welfare Fund all over the country exclusively for beedi workers.

(c) Beedi Workers are provided with various welfare facilities such as education, housing, medical and recreation under the Beedi Workers Welfare Fund Act, 1976.

#### Restructuring of BIFR

3349. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have ever made an assessment of the achievements of the BIFR in removing sickness in industries in the country;

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

(c) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the proceedings of the seminar on "Industrial Development Review of India" organised by Confederation of Indian Industry in New Delhi on July 18, 1995 wherein the functioning and efficiency of the BIFR was severely criticised;

(d) if so, the details of the recommendations made at the aforesaid seminar; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b): The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has reported that references received under the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provision) Act, 1985 (SICA) are dealt with in accordance with the provisions of that Act. BIFR has streamlined its procedures, reduced the time lag hearing and shortened the overall duration of proceedings so as to ensure expeditious disposal of references. The BIFR has further reported that 1703 references were registered with it as on 30.06.1995. The break-up of these cases is as under:

1. References registered	1703
2. Dismissed as non-maintainable	359

3. Rehabilitation schemes approved/sanctioned	483
4. Winding up recommended	383
5. Others (two references from Courts and in eleven network turned positive and two cases dropped)	15
6. Decisions taken (total of 2 to 5)	1240
7. Pending at various stages	463

BIFR has reported that the time taken for disposal of cases is coming down. While the average time taken for disposal of cases registered with BIFR during 1987 to 1991 was 739 days, the average time taken for disposal of case registered during 1992 and 1993 was 457 days and 196 days respectively. For the year 1994, the average time taken for cases already disposed of was 105 days.

(c) to (e): A seminar on Industrial Development Review of India was organised by Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) on July 18, 1995 in cooperation with the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) and United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) to mark the release of the book entitled 'India- Industrial Development Review.' Certain observations were made during the course of the seminar on various issues relating to industrial development including functioning of BIFR.

### Revival of Sick P.S.U.s

3350. PROF. SUSANTA CHAKRABORTY:

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any packages for revival of sick Central Public Sector Units have recently been approved by BIFR;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the status of their implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c): The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has reported that revival packages under section 18 (4) of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 have been sanctioned by it during the period January 1995 to July 1995 in respect of the following four central public sector undertakings (CPSUs):

1. Vignyan Industries Limited
2. Bharat Brakes and Valves Limited
3. Bengal Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Limited

4. Bengal Immunity Limited

Revival schemes in respect of the above CPSUs are under various stages of implementation.

### Drug Trafficking

3351. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large amount of money is being generated due to drug trafficking, posing a threat to internal security;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps contemplated by the Government to prevent it?

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

(a) and (b) : Drug trafficking generates lucrative profits, which are often used for nefarious activities.

(c) Instructions have been issued to all the enforcement agencies to maintain the utmost vigil and step up enforcement efforts under the stringent provisions contained in NDPS Act. Training is being imparted to officers to improve their effectiveness. Vehicles and communication equipments have been provided. A part of Indo-Pak border has been fenced. BSF and Coast Guard, who are deployed on land and coastal borders have been vested with the powers under the Customs Act to interdict narcotic drugs on the border in addition to the Central and State Government enforcement agencies empowered under the NDPS Act.

[Translation]

### Consignment of Drugs

3352. SHRICHANDRESH PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that a consignment of drugs and Narcotics amounting to around 5 crore rupees has reached and unloaded in Jamnagar district of Gujarat two months ago and the same has been sailed off to America via Dubai-Somalia via ship carrying sheeps and goats as reported in some newspapers of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have conducted any enquiry into this development through police, CID, CBI and other various intelligence agencies;

(d) if so, the outcome of the enquiry; and

(e) the action taken against the guilty persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (e): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

### Smuggling of Uranium

3353. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the smuggling of 10 kg. of Uranium worth Rs. 50 crores smuggled to Dubai via Varanasi-Gazipur (U.P.) recently;
- (b) if so, whether any inquiry was constituted;
- (c) if so, the results thereof;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps being taken to avoid re-occurrence of such cases in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (e): Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

### Complaints against UTI

3354. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have received complaints of irregularities and shabby deals against the UTI;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) action taken by the Government on the basis of the complaints?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b) There have been complaints on certain investment decisions of the Unit Trust of India. However, UTI has confirmed that their operations are guided by the UTI Act, UTI General Regulations and SEBI guidelines wherever applicable. These regulations provide for prudential exposure norms and limits on various investments. All investment decisions of UTI are also subject to the approval of the Board of Trustees/ Executive Committee.

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

### Seizure of Heroin

3355. SHRI J. CHOKKARAO: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantity of heroin seized during 1994-95; and
- (b) the steps taken to prevent the flow of heroin in the country? .

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) 887.000 kg of heroine was seized during 1994-95.

(b) Instructions have been issued to all the enforcement agencies to maintain the utmost vigil and step up enforcement efforts under the stringent provisions contained in NDPS Act. Training is being imparted to officers to improve their effectiveness. Vehicles and communication equipments have been provided. A part of Indo-Pak border has been fenced. BSF and Coast Guard, who are deployed on land and coastal borders have been vested with the powers under the Customs Act to interdict narcotic drugs on the border in addition to the Central and State Government enforcement agencies empowered under the NDPS Act.

Acetic Anhydride, a precursor chemical for manufacture of heroin has been declared as a 'Controlled Substance' under the NDPS Act and a regulation order has been issued to regulate the manufacture, distribution, sale, imports, exports and consumptions of Acetic Anhydride. Controls have been imposed on the movement of the chemical within 50 kms of Indo-Pak border and 100 kms of Indo-Myanmar Border under the Customs Act.

### Fraud by the Finance and General Investment Companies

3356. SHRI ANAND AHIRWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of finance and general investment companies allowed by the Government to operate in the country;

(b) whether some complaints have been received by the Government against such credit and General Investment companies for playing defraud with the hard earned money of the poor people of Himachal Pradesh to the tune of lakhs of rupees; and

(c) if so, the action proposed to be taken by the Government against the defaulting companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c): Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

### Co-operative Societies under Income Tax Act, 1961

3357. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the co-operative societies, which collect a

huge amount of funds from the members and other sources come under the purview of Income Tax Act, 1961;

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

(c) the details of the income tax paid by co-operative societies in Delhi during the last three years, year-wise and society-wise;

(d) whether several co-operative societies in Delhi which collect lakhs of rupees every year but do not pay any income tax;

(e) if so, whether the income tax authorities have investigated into the funds collected by such co-operative societies and the expenditure of these societies on special occasions/celebrations;

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

(g) whether the Government propose to handover the matter of such misuse of public money by these societies to CBI for making the fullest probe into the affairs of such societies in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b). Under section 139 of the Income-tax Act, 1961, every person, including a cooperative society, is liable to furnish the return of income in the prescribed form and verified in the prescribed manner, if its total income exceeds the maximum amount which is not chargeable to tax. The income of a cooperative society is computed in accordance with the provisions contained in Chapter-IV of the Act.

Further under section 80P of Income-tax Act, income of certain types of co-operative societies is eligible for deduction to the extent specified in the section. The deduction is admissible subject to the conditions prescribed in the section

(c) The information is being collected and shall be laid on the Table of the House.

(d), (e) and (f) The co-operative societies have been filing returns and paying taxes wherever applicable. The returns of income filed by the co-operative societies are first processed under section 143 (I) (a) of the Act and after making specified prima facie adjustments, an intimation is sent to the assessee specifying the sum payable or refundable. In case the assessing officer considers it necessary or expedient to ensure that the assessee has not understated the income or has not computed excessive loss or has not underpaid the tax in any manner, he may select the case for detailed scrutiny. During scrutiny proceedings the accounts including various receipts and expenses are examined in details. If the receipts are not properly disclosed or inadmissible expenses are claimed, action under the various penal provisions of Income Tax Act is taken.

(g) There is no such proposal.

### Contracts Signed for Export of Rice

3358. SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of contracts signed for the export of rice during the current financial year;

(b) the details of these contracts; and

(c) the total quantity of rice exported so far and the steps taken to export rest of quantity in time under the above contracts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (b): As per the EXIM Policy both basmati and non-basmati rice are freely exportable without any quantity and price restrictions. There is also no obligation on part of the exporters to register their contracts with any designated agency. The data on export contracts signed by the exporters is not maintained.

(c): Upto May 1995, 589139 MT of rice (Basmati and non-Basmati) valued at Rs. 486.82 crores was exported. (Source: DGCI&S, Calcutta). Meetings have been held with Food Corporation of India, Ministry of Surface Transport and Ministry of Railways to co-ordinate movement of export cargo.

### Air Link with Washington

3359. DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY:

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:

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

(a) the details of new domestic and international flights started by the Indian Airlines and Air India during 1994-95;

(b) whether the Government propose to start direct air service for Washington;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the number of domestic and foreign passengers on Indian Airlines and Air India has increased considerably due to improvement in flights and management of these two airlines;

(e) if so, the details thereof during the last three years; and

(f) the future scheme proposed by the Government so that both the national airlines could compete with other international airlines efficiently?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The details of new domestic and international flights started by Air India and

Indian Airlines during 1994-95 are Annexed as statement.

(b) and (c): Under the bilateral Air Transport Agreement with the Government of USA, Washington is not presently available to the Indian Carriers as a point of call.

(d) and (e): Passengers carried by Air India and Indian Airlines are as follows:-

*Air India*

1992-93	2.20 million
1993-94	1.95 million
1994-95	2.20 million

*Indian Airlines*

Year	(in million)		
	Domestic Passengers	International Passengers	Total Passengers
1992-93	7.28	0.54	7.82
1993-94	7.23	0.65	7.88
1994-95	6.92	0.71	7.63

(f) Air India and Indian Airlines are taking steps to improve their product, image and on time performance to attract more passengers and increase their revenue: the number of services will also be increased depending upon additional entitlements and traffic demand.

**STATEMENT**

*New Flights started in 1994-95*

*Indian Airlines*

Domestic: Bombay-Puttaparthi-Coimbatore-Bombay.

International: (1) Madras-Kualalumpur-Singapore-Madras  
(2) Bombay-Madras-Singapore  
(3) Hyderabad-Sharjah  
(4) Bombay-Ahmedabad-Sharjah  
(5) Calicut-Kuwait (Via Sharjah)

*Air India*

(1) Additional flight to Toronto  
(2) Third A-310 terminator service to Hong Kong  
(3) Increase in the number of flights to Riyadh.  
(4) Increase in the number of flights to Nairobi  
(5) Additional services to Dubai

(6) Bombay-Bangalore-Singapore-Perth services commenced

(7) Bombay-Trivandrum-Singapore services commenced.

(8) Madras-Kuwait-Paris-London services introduced

(9) Kuwait linked to Goa and Trivandrum

(10) Additional flight to Paris introduced.

**Industrial Co-operative Agreement with South Korea**

3360. SHRIMATI DIPIKA H. TOPIWALA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and South Korea have recently signed an industrial co-operation agreement;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the benefits likely to be accrued to India as a result of the agreement?

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

(b) An agreement of mutual cooperation between the National Small Industries Corporation Ltd., India and the Small & Medium Industry Promotion Corporation, Korea has been signed on 24.7.1995. The agreement aims at the development of small and medium-sized industries of both countries through exchange and dissemination of information on goods, services and partnership/joint venture possibilities; assisting in holding trade exhibitions, fairs, seminars and technology transfer; and exchange of visits by industrial missions of both the countries.

(c) This is likely to result in the development of small and medium industries.

**Stock Exchange**

3361. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to make securities audit for companies whose shares are listed or are being listed on stock exchanges to prevent malpractices;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) No, Sir.

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

### Bonds and Tax Free Bonds

3362. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR:  
SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT:  
SHRI DILEEP BHAI SANGHANI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal from the Sardar Sarovar Narmada Nigam Ltd. for issue of NRI Bonds and Tax Free Bonds is pending with the Government for clearance;

(b) if so, the time since when it is pending with the Union Government and reasons for such a long pendency; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c):- No Sir. Sardar Sarovar Narmada Nigam Ltd. had sought permission to issue tax-free bonds as well as bonds to NRIs on repatriable basis. As issue of tax-free bonds is currently restricted to only those undertakings which are wholly or partly owned by Central Government, Sardar Sarovar Narmada Nigam Limited was advised that it could consider issuing taxable bonds to domestic and NRI investors subject to the guidelines of the Securities and Exchange Board of India in this regard.

### Seizures of Contraband Hashish

3363. SHRIBOLLA BULLIRAMAIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether on January 2, 1995 two big seizures were made by Delhi Customs Authorities at the Indira Gandhi International Airport when a German woman and a British national were caught carrying contraband hashish worth crore of rupees in the international market which were being smuggled out of India;

(b) whether any international gang is operating in various parts in India; and

(c) if so, the steps the Government propose to put a check in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b) No such seizures were made on January 2, 1995. However, on 31st December, 1994, Air Customs, IGI Airport, New Delhi seized 56.624 kg of hashish from a German lady. On the same day in a separate case, one British national was arrested for possession of 6.905 kg of hashish. No precise valuation of hashish which is often of indeterminate strength and composition and is liable for destruction, can be made.

Investigations into these cases did not reveal involvement of any international gang.

(c) India has bilateral agreements with many countries in order to effectively address all aspects of drugs problem. Excellent cooperation is maintained with international agencies involved in combating drug trafficking. Instructions have been issued to all enforcement agencies to maintain the utmost vigil and step up efforts under the stringent provisions contained in the NDPS Act. Training is being imparted to officers to improve their effectiveness.

### Export and Import of Cotton

3364. SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state the details of the EXIM Policy to be followed regarding export and import of cotton during 1995-96?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G VENKAT SWAMY) Until further changes, based on domestic and international demand and supply of cotton, the current EXIM Policy for cotton continues.

### CBI Raid on International Airport, Hyderabad

3365. SHRI ASTBUHA PRASAD SHUKLA:  
DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased:

(a) whether the Central Bureau of Investigation conducted a surprise raid at the International Airport in Hyderabad;

(b) if so, the details of the seizures made therein;

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

(d) whether the Government have received any complaints that incoming passengers were being harassed by customs officials; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c): Yes, Sir. A raid was conducted by the CBI at the International Airport in Hyderabad on 20.7.1995. Indian currency valued at Rs. 22,700, as well as foreign currency of various countries, valued totally at Rs. 36,400 (approximately), and some small valued miscellaneous items were seized. A case has been registered by the CBI on July 25, 1995 under the relevant provisions of the Prevention of Corruption Act, read with IPC, against the Customs officials.

(d) and (e) Prior to the raid, only one complaint has been received from an incoming passenger against a Customs officer during the last one year. The complaint was investigated and it was found to be pseudonymous.

#### **Airlink of Madurai with other Countries**

3366. DR. V. RAJESHWARAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to airlink Madurai airport with Gulf countries, Colombo and Singapore;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Madurai Airport is not an international airport at present.

#### **Branches of Cooperative Banks**

3367. SHRI DILEEP BHAI SANGHANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of money deposited in cooperative banks and loans given by them during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the details of the branches of cooperative banks proposed to be opened in the country, State-wise and location-wise, particularly in Gujarat; and

(c) the steps being taken to improve in the performance of these banks in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIM. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHI):

(a) to (c): Information is being collected and to the extent available will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Showrooms of Central Cottage Industries Corporation of India**

3368. SHRI BHERU LAL MEENA: will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of showrooms being run by the Central Cottage Industries Corporation of India Ltd. at present, State-wise;

(b) the number of showrooms closed down during the last three years, State-wise, particularly in Bangalore;

(c) the reasons for the closure of the showrooms and the number of employees rendered jobless as result of

closure of these showrooms;

(d) whether any representations have been received by the Government protesting these closures; and

(e) if so, the action taken by the Government on these representations?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) (a) Central Cottage Industries Corporation of India Ltd. (CCIC), New Delhi is running five show-rooms at present, one each at New Delhi, Bombay (Maharashtra), Calcutta (West Bengal), Madras (Tamil Nadu) and Secunderabad (Andhra Pradesh).

(b) Only one showroom at Bangalore (Karnataka) has been closed down during the last three years.

(c) The Showroom at Bangalore (Karnataka) had to be closed down due to the irresponsible attitude and lack of discipline on the part of the employees. Following the closure, the services of 15 employees were terminated.

(d) and (e): Yes, Sir. The Government has taken up the matter with the Labour Secretary, Government of Karnataka for an amicable settlement.

#### **Credit Curbs on Industries**

3369. SHRI RAM SINGH KASHWAN:  
SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU:  
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:  
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the industrialists have recently requested for easing the existing credit curbs on the Industry; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b): The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that after the credit policy for the first half of 1995-96 was announced on April 17, 1995, industry organisations such as the Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), the Associated Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ASSOCHAM) and the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) had expressed their apprehensions that tight money policy as envisaged in the credit policy would lead to curbs on credit to industry and adversely affect industrial expansion.

RBI has reported that the credit policy is so framed as to meet all the genuine credit requirements of the economy. The expected growth in deposits would enable banks to meet the credit needs of all sectors of the economy.

[Translation]

### Russian Loan

3370. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of agreement signed between India and Russia for disposal of outstanding loans;

(b) the total amount of loan of Russia in rupees as on July 31, 1995 and the convertible amount as per the agreement regarding rupee-rouble exchange rate;

(c) the time by which this agreement is likely to be implemented;

(d) whether the Government propose to take more loan from Russia; and

(e) if so, the details there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) The state credits given to India by the former Soviet Union are being repaid as per the agreement arrived at between India and the Russian Federation in January, 1993. Under the agreement, the rouble denominated debt, as on 1.4.92, was converted into rupees using the exchange rate on 1.1.90 as per the Inter-Governmental Protocol of 1978 (Rouble 1 = Rs. 19.9169). This is repayable as per the schedule and terms of the relevant credit agreements. The principal debt as on 1.4.92 was also converted into rupees using the exchange rate on 1.4.92 as determined by the Protocol of 1978 (Rouble 1 = Rs. 31.7514) and the difference between the rupee value of the rouble debt converted at the two rates was rescheduled for repayment in annual instalments over 45 years. The rescheduled portion carries no interest. Repayments of the rupee debt are made into a Central Account of the Russian Bank for Foreign Economic Relations (BFER) with the RBI, and balances used exclusively for exports of goods and services from India to Russia.

(b) The rupee debt to Russia outstanding as on July 31, 1995, is Rs. 20669.34 crores (Rupees twenty thousand six hundred sixty-nine crores and thirty-four lakhs).

(c) The Agreement is already under implementation.

(d) and (e) : There is no final decision in this regard.

[English]

### Withdrawal of Flights to Kanpur

3371. SHRI KESRI LAL Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines has withdrawn all its flights to Kanpur during the last five years:

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to revive all the flights to Kanpur again; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) and (b): Due to shortage of operating crew, Indian Airlines had withdrawn its services to Kanpur effective from 20th May, 1992.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

### Office of the Garment Export Promotion

3372. SHRI BHUBANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal in regard to opening an office of Garments Export Promotion Council in Bihar is lying pending with the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action being taken by the Government on said proposal?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) (a) to (c): At present there is no proposal under consideration of the Government for opening an office of the Apparel Export Promotion Council in Bihar.

[English]

### Bid Money for Import of Urea by STC and MMTC

3373. DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the bid money for import of urea and other fertilizers and bid bonds are accepted only in dollars by the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India Ltd. and State Trading Corporation of India Ltd.;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the reasons for not treating at par the bid money in Indian rupee or bank guarantee issued by the Indian prime banks in lieu of foreign bid bonds; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to accept bid money from the bidders in Indian currency and against bank guarantees of Indian nationalised banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) (a) to (d): Yes, Sir. The normal commercial practice followed by MMTC and STC for import of urea and other fertilizers is to accept bid bonds in US dollars only for the following reasons:

- (i) To ensure better commitment from the foreign suppliers for delivery of contracted material;
- (ii) Risk for sale of thus rests with the foreign suppliers; and
- (iii) In case of default, bid bond is realised in foreign currency.

#### NTC Mills in Gujarat

3374. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of textile mills in Gujarat being run by the National Textile Corporation Limited together with the names thereof;

(b) the total number of textile mills being run in the private sector together with the names and the locations thereof;

(c) the actual production and capacity of NTC and private mills at present separately;

(d) whether the production and capacity of NTC mills is lower than the private sector mills;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to increase the production and capacity of public sector mills of the State?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) (a) and (b) : As on 31.3.1995 in the State of Gujarat, NTC has under it 12 mills while there are 96 cotton/man-made textile mills under the private management. A statement of these mills alongwith their location is attached.

(c) to (e): The 12 NTC mills have a capacity of 275624 spindles and 5565 looms, while the private sector mills have an installed capacity of 3096970 spindles, 17064 rotors and 34084 looms. In the NTC mills, there has been virtually no activity for the last about 2½ years, their production during 1994-95 being merely 3.55 lakh kgs. of yarn and 66.6 lakh meters of cloth. The lower capacity and virtual absence of production in the NTC mills is due to acute shortage of working capital besides other factors, such as, obsolete machinery, high man machine ratio, high cost of raw material, excess man power, etc.

(f) Government have approved a revised Turn Around Strategy for modernisation of NTC mills, including those in Gujarat. In view of the fact that the cases of 8 out of 9

subsidiaries of NTC including NTC (Gujarat) are before the BIFR, the modernisation plan has been submitted to the BIFR for its approval before implementation.

#### STATEMENT

##### List of NTC Mills in Gujarat.

1. Ahmedabad Jupiter Textile Mills, Ahmedabad
2. Ahmedabad New Textile Mills, Ahmedabad
3. Himadri Textile Mills, Ahmedabad
4. Jehangir Textile Mills, Ahmedabad
5. New Manokchowk Textile Mills, Ahmedabad
- 6, 7. Rajnagar Textile Mills, No. 1 & 2, Ahmedabad
8. Mahalaxmi Textile Mills, Bhavnagar
9. Petlad Textile Mills, Petlad
10. Rajkot Textile Mills, Rajkot
11. Viramgam, Textile Mills, Viramgam
12. Fine Knitting Mills, Ahmedabad (Not restarted)

##### List of private mills in Gujarat

1. Ahmedabad new cotton Mills Co. PB No. 19 Near Khokra Mehmedabad, Ahmedabad.
2. Ahmedabad Jubilee Mills Ltd Outside Dariapur Gate PB No. 12, Ahmedabad.
3. Ahmedabad Shri Ramkrishna Gomtipur Road, Ahmedabad.
4. Aruna Mills Ltd, PB No. 1005 Naroda Road, Ahmedabad.
5. Aryodaya Ginning & MFG Mills Asarwa Road, Ahmedabad.
6. Aryodya SPG & WVG Co. Ltd. Asarwa Road, Ahmedabad.
7. Asoka Mills Ltd., Naroda Road hawaypura PB No. 1050, Ahmedabad.
8. Ahmedabad MEG Calico PTG Co. PB No. 12 outside Jamalpur Gate, Ahmedabad.
9. Bharat Suryodays Mills Co. Ltd Damaraiwadi Road Ahmedabad.
10. Broach Textiles Mills No. 1,2,3 Mahatma Gandhi Road, Bharuch.
11. Commercial Ahmedabad Mills Cor. near Idgah Choky Asarwa Road, Ahmedabad.
12. Continental Textiles Mills Ltd., Naroda Road PB No. 1060 Railpura, Ahmedabad.
13. Gaekwar Mills Ltd., Billinora, Bular.
14. Gandhidham SPG & Mfg. Co. Ltd., Alipur Gandhidham. Kutch.

15. Hatesing MFG Co. Ltd., out side Saraspur Darwaja Railwaypura, Ahmedabad.
16. Kalol Mills Ltd., Kalol
17. Maharana Mills Ltd., PB No. 11, Porbandar, Saurashtra.
18. Arvind Intext Ltd. PB No. 36 Rajpur Road, Ahmedabad.
19. Navjyot Textiles Mills Ltd., North Gujarat Kadi.
20. Navsari Cotton & Silk Mills Vijalpore Road, Navsari.
21. New Gujarat Synthetics Ltd., outside Dariapur Gate, Ahmedabad.
22. Niranjan Mills Ltd., Falsawadi, Surat.
23. Omex Investors Ltd., Outside Raipur Gate, Ahmedabad.
24. Prasad Mills Ltd., PB No. 22, Ahmedabad.
25. The Prithvi Cotton Mills Ltd., Mahatma Gandhi Road, PB No. 1, Bharuch.
26. P.G. Textile Mills Ltd., PB No. 189, Outside Pani Gate, Baroda.
27. Raj Prakash Spg. Mills Ltd., Tarapur Road, Near Labuag, Cambay.
28. Rustam Mills Inds. Ltd., PB No. 131 Dudheshwar Road, Ahmedabad.
29. Shri Amrura Mills Ltd., Outside Saraspur Gate, Gomtipur Post Ahmedabad.
30. Shri Bansidhor Spg. & Wvg. Mills, Naroda Road, Railwaypura, Ahmedabad.
31. Vivekanand Mills Ltd., Rakhial Road, Ahmedabad.
32. Star of Gujarat Textiles Mills, PB No. 143, Near Girdhamagar, Rly. Crossing, Ahmedabad.
33. Vijaya Mills Co. Ltd., PB No. 1049, Naroda Road, Ahmedabad.
34. Shri Yamuna Mills Ltd., PB No. 38, Pratap Nagar, Baroda
35. Ajit Mills Ltd., Rakhial Road, Ahmedabad.
36. Gujarat Spg. Mills Rakhial Road, Ahmedabad.
37. Patel Mills Co. Ltd., PB No. 5015, Gomtipur Road, Ahmedabad.
38. Shri Mahuva Co-op. Spg. Mills, PB No. 40, Kundla Road, Mahuva, Bhavnagar.
39. Shri Ambica Mills Ltd., PB No. 112, Near Kankaria Road, Ahmedabad.
40. Nutan Mills Ltd., Via Vara's Roja Anil Road, Ahmedabad.
41. Maheshwari Mills Ltd., Shahibag Road, Ahmedabad.
42. Soma Textiles, Rakhial Road, Railwaypura, Ahmedabad.
43. The Maneklal Harilal Mills, Saraspur Road, Railwaypura, Ahmedabad.
44. New Shorrock Mills, Asarwa Road, PB No. 2006, Ahmedabad.
45. The Maneklal Harilal Mills Ltd., PB No. 4, Mithipur Khokhra, Mehemedabad, Ahmedabad.
46. The New Raipur Mills Co. Ltd., Gomtipur Road, Ahmedabad.
47. The Ahmedabad Advance Mills, Outside Delhi Gate, PB No. 18, Ahmedabad.
48. Reliance Industries Ltd., 103/106, Naroda Industrial Estate, Naroda, Ahmedabad.
49. The Arvind Mills Ltd., Outside Raipur Gate, PB No. 42, Ahmedabad.
50. Arvind Polycot Ltd., Saraspur Road, PB No. 1061, Ahmedabad.
51. Asarwa Mills Ltd., Asarwa Road, Ahmedabad.
52. The Arvind Mills Ltd., Naroda Road, Ahmedabad.
53. Kanoria Chemicals & Industries, Rakhial Road, Ahmedabad.
54. The Raipur Mfg. Co. Ltd., Outside Saraspur Gate, Ahmedabad.
55. The Bombay Dyeing & Mfg. Co. Ltd., PB NO. 4, Ranjitsagar Road, Jamnagar Unit, Jamnagar.
56. Arunodaya Mills Ltd., PB No. 40, Vegetable Road, Morbi, Saurashtra.
57. Shanudeep Ltd., Surat Cotton Nawab Wadi Bengampura, Surat.
58. The Mafatal Fine Spg. & Wyg. Covejalpur Road, Navsari
59. Shri Amarsinhji Mills Ltd., Wankaner, S.J.S. Marg. Rajkot.
60. Kaytee Cotsynth Industries Ltd., Charadva Vill. Halwad Tal., Surendranagar.
61. New Shorrock Spg. & Mfg. Co. Ltd., Kapadvanj Road, Nadiad Kaira.
62. L.D. Textile Ind. Ltd., Plot No. 2802/3, G.I.D.C. Estate, Anklshwar, Bharuch.
63. Garden Cottons & Yarns Ltd., Varachha Road, Surat.
64. Vishaldeep Spinning Mills Ltd., 5 Parshuram Society, Lalpur, Morbi.
65. P.M. Polytex Limited, Opposite Station Petlad, PB No. 15.
66. The Bharat Vijay Mills Limited, Near Seven Gamalas, Kalol, Mehsana.
67. The Mahendra Mills Ltd., Kalol, North Gujarat.
68. GSL India Limited, Amletha Village, Rajpila Taluka, Bharuch.
69. Sree Bhagawati Spg. and Wvg. Khambalia, Jamnagar.
70. Sree Mandvi Spg. Mills Ltd., Bhuj Mandvi Road,

- Mandvi, PB No. 4 Ranjitsagar Road, Kutch.
71. Suketu Textiles, 3-A, Sounder Nagar, Zilla Udyog Sah Sangh Ltd., Wadhwan.
  72. Excel Spinners, A-1, Shed No. 11-12-13 and 28, Vapi Industrial Area, Valsad.
  73. Bengal Tea & Fibres Ltd., 1402 GIDE Estate, Dholka, Ahmedabad.
  74. Santaram Spinners Ltd., Survey No. 1433, Near Rajpur Bus Stand, Kadi (Taluka), Mehsana.
  75. Sunil Mills Ltd., Padra Road, Baroda.
  76. M/s Citizen Yarns P. Ltd., 904/1, GIDC Chhatral, Mehsana.
  77. Devti Fabrics Ltd., PB No. 5, Bindusarovar Road, Sidhpur.
  78. Madhu Textiles Ahmedabad Ltd., Laxmipura Village, Near Nandgaon, Kadi Taluka, Mehsana.
  79. M/s Shyam Prakash Spg. Mills Ltd., Station Road, Petlad, Kheda.
  80. M/s. Bhagat Textiles Ltd., 103, GIDC, Kherala, Bawlia. Ahmedabad.
  81. Mihari Textiles Ltd., Khokhra Memedabad, Ahmedabad.
  82. Ahmedabad Kaiser-i-Hind Mills, Outside Raipur Gate, Ahmedabad.
  83. New Gujarat Synthetics Ltd., Naroda Road, Railwaypura, Ahmedabad.
  84. Y.S. Synthetics Projects Ltd., Near Kankria Road, Ahmedabad.
  85. Navjivan Mills Ltd., Station Road, Kalol N.G.
  86. The Arvind Mills Ltd. (EOU), Naroda Road, Ahmedabad.
  87. Shri Arbuda Mills Ltd., Rakhial Road, Ahmedabad.
  88. Rohit Mills Ltd., Maninagar PO, Khokha, Memedabad, Ahmedabad.
  89. Asarwa Overseas Bagodara Dholka Road Walthrea, Ahmedabad.
  90. Gujarat Ambija Cotspin Ltd., Vill-Dalpur Tal-Prantij, Sabarkantha.
  91. Jagruti Synthetics Ltd., 42/1 Gangadevi Road, Umnergoan, Valsad.
  92. Hanjer Fibers Ltd., Him Mandvi Road, Bhatkol Village Surat.
  93. Modern Terry Towels (EOU), P.O. No. 16, Sanand-Kadi. Rd, Sanand, Ahmedabad.
  94. Kamadgiri Synthetics Ltd., 31/3, Gangadevi Road, Umbergoan, Valsad.
  95. Ashima Denims, Near Anupam Cinema, Khokra Memedabad, Ahmedabad.

96. Pabari Spinning Mills Ltd., No. 1107, GIDC Industrial Estate, Barambore, Surendranagar.

[Translation]

#### Investment by Taiwan

3375. SHRICHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the investors of Taiwan have shown interest for making investment in Indian Industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any agreement pertaining to Industry has been signed between Taiwan and India; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the above agreement would be enforced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b): Indian industry has been receiving investment from Taiwanese investors. The details of the total approvals for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) from Taiwanese investors granted during the period 1991-1995 are given below:

(Rs. in Mn.)				
1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
(Till March)				
4.5	180.0	100.1	102.0	25.8

(c) No Sir,

(d) Does not arise.

#### Coarse Cloth

3376. SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of units engaged in production of coarse cloth lying closed as on date, State-wise;

(b) the number of weavers rendered unemployed as a result thereof and extent upto which production of such cloth has come down; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to revive these units and increase the production of coarse cloth?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) to (c) In view of the decentralised nature of this Industry the Government of India does not maintain State-wise data on the number of Handloom Units engaged in production of coarse cloth lying closed on date. However, the over all production in the handloom sector has gone up from 5851 million sq. mtrs. during the year 1993-94 to 6028 million sq. mtrs. (P) during 1994-95.

[English]

**Rebate in Income Tax for Trustees**

3377. SHRI SURAJ MANDAL : Will Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the existing norms to rebate Income-tax for Trustees; and

(b) the number of trustees given income-tax rebate during the last three years and current year upto July 1995?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) No rebate in Income-tax is available for Trustees under Income Tax Act, 1961.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

**Bank Loans to Small Traders**

3378. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH:

SHRI MANJAY LAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a scheme to provide loan for construction or repair of houses and shops and also to provide working capital to shop-keepers and traders through banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (c): Under priority sector lending, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued guidelines for providing loans by all scheduled commercial banks for construction and repair of houses and for retail trade (which includes shop-keepers and traders). The details are as follows:-

**I. Direct Housing Finance**

(i) Loans upto Rupees two lakhs for construction of houses.

(ii) Loans upto Rs. 25,000/- for repairs to damaged houses granted to all categories of borrowers.

**II. Retail Trade**

Advances not exceeding Rupees two lakhs granted to private retail traders (other than those dealing in essential commodities) and consumer cooperative stores by scheduled commercial banks are reckoned under the priority sector lending.

[English]

**IA Core facilities opened to Private Firms**

3379. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA:

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA:

DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR:

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

(a) whether attention of Union Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "IA core facilities opened to private firms" appearing in the Economic Times dated July 26, 1995;

(b) the details of the facilities at the engine overhaul division, jet overhaul, training centre and ground support divisions likely to be offered to private firms;

(c) the details of the share of the Government's participation into the said offer to private firms; and

(d) the projected profit likely to be earned by the Government?

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

(b) to (d): Indian Airlines have plans to operate their Jet Engine Overhaul Shop, Central Training Establishment and Ground Support Division as profit centres by providing services to private parties. The details of the scheme have, however, not yet been worked out.

[Translation]

**Foreign Loan**

3380. SHRI LALL BABU RAI:

SHRI HARI LAL KEWAL PRASAD:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of foreign loan outstanding against the country and the percentage of commercial loan out of it;

(b) whether the growth rate of foreign loan has come down during 1991-93 as compared to the years after the Eighth decade; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) The overall external debt outstanding including Defence Debt and NRIs deposits was estimated to be US \$ 90.452 billion at the end of September, 1994. The percentage of commercial borrowings out of this total outstanding was estimated to be 13.08%.

(b) and (c): The rate of growth of external debt has declined. For example, in 1990-91 India added \$ 8 billion to the stock of external debt. In 1993-94, the addition was only US \$ 740 million. The yearwise debt stock outstanding is as follows:

End of the Financial year	Debt stock outstanding (US \$ million)
1989-90	75904
1990-91	83959
1991-92	85334
1992-93	89986
1993-94	90723
1994-95 (upto Sept. 1994)	90452

[English]

#### Bank Loans to Agriculture Sector in Gujarat

3381. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total loan amount released by the Nationalised Banks during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 till date in Agriculture Sector;

(b) the number of loan applications received from the agriculturists for the release of loan during the above period in Gujarat;

(c) the total loan amount released by the Banks in the agriculture sector of Gujarat during above period; and

(d) the percentage of loan granted to agriculturists to the national figure as a whole?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (d): The information is being collected and to the extent available will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

#### Value of Rupee against Rouble

3382. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the value of Indian rupee as compared to Russian Rouble;

(b) whether the Government have conducted any study to ascertain the reasons for which value of rouble has been declining;

(c) whether the trade between the two countries being

made in terms of rupee and rouble as per rates prevailing in the market; and

(d) if so, the ratio of trade in import and export?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) The Rupee is not quoted in relation to the rouble;

(b) Does not arise.

(c) India-Russia trade is taking place in free foreign exchange, as well as, under the special arrangements governing the repayment by India to Russia of credits received from the former Soviet Union, in rupees.

(d) Following are the figures relating to India's trade with Russia in recent years:

(Rs. in crores)

	Export	Import
1993-94	2037	807
1994-95	2541	1572
1995-96	525	536
(April-May)		

#### National Commission on Child Labour

3383. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to constitute a National Commission on child labourers working in various private factories/industries in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Government have already taken several steps to tackle the problem of child labour. A comprehensive law, the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act was enacted in 1986. As per the National Child Labour Policy, 1987, child labour is being tackled through (a) Legislation; (b) General Development Programmes for the benefit of children; and (c) through implementation of National Child Labour Projects. In September, 1994, the National Authority for the Elimination of Child Labour was constituted under the Chairmanship of Union Labour Minister.

In addition, to safeguarding the interest of Children, there are protective provisions in various labour laws as well, such as the Factories Act, 1948, the Mines Act, 1952, the Motor Transport (Workers) Act, 1961 etc. The approach of the Government is to implement all the child

related provisions of the laws in a harmonious fashion. Enforcement machinery at the Central and State levels exist to enforce the provisions of these Acts.

Employers are liable to be prosecuted for violations of the provisions of the Acts. Enforcement personnel are being given special training for better enforcement of these laws. The Human Rights Commission also looks into the problems of child labour. Government is presently engaged in the task of eliminating child labour in hazardous occupations which is estimated at 20 lakhs. The Planning Commission has already earmarked Rs. 34.4 crores for the purpose during the current year. The year 2000 is the target for the elimination of child labour in hazardous occupations. As such, it is felt that there is no need to set up a National Commission on Child Labour.

#### Interest Rates on Loans

3384. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV:  
SHRI LALL BABU RAI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total amount of debt outstanding against the country and the varied rate interest of such debt;
- (b) the total annual amount being paid as interest thereon;
- (c) the total amount of loan extended by the banks in the country in various categories and the rate of interest being charged on such loans; and
- (d) the rate of interest being charged by foreign banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) The total debt and other liabilities of Government of India including external debt on Government Account (at the exchange rate prevailing on 31.3.95) is likely to be Rs. 691511 crore by the end of March 1996. The borrowings are at varying rates of interest, the average rate of which in 1995-96 is likely to be around 13.8%.

(b) A provision of Rs. 52000 crore has been made in the Budget for 1995-96 for interest payments by the Government.

(c) and (d): The information is being collected.

#### Recovery of Income Tax

3385. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total income-tax outstanding at present;
- (b) the names of those ten persons against whom the maximum amount is outstanding; and

(c) the action being taken by the Government for its recovery?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) The total outstanding demand of Income tax/Corporation tax upto June, 1995 is Rs. 22369 crores (Provl.).

(b) The desired information is given below:-

Name of the Assessee	Income tax Demand Outstanding as on 31.3.95 (Rs. in crores)
1. Shri Harshad S. Mehta	3647.93
2. Shri Hiten P. Dalal	1271.33
3. Shri Bhupendra C. Dalal	724.53
4. M/s. State Bank of India	604.56
5. Shri Ashwin S. Mehta	608.17
6. Smt. Jyoti H. Mehta	525.14
7. Shri A.D. Narottam	485.39
8. M/s. The Peerless General Finance & Investment Co. Ltd.	439.42
9. M/s. Growmore Research & Assets Management Ltd.	290.89
10. M/s. Dhanraj Mills (P) Ltd.	267.46

(c) Various actions prescribed under the Income-tax Act are taken against the tax defaulters like attachment of their movable and immovable properties, detention of tax-defaulter in prison and appointing a receiver for management of the assessee's movable and immovable properties. Penalties are levied for non-payment and defaulters are prosecuted.

[English]

#### Corruption Practices by Vice-President (Hotels) of ITDC

3386. SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government/ITDC Management have received complaints from All India ITDC Workers Union about certain corrupt practices involving the then Vice-President (Hotels) of ITDC;

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

(c) whether there are also complaints about misuse of complimentary Air tickets in ITDC; and

(d) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM

(SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b): Yes, Sir. A complaint dated 16.8.1993 was received from All India ITDC Workers' Union regarding alleged involvement of

the then Vice President (Hotels) of ITDC in various corruption cases. The allegations have been investigated and the factual position is as follows:-

S.No.	Allegation	Factual Position
1.	Earning illegal income in collusion with private transporters in Agra.	Allegation not substantiated
2.	Misuse of official position in appointment/promotion of his relatives.	Allegation not substantiated
3.	His transfer from the Transport Unit to the Hotel Cadre was irregular.	Being a professionally qualified hotelier, his transfer was considered by the management to be in the interest of ITDC.
4.	Did not make full payments to a tent house and a restaurant for availing of arrangements in connection with the marriage of his daughter.	A cautionary memo has since been issued to him.
5.	Shifted an air conditioner unauthorisedly to his residence.	The investigation reveals that the air conditioner was already in position in the flat which was allotted to the Vice President concerned. He should, however, have returned it on his own. A cautionary memo has since been issued to him.
6.	He gave unauthorised discount to a party called 'Grey Cell' resulting in a loss of Rs. 30,000 to ITDC and the party left without making the payment.	The investigation revealed that the Vice President was competent to grant the concession to the party. The total outstanding amount against the party was Rs. 28,920 and Rs. 10,000 have already been recovered.
7.	Under billing in connection with a wedding party organised in Ashok Hotel in February, 1993.	Investigations have revealed that the VP (Hotels) was not involved in this case. The charge sheets have, however, been issued to two other officers who were found involved in this case.

(c) and (d): In Feb., 1994, the All India ITDC Workers Union made a complaint that the 10 complimentary tickets given by Damania Airline for Delhi-Bombay-Delhi sector against the business given by ITDC were misused. The matter was examined and the complaint could not be substantiated because the tickets had been utilised by the staff of Ashok Tours & Travels for official purpose with the approval of the competent authority. Suitable reply was sent to the Union accordingly in March, 1994.

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

#### Shifting of Hindustan Computer Limited

3387. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the closing down and shifting of Hindustan Computer Limited, Dehradun to somewhere else;

(b) whether the Government are aware that a very large number of employees are likely to be rendered jobless at Dehradun;

(c) whether the Government have permitted Hindustan Computer Limited to close down or shift from Dehradun;

(d) if so, reasons thereof;

(e) whether the Government have taken any action to prevent injustice to the large number of employees;

#### Increase in Working hours of Banks

3388. SHRI UDAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of bank branches of public sector banks have increased their normal working hours;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to ask all the public sector and private sector banks to extend the working hours; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) As per the information received from public sector banks, they have not increased normal working hours for their branches.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d): As per the recommendation of the Goiporia

Committee on Customer Service in Banks, Reserve Bank of India had advised all scheduled commercial banks in February 1993 to undertake specified types of non-cash transactions during the extended business hours i.e. upto one hour before the close of working hours.

### Labour Laws

3389. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of States and Union Territories where the Indian Labour Laws have not been extended so far;

(b) whether the Government have any measures to ensure the welfare of labour in these States and Union Territories;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) Some of the Labour Laws enacted by the Government of India do not extend to the States of Jammu & Kashmir and Sikkim.

(b) to (d): These States have their own Labour Departments which are implementing labour laws and welfare measure for labour in these States, as per their requirements.

[Translation]

### Stand by Facility by Sahara India Airlines

3390. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sahara India Airlines has announced to provide any facility of stand by advantage;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government, propose to provide such facility in Indian Airlines and Air India also so as to compete with the said airlines; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b): The Stand By Advantage will enable the passengers to get a confirmed seat against last moment vacancies/cancellations at a discount of 25% of the basic fare.

(c) and (d): There is no proposal at present to introduce a similar facility on Indian Airlines and Air India flights.

[English]

### Loan to State Government

3391. SHRI LAETA UMBREY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the loan outstanding against the State Government at present State-wise;

(b) whether the Government have recently waived off loans of some of the States; and

(c) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be furnished.

### Modvat on Glass Bottles

3392. SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether MODVAT was made available on returnable glass bottles at the time of levy of specific duty;

(b) whether MODVAT continues to be available on returnable glass bottles upon change of levy to ad-valorem excise duty; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) (b) and (c) In terms of the provisions of Rule 57A of the Central Excise Rules 1944 Modvat Credit on containers or packaging materials is permitted provided the cost is included in the assessable value of the final product.

In the case of specific rate of duty modvat was available as the question of inclusion of the value did not arise.

On change of duty from specific to ad-valorem, eligibility for Modvat credit will depend upon the fact as to whether the cost of the glass bottles is included in the value of the final product viz., bottles containing aerated water. It is a matter of fact to be ascertained in each case of claim for Modvat.

### Schemes by S.I.D.B.I.

3393. SHRI TARA SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Small Industries Development Bank of India has recently chalked out number of schemes to meet the demands of small scale industries sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent upto which the small scale industries have been benefited by SIDBI during the last 3 years;

(d) whether representations given by small scale industries from time to time for finance facilities are considered; and

(e) if so, the details thereof

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b). The Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has reported that it has recently introduced Technology Development and Modernisation Fund (TDMF) Scheme to provide assistance to eligible small scale industrial (SSI) units either in the form of loan or equity or both to modernise their production facilities and adopt improved and updated technology to strengthen their export capabilities.

SIDBI has also extended the National Equity Fund Scheme to all tiny, small scale industrial units irrespective of their location, except for units located in metropolitan areas, and has enlarged the scope of the scheme to cover extension, modernisation, technology upgradation and diversification.

(c) Assistance provided by SIDBI under its various schemes during the last three years was as under :

(Rs. Crores)

	Sanctions	Disbursement
1992-93	2908.4	2145.8
1993-94	3354.1	2671.3
1994-95	4699.3	3385.3

(d) and (e) : SIDBI has reported that representations received from time to time from units in the SSI sector have been attended to promptly by it. The suggestions received by SIDBI are given due consideration while framing new schemes or modifying the existing schemes.

[Translation]

#### Commission on Labour Standard and International Trade

3394. DR. CHINTA MOHAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had constituted a two member Commission on Labour Standards and International Trade last year;

(b) if so, whether the Commission has submitted its report to the Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether there was no consensus between the members regarding this report;

(e) if so, the facts in this regard;

(f) whether the Government have extended the term of this Commission; and

(g) if so, the period thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) :

(a). Yes, Sir.

(b) No final report has so far been submitted by the Commission to the Government.

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

(f) Yes, Sir.

(g) The term of the Commission has been extended upto 2.2.96 to enable it to complete its work.

[English]

#### Opening of Private Bank in Gujarat

3395. SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have allowed the opening of a private bank in Gujarat recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of leading members of the management?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (c). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that it had issued licences to UTI Bank Ltd. and ICICI Banking Corporation Ltd (having their Registered Office in Ahmedabad and Baroda) on 28.2.94 and 17.5.94 respectively to carry on banking business. The names of the Members of the Board of Directors of these banks are given below :

I. UTI Bank Ltd.

1. Shri Supria Gupta, Managing Director
2. Shri A.K. Dam, Executive Director
3. Shri S.A. Dave, Director
4. Shri J.S. Sakunkhe, Director
5. Shri U.M. Rao, Director
6. Shri B.L. Paranjpe, Director
7. Dr. Abid Hussain, Director
8. Dr. A.C. Shah, Director
9. Shri K.G. Vassal, Director
10. Shri Shardue Shroff, Director

III ICICI Banking Corporation Ltd.

1. Shri P.V. Maiya, Chairman
2. Shri B.V. Bhargava, Director
3. Smt. Lalita Gupta, Director

4. Shri R.B. Dattar, Director
5. Dr. Ashok Gulati
6. Shri R. Rajamani.

RBI has further reported that it had also issued an 'in principle' approval on 27.1.94 to Gujarat State Fertilizers Company Limited to set up a new bank in the private sector to be known as Bank of Gujarat Ltd. with its registered office at Ahmedabad. The promoters of the proposed bank are in the process of complying with the terms and conditions of the 'in principle' approval.

[Translation]

### Foreign Debt

3396. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of foreign debt likely to increase during the year 1995-96;

(b) the present ratio between foreign-loan and its repayment; and

(c) the percentage of foreign loan spent by India to repay its loan during the year 1994-95?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a). The likely increase in foreign debt outstanding would depend on a number of factors in both the current and central account of our balance of payment including the growth of exports, foreign exchange earnings, fresh debt to be incurred, debt servicing to be made etc. In view of uncertainties in these accounts, it is not possible to precisely indicate the likely increase in external debt stock during 1995-96.

(b) and (c) : External resources are mobilised to bridge the gap between the total investment outlay and internal resources available for the plan development of the country. It is used for meeting the foreign exchange requirements of the project and non-project need of the country. However, it may be mentioned that the debt service ratio is normally computed on the basis of debt service payment (i.e. repayment of principal and payment of interest) as percentage to current receipt i.e. export of goods and invisible earnings. The debt service ratio for 1992-93 and 1993-94 was 30.3% and 24.8% respectively. The debt service ratio figures for 1994-95 would be available only after figures are firmed up after finalisation of accounts.

[English]

### Computerisation of Employment Exchanges

3397. SHRI PRITHVIRAJD. CHAVAN : Will the Minister

of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any plans to modernise the Employment Exchanges through a computer net-work connecting all the centres; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) (a) and (b). No. Sir. However, 117 Employment Exchanges were computerised under the Scheme of Central Assistance for Computerisation of Employment Exchanges which was launched in 1986-87 and subsequently transferred from Central Sector to State Sector w.e.f. financial year 1992-93.

### Modernisation of Low Capacity Mills

3398. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal has been received from the Government of Gujarat for modernising low capacity textile mills in the State during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

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

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

[Translation]

### Loan Assistance to Rajasthan

3399. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Rajasthan Government has demanded to increase the amount given to the State Governments as loan assistance out of the total deposits received under small savings schemes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to accede to the said demand; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE: (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) No. Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[English]

### Jute Industry

3400. SHRI CHITTA BASU :

SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY:  
DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA:  
SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the prospects of Jute industry have brightened considerably due to certain favourable changes in the international market ;

(b) if so, the specific steps have since been taken to take advantage of the changed situation;

(c) whether the Government have issued order to the effect that there would be no budgetary support for JCI from 1996;

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

(e) the steps taken by the Government for development of Jute Industry

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) and (b). Growing worldwide awareness about the environmental benefits of jute and development of many value added diversified jute products is expected to lead to increased demand for such jute products in the future. Production of diversified goods is being encouraged, particularly under the UNDP assisted National Jute Development Programme. A new scheme for providing financial assistance to entrepreneurs for production of diversified jute items has also been recently launched.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Steps taken by the Government for development of jute industry *inter alia* include the following :

- (i) Demand stimulation by enacting Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory Use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987.
- (ii) Introduction of Jute Modernisation Fund Scheme of Rs. 150 crores w.e.f. 1.11.86.
- (iii) Special Jute Development Fund of Rs. 100 crores.
- (iv) Duty free import of raw jute under OGL.
- (v) Export marketing assistance on selected export items.
- (vi) Regular purchase of jute bags through DGS&D for packing foodgrains on cost plus basis; and
- (vii) Active encouragement for development of diversified jute products, under UNDP assisted National Jute Development Programme and by introduction of Jute Entrepreneurs Assistance Scheme.

#### Violation of Reservation Rules in S.B.I

3401. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister

of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of representations received by the State Bank of India from the Members of Parliament protesting against the non-implementation of the reservation rules in departmental promotions in the Bank during the last one year;

(b) the number of representations disposed of;

(c) the number of representations still pending for a decision; and

(d) the reasons for non-implementation or violation of reservation rules and action taken in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (c). State Bank of India has reported that only one representation has been received by it from a Member of Parliament during the last one year regarding non-implementation of reservation rules in departmental promotions. The bank proposes to send a reply to the Hon'ble Member shortly.

(d). The bank has reported that the rules regarding reservations are being implemented by it as per Government's guidelines on the subject.

#### Report of Textiles Technical Sub-Committee

3402. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVISINGH PATIL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the textiles technical sub-committee has submitted its report of the Government for the Ecomark:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action the Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (c) : Based on the recommendations of a Technical Committee, a draft criteria for Textiles made from cotton, wool, Jute, synthetics, blended, coir and silk was notified on 16th July, 1992 for public comments. Presently, the criteria are under review of the technical sub-committee in the light of comments received.

#### Excise Levied On Cigarette

3403. SHRI K. MURALEE DHARAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the system of Central Excise Duty levied on the basis of length of the cigarettes has adversely affected the Beedi Industry and workers; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to avoid the disadvantage to the Beedi Industry and the

workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b). It has been represented to the Government that the existing rate structure of excise duty on nonfiltered cigarettes is affecting the Beedi industry and workers.

Presently, non-filtered cigarettes of length not exceeding 60 mm attract excise duty at the rate of Rs. 60 per thousand, which is the lowest rate of duty on cigarettes. On the other hand, beedies attract excise duty of Rs. 5 per thousand. Thus, the incidence of excise duty on cigarettes is substantially higher than on beedies and it is unlikely that the rate of central excise duty levied on cigarettes, based on their length, has an adverse effect on the beedi industry and workers.

#### Tenth Finance Commission Recommendations

3404. SHRI YOGANAND SARASWATI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for which grants have been recommended for the year from 1996 to 2000 for the local bodies of Madhya Pradesh by the Tenth Finance Commission despite completion of the democratic decentralization process in 1994-95;

(b) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has demanded an additional grant of rupees 102.61 crore for the year 1995-96;

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

(d) the time by which the amount is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a). The Tenth Finance Commission has recommended ad-hoc grants to States for local bodies to be released from 1996-97 as in the view of the Commission rural and urban local bodies are likely to be fully functional by 1996-97.

(b). Yes, Sir.

(c). There is no proposal under consideration of the Government to give additional grants to States in addition to what is already recommended by the Tenth Finance Commission.

(d). Question does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Identification of Backward Areas by NABARD

3405. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT : Will be Minister of

FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the specific areas in Gujarat identified by the National Agriculture and Rural Development Bank as backward areas;

(b) whether the Government propose to conduct survey in this regard afresh; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (c). National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that it has not identified any areas as backward in Gujarat. However, it has decided to sanction separate short term credit limits for financing seasonal agricultural operations to Districts Central Co-operative Banks (DCCBs) and Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) from the current year (1995-96), in eight districts in Gujarat, having sizeable tribal population. The districts are Banaskantha, Bharuch, Dangs, Panchmahals, Sabarkantha, Surat, Vadodara and Valsad.

[English]

#### Handloom Sector

3406. SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons engaged in handloom industry in the country.

(b) whether the Government have recently set up a high power Committee to assess the present state of handloom sector in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the handloom sector in the country is on the verge of collapse due to shortage and high cost of raw materials.

(e) if so, the facts and details thereof; and

(f) the further steps taken by the Government for development of handloom sector in country, particularly in Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) The number of persons engaged in the handloom industry is estimated to be of the order of 128.60 lakhs.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A committee consisting of twelve member under the Chairpersonship of Ms. Mira Seth, Member, Planning Commission has been constituted. The terms of reference of this Committee are to (i) assess the extent to which the objectives of the Textile Policy, 1985 have been achieved by the Handloom Sector; (ii) assess the impact of various

schemes which are being implemented in the handloom sector; (iii) assess the threats and opportunities facing the handloom sector and devise ways and means to capitalise on the opportunities and in particular recommend comprehensive support necessary to achieve a quantum jumps in exports; (iv) make a comprehensive assessment of the bottlenecks in the way of development of the handloom sector in all areas including inputs supplies, credit support, production technology, design availability organisational structure, marketing support, exports etc. and to recommend (a) measures to promote rapid development of the handloom sector; and (b) measures for its growth in an economically viable manner.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) The Schemes of handloom sector are not State specific and all State Governments including Tamil Nadu are eligible for assistance under these schemes. Central assistance is released under various programmes such as Project Package Scheme, Market Development Assistance Scheme, Schemes for input supply, Welfare package Schemes. Setting up of Handloom Development Centres/ Quality Dying Units etc. During 1994-95, a sum of Rs. 9, 897.86 lakh was released under Plan schemes and Rs. 16,116.90 lakh under Non-Plan Schemes to all States in the country out of which Rs. 1420.13 lakh under Plan and Rs. 3303.80 lakhs under Non-Plan was released to Govt. of Tamil Nadu.

### Export of Coffee and Seeds

3407. SHRI K.G. SHIVAPPA :

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production and supply position of coffee in the country has been adversely affected recently;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government to streamline the production and supply of coffee beans;

(c) whether the Government intends to give incentives and extend credit facilities to coffee growers in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any new plantations are being developed to increase coffee production;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the total quantity of coffee in powder and seeds form exported and the foreign exchange earned therefrom during each of the last three years, separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b).

No, Sir. No report has been received recently about the domestic supply of coffee being adversely affected. The average annual domestic consumption of coffee is around 60,000 tonnes whereas the total production in 1994-95 was around 1,80,100 tonnes which ensured enough domestic availability after export commitments were met.

(c) and (d). There are a number of loan and subsidy schemes operated by the Coffee Board for the benefit of small growers of coffee. They are as follows:

(i) LOAN SCHEMES :

1. Intensive Cultivation Loan
2. Replanting Loan
3. Extensive Cultivation Loan
4. Crop Hypothecation Loan
5. Scheme for Hypothecation of Equipment/ Machinery.

(ii) SUBSIDY SCHEME :

1. Interest Subsidy
2. Replanting Subsidy
3. Differential rate of Interest Subsidy Scheme
4. Water Augmentation Scheme.

(e) & (f). Yes, Sir. As part of VIII Plan under the Production Improvement Programme, Coffee Board has envisaged an expansion of 15,000 ha. of coffee with 10,000 ha. earmarked for traditional areas and 5,000 ha. for non-traditional areas. In case of expansion programme taken up by individual growers or State agencies in non-traditional States, the Coffee Board has been providing necessary back-up support in terms of supply of seed, research, extension etc. As against this expansion target of 15,000 ha. for the VIII Plan period, the actual expansion during the first two years is estimated to be 13,836 ha.

(g) The total quantity of coffee exported and the foreign exchange earned during the last three years are as follows :

FISCAL YEAR	QUANTITY (TONNES)	VALUE (IN US \$ MILLION)
1992-93	1,13,602	133.51
1993-94	1,36,690	186.90
1994-95	1,36,688	348.59

### Refurnishing Programme of Ashok Group of Hotels

3408. SHRI PARAS RAM BHARDWAJ : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the India Tourism Development

Corporation propose to refurnish Ashok Group of Hotels; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposed refurnishing programme?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. ITDC has drawn up a comprehensive programme for renovation and upgradation of its hotels to make them contemporary and competitive, at a cost of Rs. 14.75 crores during 1995-96.

#### Pilgrim Centres in UP

3409. DR. SAKSHIJI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have identified the Pilgrim Centres for development in Uttar Pradesh during the year 1995-96;

(b) if so, whether the allocation has been made for the development activities there;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM: (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) No, Sir.

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

(d) Development and beautification of tourist centres including pilgrim centres is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/Union Territories. However, on receipt of a specific and complete proposal, central financial assistance is released on the basis of merits, inter-se priority and availability of funds.

#### RBI Probe in Sahara Activities

3410. PROF. PREM DHUMAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Sahara to face RBI probe" appearing in the Economic Times dated July 2, 1995; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that inspection of two financial companies in the Sahara India Group has been taken up by it on 25.7.95 under the provisions of Reserve Bank of India Act with a view to ascertain whether the companies are complying with the

directions issued by RBI.

#### ESI Exemption

3411. PROF. K.V. THOMAS : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Public Sector Undertakings in Kerala which are exempted from ESI schemes; and

(b) the details of special assistance provided to employees when ESI is exempted?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGAM) : (a). 16

(b) The ESI Scheme provides for medical care in kind and payment of cash benefits in the contingencies of sickness, maternity, employment injury etc. Exemption from the ESI Scheme is generally granted on the request of the employer and the employees both provided the employer on his own has made necessary arrangements for providing "employee-benefits" substantially superior or similar to those available under the ESI Scheme. Nature of benefits/assistance provided by the exempted employers varies from establishment to establishment.

#### Smuggling of Gold

3412. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is spurt in gold smuggling into the country following liberalisation process;

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

(c) the steps Government propose to check gold smuggling in to the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a). Available reports indicate a decline in smuggling of gold.

(b) Quantity of gold seized while attempted to be smuggled into the country during each of last three financial years is as follows :-

	Quantity in Kgs.
1992-93	2339
1993-94	1233
1994-95	1086

(c). Govt. have liberalised import of gold including import under passenger baggage scheme to make large quantity of legally imported gold available for consumption in India. Anti-smuggling agencies are alert to detect and prevent smuggling including smuggling of gold.

[Translation]

### World Bank/IMF Loan

3413. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

(a) the position of India amongst the countries taking loan from the World Bank or International Development Association;

(b) the amount of loan taken by India from the World Bank and International Development Association as on date; and

(c) the loan taken from the projects being executed by the aforesaid institutions in the country at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a). According to the Annual Report, 1994 published by the World Bank, cumulatively, India is the largest borrower from the World Bank including IDA.

(b) India has, till date, signed loan/credit agreements with the World Bank including IDA for US\$ 40.5 billion net of cancellations.

(c) The total amount of loan/credit involved in projects presently under execution in India with World Bank assistance is US\$ 13.5 billion.

[English]

### Salary Offered by Private Airlines

3414. SHRI MANABENDRA SHAH :  
DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR :  
SHRI MOHAN SINGH (DEORIA) :

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

(a) whether the Government are aware that private airlines are offering lucrative salaries to their flight crew and other staff;

(b) if so, the details of the pay structure of flight crew and other staff in various private and public airlines;

(c) whether the salaries of flight crew and other staff of the private airlines are comparable with that of Indian Airlines/Air India; and

(d) if not, the steps the Government propose to take to avert possible dissensions amongst pilots of Indian Airlines/Air India?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (d). Comparison of salaries paid for the flight crew by the private airlines with that of the salaries of flight crew of national airlines is not

possible, since private airlines are not required to furnish the details to the government regarding salaries paid to their employees.

### Agricultural Spendings by Banks in Bihar

3415. SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the guidelines issued by the RBI in the matter of agricultural spendings are being followed by all nationalised banks especially in Bihar;

(b) if not, the details of branches of nationalised banks in the State which have not followed the guidelines during the last three years; and

(c) the action taken in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b). As per guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India (RBI), banks are required to grant at least 18% of net bank credit as finance to agriculture and this is to be complied with by each bank for the country as a whole. It is not envisaged that the target should be complied by the banks, state-wise or branch-wise. However, banks have been advised by RBI to avoid as far as possible wide disparities. The performance of lending by banks in Bihar under the Annual Credit Plan (ACP) under Service Area Approach (SAA) for rural lending was as under :

	(Rs. in crores)	
	Targets	Achievements
March 1993	533.11	185.62
March 1994	473.72	310.89

(c) RBI have advised all banks to make every effort to achieve the stipulated target for priority sector lendings including lending to agriculture. Banks have also been advised that failure on their part to achieve the target could invite bank specific policy measures. RBI have also recently taken a number of steps such as introduction of Agricultural Credit Cards to enable farmers with good track record to secure production credit instantly, cash credit facility, financing of innovative and high-tech agricultural projects and establishment of Rural Infrastructural Development Fund to ensure enhanced credit to agricultural sector.

### Merger of Subsidiaries of S.B.I.

3416. SHRI RAM BADAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a proposal to merge subsidiary banks of

State Bank of India is under the consideration of the Government; and

(b) if so, the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Issue of Refund Orders by UTI

3417. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether using registered post is mandatory under section 73 of the Companies Act, 1956 for all refund orders and share certificates of the value of over Rs. 1500;

(b) if so, whether the Unit Trust of India uses ordinary post instead of registered post to send their certificates to unit holders;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the amount thus saved by the Unit Trust of India during the last three years;

(e) whether the Unit Trust of India has been exempted from the provisions of Section 73 of the Companies Act, 1956; and

(f) if not, whether the Government propose to issue instructions to the Unit Trust of India to adhere to the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956 in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). The provisions of the Companies Act do not apply to UTI. The Trust has its internal guidelines in the matter of despatch of Unit Certificates.

(e) and (f). The Unit Trust of India is a corporation established under an Act of Parliament, the Unit Trust of India Act, 1963 and is outside the purview of the Companies Act, 1956, the provisions of which are applicable to the companies registered under the Companies Act, only.

[Translation]

#### Raids Conducted by Income Tax Authorities

3418. SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Income Tax raids conducted during the last two months; and

(b) the State-wise details of money recovered through these raids?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) : During the month of June and July 1995 the Income Tax Department has executed 201 search warrants.

(b) : The aggregate seizure of valuable was of Rs. 2141.52 lakhs which included *inter alia* cash seizure of Rs. 365.71 lakhs. The State-wise details of cash seized is as per attached Statement.

#### STATEMENT

State-wise Details of Cash Seized During the Month of June and July, 1995

Name of the State	Seizure of Cash (Rs. in lakhs)
Andhra Pradesh	12
Bihar	6
Gujarat	51.48
Haryana	31.55
Himachal Pradesh	3.03
Karnataka	2.7
Kerala	43.35
Madhya Pradesh	16.78
Maharashtra	81.09
Punjab	63.1
Rajasthan	2.45
Tamil Nadu	52.18
TOTAL	365.71

#### Handloom Clothes

3419. DR. P.R. GANGWAR : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cloth is weaved manually even today;

(b) if so, the varieties of clothes alongwith the length of the cloth weaved by the weavers during the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the type of assistance proposed to the provided by the Government to weavers?

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

(b) As the Handloom Industry is decentralised in nature and also since the cloth produced by weavers in their households is spread out in every nook and corner of the country. State-wise details of production are not

maintained.

(c) Government of India is providing assistance to the handloom weavers through various schemes some of which are :

1. Setting up of Handloom Development Centres.
2. Janata Cloth Scheme.
3. Market Development Assistance.
4. Project package scheme.
5. Integrated Handloom Village Development Scheme.
6. Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme.
7. Thrift Fund Scheme.
8. Group Insurance Scheme.
9. Health Package Scheme.
10. Hank Yarn price Subsidy scheme.
11. Mill Gate price Scheme.

### Foreign Investors

3420. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI :

SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the "Dainik Jagran" under the caption "Bharat Mein Nivesh Ke Kiye Abhi Bhee Anukool Vatavaran Nahin" dated July 20, 1995;

(b) whether the Government have taken action to encourage the foreign investors and to remove the procedural hurdles coming in the way of investment; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) and (c) : Government of India's present policy on foreign investment and the related approval mechanism, providing for automatic approval for foreign equity upto 51% in high priority industries have been formulated with a view to encourage foreign investment and to eliminate avoidable procedural delays.

[English]

### Minimum Wages for Child Labour

3421. DR. SUDHIR RAY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of child labourers is increasing in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to bring

forward a bill ensuring minimum wages for these child labourers;

(c) whether the Government propose to introduce compulsory education for these child labourers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA):

(a). Authentic figures on child labour are generated during decennial census. According to 1981 census, the number of working children was 13.6 Million. In the 43rd round of National Sample Survey conducted in 1987-88, the figure of child labour has been estimated to be 17.02 million. The data on child labour as per 1991 census has not yet been released.

(b) The existing provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 provides for fixing or revising minimum rates of wages for adults, adolescents children and apprentices.

(c) and (d) : Under the National Child Labour Policy, 1987-National Child Labour Projects Scheme of the Ministry of Labour a major activity undertaken is establishment of special schools to provide basic needs like non-formal education, vocational training, supplementary nutrition etc., to the children withdrawn from employment. Voluntary agencies are being financially assisted to the extent of 75% for taking up welfare projects for working children under the Grants-in-Aid Scheme, Twelve Projects under the National Child Labour Projects Scheme which include special schools for children are currently under implementation in 8 States covering a total of approximately 16,000 children. Though there are many State Acts of Education with enabling provision for compulsory primary Education, currently there is no proposal to make primary education compulsory to child labourers as a class of childrens.

### Losses to Public Sector Banks

3422. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem appeared in 'Financial Express' News Service dated April 20, 1995 captioned "Indian public sector banks suffer losses on overseas account"; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken or proposed to be taken to cover such losses?

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

(b) Banks have been advised by the Reserve Bank of India to closely monitor and review operations of overseas branches and consider closing of continuously loss making branches where there is no potential for revival.

As a result of such reviews, certain branches have been closed or merged.

[Translation]

### Jute Woven Clothes

3423. SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a special action plan has been formulated to boost jute production and manufacturing of clothes wherefrom;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether directives have been given to the nationalised banks to provide financial assistance on priority basis for raising the production and manufacturing of jute cloth; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (d). For boosting jute production and productivity and improving the quality of fibre in the country a Centrally sponsored Special Jute Development Programme has been under implementation in 8 major jute/mesta growing States. Under the Programme, incentives are *inter alia* provided for distribution of seeds and supply to essential nutrients minikits, farm implements, excavation of implements, excavation of kutch/pucca retting tanks, farmers training, demonstration of retting technology, foliar spray of urea and distribution of fungal culture packets.

A Jute Entrepreneurs Assistance Scheme has been launched to help entrepreneurs through financial assistance for setting up units for manufacture of various value added jute based diversified products. Banks and Financial Institutions who would be providing loans on approved ventures, have been advised to involve themselves actively in the scheme.

### Transfer of Property

3424. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received information about irregularities being committed due to facility of transfer of property of any part of the country in four metropolitan cities Delhi, Calcutta, Bombay and Madras;

(b) if so, whether amendment in the relevant Central Act is under consideration in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c). No specific information in this regard has been received by the Government. However, a proposal for deletion of Section 30(2) of the Registration Act, 1908 is under consideration. Views/comments of the State Governments/Union Territories administration have been invited on the proposal. A final decision on the proposal would be taken after receipt of the views. As such it is not possible to indicate at this stage the time by which the said decision would be taken.

[English]

### Misuse of Vabal Scheme

3425. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number and details of the cases of misuse of Value Based Advance Licence (VABAL) scheme detected during 1994-95 and till date by over invoicing of exports and use of hawala transactions; and

(b) the measure taken or proposed to be taken to check this clandestine hawala market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

### Losses in ITDC Hotels

3426. SHRI MANJAY LAL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the irregularities being committed in allotment of shops/stalls in ITDC hotels;

(b) if so, the details of the steps taken to inquire into such irregularities; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c). As per present laid down procedure, shops in ITDC hotels are allotted through auction. Necessary investigations are conducted as and when complaints/ reports of alleged irregularities are received.

[English]

### Garment Manufacturing Units

3427. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to set up Garment manufacturing units in the public sector; and

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

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

(b). Does not arise.

#### Assistance to Tamil Nadu for Development of Tourism

3428. DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Tamil Nadu has sought financial assistance from the Union Government for the development of tourism in the State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the amount sanctioned during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). The Union Department of Tourism has sanctioned thirty four projects/schemes amounting to Rs. 655.59 lakhs for development of tourism in Tamil Nadu during last three years. The details of the projects/schemes with amount and year of sanction are attached as Statement.

#### STATEMENT

##### Projects/Schemes Sanctioned During 1992-93

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Amount sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)
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##### TAMIL NADU

1.	Cottages at Kodaikanal	30.40
2.	Wayside amenities at Thiruvakkarai	11.25
3.	Yatri niwas at Rameshwaram	44.78
4.	Purchase of Hang gliding equipment	4.13
5.	Rock climbing and Trekking equipment for Coonoor and Nilgiri	4.00
6.	Tea and Tourism Festival, Coonoor	6.10
7.	Natyanjali festival	3.63
8.	Mahabalipuram Dance festival	3.13

TOTAL 107.42

##### 1993-94 TAMIL NADU

1.	Tourist Lodge at Parambalur	23.97
2.	Tourist Lodge at Namakkal	23.25
3.	Tourist Lodge at Virduunagar	28.78
4.	Tourist complex at Krishnagiri	33.54

5.	Tourist Lodge at Courtallam	39.30
6.	Yatri niwas at Samayapuram	39.92
7.	Tourist complex at Salem	33.21
8.	Tourist complex at Kumbankonam	39.37
9.	Tourist Lodge at Palani	22.73
10.	Tourist complex at Thriunelveli	39.97
11.	Renovation & modification of POW type of special tourist train to be run between Madras and Rameshwaram	48.00
12.	Purchase of Water sports equipment for muttukadu backwater and Pulicat Lake	14.94
13.	Tea and Tourism festival at Coonoor	3.30
14.	Natyanjali Festival	3.00
15.	Summer festival	3.98
16.	Chitrai Festival at Madurai	5.19
TOTAL		402.45

##### Projects/Schemes Sanctioned During 1994-95

Sl. No.	Name of the project/scheme	Amount sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)
TAMIL NADU		
1.	Tourist Lodge at Puddukotai	18.78
2.	Tourist Reception Centre at Thanjavur	26.30
3.	Yatri Niwas at Thiruvanamalai	39.10
4.	Tourist Reception Centre at Tranquebar	29.49
5.	Tourist Lodge at Villupuram	18.78
6.	Chitrai Festival	3.83
7.	Natyanjali Festival	1.74
8.	Mamallapuram Dance Festival	2.70
9.	Assistance for production of publicity literature	5.00
TOTAL		145.72

#### Tariffs for Domestic Hotel Industry

3429. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the leading tour operators and travel agents have presented a petition to the Government seeking initiations of administration tariffs for the domestic hotel industry;

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM  
(SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) No, Sir.

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

[Translation]

#### Grant-in-Aid to M.P.

3430. SHRI SURAJBHANU SOLANKI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the amount of grant-in-aid earmarked by the Tenth Finance Commission for Madhya Pradesh is much less than the amount recommended by the Ninth Finance Commission;

(b) if so, whether any action is being taken to meet the shortage made in the allocation of grant-in-aid to Madhya Pradesh; and

- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (c). The grants-in-aid recommended to Madhya Pradesh under Ninth and Tenth Finance Commissions are as under

	(Rs. crores)	
	Ninth Commission 1990-95	Tenth Commission 1995-2000
<b>I. Non-Plan Grants</b>		
(a) Grant for relief expenditure	261.00	201.67
(b) Upgradation grants	-	146.37
(c) Special problem grants	-	60.00
(d) Grants for local bodies	-	410.43
Total	<u>261.00</u>	<u>818.47</u>
<b>II Plan Deficit Grants</b>	1047.81	

\*includes Rs. 122.25 crores for Bhopal Gas Leak Tragedy.

The Ninth Finance Commission was required to adopt a normative approach in assessing the receipts and expenditures on revenue account (Plan and Non-Plan) of the States and Centre. It had, therefore, recommended Plan revenue deficit grants to some States including Madhya Pradesh. The Tenth Finance Commission in Para 2.27 of its report have observed as under :

"2.27 - ..... But our terms of reference also explicitly require us to assess non-plan revenue

expenditure. Our period of recommendations not being co-terminus with the Eighth plan has further complicated the issue. The practical difficulties of making acceptable projections of plan outlay - even for the remaining two years of the plan - were brought to our notice by the representatives of the Planning Commission. Most States have also chosen not to hazard any estimates. In view of these constraints we have confined our reassessment to the non-plan revenue account."

In view of the above, Plan revenue deficit grants have not been recommended by the tenth Finance Commission to any State. The shortfall in the grant-in-aid to Madhya Pradesh under Tenth Finance Commission recommendations is due to this factor.

**Part (b)** The total devolution to Madhya Pradesh as per the award of the tenth Finance Commission for the period 1995-2000 is estimated to be Rs. 16,094 crores as compared to Rs. 7,843 crores recommended by Ninth Finance Commission during 1990-95. There is adequate increase in the total devolution to State as recommended by Tenth Finance Commission. There is no proposal under consideration of the Govt. to give additional non-plan grants to the State in addition to what is already recommended by the Tenth Finance Commission.

**Part (c)** Question does not arise.

#### Sub-Letting of Government Accommodation

3431. SHRI PREM CHAND RAM : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether many employees and officers of Airport Authority of India have sub-letted the Government accommodation allotted to them;

(b) if so, the number of such cases detected during each of the last three years;

(c) the action taken against those who have sub-letted the Government accommodation; and

(d) the remedial steps taken by the Government to avoid sub-letting of Government accommodation?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). One case of sub-letting of Government accommodation was reported at Delhi in 1995.

(c) The official was made to vacate the accommodation and he has been debarred for fresh allotment for a period of one year.

(d) Periodical vigilance checks are carried out and circulars warning the allottees regarding sub-letting are issued from time to time.

[English]

### Banking Business

3432. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposals have been received from some big business houses for finding a foothold in banking business; and

(b) if so, the details of the precise proposals and the decisions taken thereon, indicating the areas of economy, rural, urban or industrial proposed to be served thereby?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that it has received, among others, proposals from the following business houses for setting up new banks in the private sector :

1. M/s. ITC
2. Reliance Industries Ltd.
3. Mittal Group
4. DCM Group
5. Shri Aditya V. Birla Group
6. Salgaonkar Group.

RBI have further stated that they are yet to take a view on the proposals submitted by these business houses.

### Tourism Potential of Northern States

3433. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken steps to explore the tourism potential of Northern States particularly Rajasthan; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard during the current Five Year Plan and the achievements made so far as on March 31, 1995?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a). Yes, Sir. Govt. of India has formulated a National Action Plan for Tourism which envisages the Strategy to develop tourism potential in the country through central assistance and investment by State Governments and private sector.

(b) The Central Financial Assistance extended during the Eighth Five Year Plan up to 31st March, 1995 to the Northern States is as under :—

Name of State	Total No. of projects/ schemes sanctioned	Amount sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)
Himachal Pradesh	44	790.05
Haryana	30	503.17
Jammu & Kashmir	34	539.77
Punjab	25	471.65
Rajasthan	46	1076.52
Uttar Pradesh	32	472.18
Chandigarh	11	97.02
Delhi	15	243.88

As per progress reports approximately 50 projects have been completed and the remaining 187 projects are in progress.

The Govt. of India Tourist Offices abroad and in India, extensively promote Rajasthan and other destinations through films, publicity brochures and by participating in World Travel Marts and Fairs.

[English]

### Privatisation of Tourism Industry

3434. SHRI BRIJBHUSAN SHARAN SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state : (a) whether the Government propose to privatise the tourism industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

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

(a) to (c). Tourism is primarily a private sector activity. The Department of Tourism in its National Action Plan underlined the policy of encouraging private investment both domestic and foreign for accelerated growth of tourist infrastructure.

The Government of India has declared hotel and other tourism related industry as one of the high priority industry for foreign investment and for fiscal/investment concessions. A large number of States/UTs have declared tourism as an industry thereby extending benefits and concessions to the private investors.

[English]

### Import of Kerosene

3435. SHRIMATI MAHENDRA KUMARI :  
SHRI S.S.R. RAJENDRA KUMAR :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Trading Corporation has any proposal to import of kerosene as reported in the *Economics Times* dated July 13, 1995;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to supply kerosene to the common people at reasonable price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) In December, 1994, State Trading Corporation (STC) approached Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) for utilising IOC's storage facilities for storage of imported Superior Kerosene Oil (SKO). However, IOC regretted its inability, since it did not have spare storage capacity available at Bombay and Kandla for being offered to STC. However, as part of diversification of its trade activities efforts are being made by STC to arrange suitable storage tanks of adequate capacity alongwith necessary infrastructural facilities at major ports for storage and distribution of SKO. The imports will be arranged by STC subject to availability of such infrastructure and economic viability of operations.

(c) Under the administered pricing policy of petroleum products, the prices of products like kerosene used by the common people are subsidised.

### Economic Reforms

3436. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Prime Minister met the captains of Industry-Presidents of three chambers of Commerce on the July 31, 1995 to discuss the progress of economic reforms and ways to further them;

(b) if so, the outcome of the discussions held with him; and

(c) the action taken and proposed to be taken by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b). The Prime Minister of India met leading industrialists, captains of industry and Presidents of Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) and Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) on 1st August, 1995 and not on 31st July 1995. The issues discussed at the meeting mainly related to the development of social infrastructure and improvement of the living standards of the poor. Industry pledged its support and cooperation to Government towards this end.

(c) The suggestions of individuals Associations and organisations are kept in view while formulating appropriate Government Policies.

[Translation]

### IDBI Assistance to Entrepreneurs of States

3437. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI :  
SHRI KUNJEE LAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the applications received by the Industrial Development Bank of India from the entrepreneurs of Bihar and Rajasthan during the last three years, Statewise;

(b) the number of the applications admitted & rejected during the above period and the reasons behind rejecting these applications; and

(c) the details of the financial assistance provided by the Industrial Development Bank of India to the industries located in the above State during the said period, Unit wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b). The details of applications received, sanctioned and rejected under direct finance schemes of the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) in the States of Bihar and Rajasthan during the last three years are given below :

	BIHAR		
	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
Applications received	29	14	19
Applications sanctioned	20	12	13
Applications rejected & withdrawn/closed	1	-	-
	RAJASTHAN		
	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
Applications received	72	89	137
Applications sanctioned	59	66	104
Applications rejected/ withdrawn/closed	-	1	1

IDBI has reported that the rejection of applications was on account of non-viability of the projects.

(c) The details of assistance sanctioned by IDBI under Direct Project Finance Scheme to industries in Bihar and Rajasthan during the above period are given below:

## Assistance Sanctioned

(Rs. crores)

	Bihar	Rajasthan
1992-93	123.8	428.1
1993-94	60.9	394.3
1994-95	35.8	567.9

However, in accordance with the practices and usages customary amongst banks and in conformity with provisions of statutes governing public sector banks and financial institutions as also the provisions of Public Finance Institutions (obligation as to Fidelity and Secrecy) Act, 1983, the unit wise details cannot be divulged.

[English]

## Turn-Over of MMTC

3438. DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total turnover of the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India Ltd. during each of the last three years, country-wise;

(b) whether there is any decline in trading activities of M.M.T.C.; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to widen the activities of MMTC to regain the lost ground?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). The total turnover of MMTC during last three years is as under:

(Rs. in million)

Year	Turnover
1992-93	51224.4
1993-94	32173.5
1994-95	52625.9 (Provisional)

Country-wise exports/imports by MMTC during 1991-92: 1992-93 and 1993-94 are annexed in the statement. The decline in trading activities has been due to decanalisation of a number of products.

(c) To increase its turnover, Government is encouraging MMTC to diversify into agro/marine products, textiles, leather, chemicals, drugs and pharmaceuticals apart from consolidating its activities in minerals, metals, fertilizers, diamonds, gems and jewellery. MMTC is also developing captive supply bases by selectively investing in export oriented joint ventures.

## STATEMENT

Export Major Countries (Rs./Million)

COUNTRY	*1993-94	1992-93	1991-92
JAPAN	4598	6054	5051
SOUTH KOREA	1545	1724	1805
USA	1270	1721	1994
CHINA	1147	1174	1313
UAE	936	832	698
UK	782	778	824
GERMANY	643	874	961
CZECH. REPUBLIC	448	1	2
PAKISTAN	313	299	370
SINGAPORE	307	222	204
JORDAN	255	422	1138
SWITZERLAND	207	292	331
NETHERLANDS	177	117	158
HONG KONG	131	233	317
TUNISIA	115	18	-
INDONESIA	78	29	183
AUSTRALIA	74	41	30
SLOVAK REPUBLIC	70	-	-
USSR/CIS	64	16	3
FRANCE	61	198	266
MALAYSIA	53	79	156
OTHERS	439	1624	2161
TOTAL	13713	16748	17865

Imports from Major Countries

COUNTRY	*1993-94	1992-93	1991-92
SWITZERLAND	4852	2452	775
CIS	2886	5288	3801
LIBYA	2094	164	-
QATAR	1579	753	807
SAUDI ARABIA	1470	1280	2150
UAE	594	242	142
ZAMBIA	319	32	121
U.K.	316	380	254
INDONESIA	249	152	234
JORDAN	247	2587	3709
BANGLADESH	237	44	-
ROMANIA	218	9	-
AUSTRALIA	182	232	102
GERMANY	136	2542	3956
ZAIRE	132	227	159

\*Country-wise Import-Export figures for 1994-95 are under completion.

BELGIUM	116	48	95
CANADA	84	1570	1384
MALAYSIA	83	159	102
FRANCE	82	1112	405
CROATIA	72	-	-
BRAZIL	70	194	1955
OTHERS	289	10390	32066
TOTAL	16307	29857	51217

SOURCE : MMTC

\*Country-wise Import-Export figures for 1994-95 are under completion.

### Pension Scheme For Employees of GIC

3439. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have since cleared the pension scheme for the employees of General Insurance Corporation;

(b) if so, the number and date of the notification issued in this regard; and

(c) the time-bound programme fixed by for GIC to implement the scheme and pay the pension dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. The Notification was issued under No. 2(4)-Ins. III. 94 (ii) dated 28.6.1995 and published in the Extraordinary Gazette of India under Np. S.O. 585(E) dated 28.6.1995. Under the provisions of the Pension Scheme a beneficiary has to exercise an option in writing within one hundred and twenty days from the notified date to become a member of the Pension Fund constituted for the purpose. Further necessary action to pay the pension dues can be taken by GIC only after the options have been exercised by the eligible persons.

### Goswami Committee Report

3440. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN :

SHRI HARIN PATHAK :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the major recommendations of the Goswami Committee;

(b) the recommendations which have been accepted;

(c) the recommendations which have been rejected;

(d) the recommendations which are still under consideration; and

(e) the recommendations which have since been implemented and the time by which all other recommendations are proposed to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (e). The Government had in May, 1993 appointed a Committee on Industrial Sickness and Corporate Restructuring under the Chairmanship of Dr. Omkar Goswami. The recommendations of the Committee *inter-alia* include:

- (i) early detection of sickness.
- (ii) changes in the Companies Act, 1956 to facilitate restructuring.
- (iii) amendment of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 to enable restructuring of the work force.
- (iv) amendment of the Urban Land (Ceiling & Regulation) Act, 1976 to improve generation of internal resources of sick companies.
- (v) amendment of taxation laws to facilitates mergers, amalgamations of companies.
- (vi) changes in Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973 to attract Foreign capital and equity.
- (vii) setting up five fast-track winding-up tribunals so that labour and secured creditors could get their dues as quickly as possible.

The recommendations are under consideration of Government.

[English]

### Interest of International Hotel Chain in Indian Market

3441. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received proposals regarding the keen interest shown by the international chains of hotel in the Indian Market;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to repeal the Urban land ceiling law with a view to promote the international tourism; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Govt. has received a proposal from Holiday Inn Worldwide Netherlands for setting up a 100% subsidiary to franchise Holiday Inn in India. Besides this, Sheraton Inc. USA; Kempinski, Switzerland; Ramada Inn Inc. USA; Le Meridian, France; Four Seasons, Canada; Hyatt, Hongkong; Quality Inn Inc. US; Accor, France etc., are operating under technical collaboration, franchise and marketing agreements with Indian companies.

- (c) No, Sir.  
(d) Does not arise.

### Customer Service at Banks in Madhya Pradesh

3442 : SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of complaints received recently against employees of various nationalised banks for rendering unsatisfactory services in the country, particularly in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the action taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether booklets regarding various schemes of these banks are not available for public use in their branches; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a). The complaints by customers against nationalised banks are received by Government and Reserve Bank of India (RBI) from time to time. The data reporting system of RBI does not generate information in the manner asked for. According to RBI, their Regional Office at Bhopal (under whose jurisdiction Madhya Pradesh State falls) has received complaints against all commercial banks during the last 3 years as per details given below :-

Year	Number of complaints received against the banks
1992	290
1993	298
1994	296

(b) Government/RBI refer these complaints to the Banks concerned for appropriate action/redressal/comments. Complaints of serious nature are got investigated by RBI through their Regional Offices.

(c) and (d). Based on the recommendations of the Goiporia Committee on Customer Service, RBI had advised banks in January, 1992 to make available to their customers brochures/pamphlets in regional languages/Hindi/English giving details of various schemes. As per the information received by RBI all the 27 public sector banks have reported to have implemented this recommendation.

[English]

### International Airport at Devanahalli

3443. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS :

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

(a) whether there is an airport of Indian Air Force at Yelahanka, Bangalore;

(b) whether the Government propose to take over IAF airport at Yelahanka in view of Government's proposal to set up an international airport at Devanahalli; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

### Ragging in N.I.F.T.

3444. SHRI A. INDRAKARAN REDDY :  
SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :  
SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV :  
SHRI BHERU LAL MEENA :  
SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item published in "Indian Express" dated July 26, 1995 about ragging in prestigious National Institute of Fashion Technology Hostel;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the NIFT authorities are indifferent when approached by parents of students who suffered the humiliation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action the Government intend to take against the guilty to ensure that such brutal incidents are not repeated?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. The alleged incident of ragging has been reported in some sections of the press including the Indian Express. The Government constituted a two-member high level Enquiry Committee to look into the facts of the case and indicate responsibility wherever found necessary and also to make recommendation to ensure that no ragging of students takes place in the premises of National Institute of Fashion Technology in future.

As per the finding of the Committee the alleged incident of ragging could not be corroborated.

[Translation]

### Investment by UTI and LIC in Gujarat

3445. SHRIN.J. RATHVA : Will be Minister of FINANCE

be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal from the Government of Gujarat regarding investment of the amount mobilized by the Unit Trust of India and Life Insurance Corporation through Indira Vikas Patra and Kisan Vikas Patra in the State especially in tribal areas, is under the consideration of the Union Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) Government has not received any such proposal in the recent past.

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

[English]

### Shortage of Stamp Paper

3446. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN : Will be Minister of FINANCE be please to state :

(a) whether complaints of non-availability of Revenue Stamps, Court Fee Stamps and Stamp Paper of various denominations have been received during 1994-95 from the State of Kerala;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to meet the shortage of these items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b). Due to capacity constraints, the Security Printing Presses are not able to meet full demand of Revenue Stamps, Court Fee Stamps and Stamp Paper throughout the country.

(c) Government have initiated steps to augment the production capacity.

[English]

### Bank Loans to SSIs in Rajasthan

3447. SHRI KUNJEE LAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications received by public sector banks in Rajasthan from small industries during the last three years and the amount sanctioned in this regard;

(b) whether these banks have provided loan in time to save applicant/small industries from becoming sick;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) The data reporting system of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) does not generate information in the manner asked for. However, according to the latest available data furnished by RBI, loans sanctioned by Public Sector Banks to small scale industries (SSI) in the State of Rajasthan as on the last Friday of March 1991, March, 1992 and March, 1993 were as under :

(Rs. in crores)		
As on the last Friday of	No. of Accounts	Amount Outstanding
March 1991	116533	420.21
March 1992	114147	440.81
March 1993	114229	475.55

(b) to (d). RBI has issued instructions to all scheduled commercial banks that applications upto a credit limit of Rs. 25000/- should be disposed of within a fortnight and those for over Rs. 25000/- within 8-9 weeks from the date of receipt of application. Banks have also been advised that requests for increase in credit limits should be considered expeditiously and decision taken promptly and in any case within six weeks.

[English]

### Handlooms (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985

3448. SHRI RAMACHANDRA MAROTRAO GHANGARE :

SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of articles reserved for exclusive production by handlooms;

(b) whether the Government have received any representation from the powerloom industries sector particularly from Maharashtra in connection with the implementation of the Handlooms (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985 ;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken by the Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) A Statement on textile articles reserved for exclusive production by handlooms is attached.

(b) Yes, sir.

(c) Implementation of the Act should be kept in suspension till statistics like production potential etc. of handlooms and powerlooms is ascertained.

(d) The Handlooms (Reservation of Articles for

Production) Act, 1985 has no provision for keeping its implementation under suspension.

### STATEMENT

1. Saree
2. Kota Doria Saree
3. Tie & Dye Saree and material
4. Dhoti
5. Gamcha & Angavastram
6. Lungi
7. Shirting
8. Crepe Fabrics
9. Towels
10. Khes, Bedsheet, Bed Cover, Counterpane and furnishing
11. Table cloth, Table mat & Napkins
12. Duster Basta
13. Chaddar
14. Mashru cloth
15. Low reed pick cloth
16. Jamakkalam durry or durret
17. Bukram cloth
18. Silk
19. Kambal or Kambalies
20. Barrack blankets
21. Shawl, Loi, Mufflers, Pankhi etc.
22. Woollen tweed

### CBI Cases against Board Members of ITDC

3449. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether ITDC Management received a complaint letter dated 22 July, 1995 from All India ITDC Employees Union regarding a CBI case pending against some Board Members of ITDC;

(b) whether the delinquent official/officials continue in office since 1990 in spite of serious allegations and major penalty action recommended by CBI/CVC in July, 1991;

(c) if so, the reasons and justification for keeping the delinquent officials in office and for not initiating departmental inquiry till date and for non-implementing CBI/CVC recommendations; and

(d) what action Government propose to take on the failure of ITDC Management in such major lapses?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c). A letter dated 22.7.95 was received by the Management of ITDC from

All India ITDC Employees' Union requesting that exemplary action should be taken against the Vice President (Engg.) on the basis of recommendations made by CVC. Action in this matter has been taken and charge-sheet was served on the concerned official on 2.1.1995.

(d). Does not arise.

### Letters Received From M. Ps.

3450. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of letters received in his Ministry written by the members of Parliament during the last one year;

(b) the number of letters pending replies and since when these letters are pending; and

(c) the reasons for not replying those letters and the time by which these letters are likely to be replied?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

### Shilpgram Project

3451. SHRI ANNA JOSHI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made so far in the establishment of the multicore 'shilpgram' project at Pune which contained the establishment of a village to promote traditional folk artisans and craftsmen;

(b) the reasons for delay in implementation of the project;

(c) the measures being taken to implement the project;

(d) whether the Government have selected any other place for the said project; and

(e) if so, the reasons for the change of site?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a). There is no proposal with the Government to set-up any 'Shilpgram' project at Pune to promote traditional folk artisans and craftsmen.

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

[Translation]

### Visit of Russian Tourists

3452. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VERMA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Russian tourists visited India during the last three years ;

(b) whether the number of Russian tourists have declined this year and if so, the reasons thereof along with the steps taken to check this decline; and

(c) the currency accepted from Russian tourists in India is Dollar/Pound or Rouble?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a). Tourist arrival figures were not compiled separately for Russia in the past. However, the arrivals from CIS countries including Russia during the last three years were as given below :—

Year	Tourist Arrivals
1992	39409
1993	48644
1994	56387

(b) and (c). Information is being collected.

[English]

### Tea Gardens of Assam

3453. SHRI DWARKA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are a number of sick and weak tea gardens in Southern Assam particularly in Barak Valley and the same are being abandoned one after another;

(b) whether any survey of such sick and weak tea gardens has been made by the Government;

(c) if so, the details of assessment thereof;

(d) whether there is any difference in daily wages being given to the tea labourers of Brahmaputra Valley and Barak Valley;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken to revitalise the sick tea gardens and implement the welfare schemes for the labourers particularly those for working in sick gardens?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (f). As per the survey conducted by the Tea Board in April 1994, out of 113 tea estates in the Barak Valley, 27 tea estates have been identified as sick/weak. However, Tea Board have not received any report in respect of tea estates being abandoned. The problems faced by sick and weak tea gardens have been quite complex involving problems ranging from managerial/financial mismanagement to protracted litigation. Tea Board has already undertaken an exercise to identify the reasons for such sickness. Discussions have been held by the Tea Board with

representatives of commercial banks and the concerned tea gardens to find out ways and means for revival of these gardens by evolving a comprehensive rehabilitation package. Tea Research Association has also been requested to admit the weak gardens to its membership at a subsidised subscription rate and to provide technical knowhow for their revival. Tea Board also undertakes welfare programmes and schemes for the benefit of plantation workers in tea estates including such sick estates. The programmes cover those areas which are not covered by the Plantation Labour Act, 1951 and the rules framed thereunder and are supplemental in nature. The welfare schemes of the Tea Board *inter-alia* include providing grant to the wards of the tea garden workers for pursuing studies about the primary level and also providing financial assistance to educational institutions, hospitals etc. for construction of health centres, extension of educational and vocational training and specialised treatment facilities for the benefit of the tea garden workers and their families.

Wages for labourers working in tea plantations in different parts of India are being fixed through negotiations (bipartite or tripartite) between employers, employees and representatives of the State Government under the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948. As regards daily wage rates and plucking rates for plantation workers in Brahmaputra Valley of Assam, an agreement was signed on 10th January 1993 between the Employees' Association and the Assam Cha Majdoor Sangha. This agreement will cover the period upto 31st March 1996. As regards daily wage rates for plantation workers in Barak Valley of Assam, an agreement was signed on 3rd February 1993 between the Employees' association and the Cachar Cha Sramik Association. The said agreement will remain valid till 31st October 1996. It is noticed that there is a difference in the wage rate between the two valleys and on an average it is lower in Barak Valley.

### Concessional Foreign Loan

3454. DR. K.D. JESWANI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to reply given to Starred Question No. 91 on August 4, 1995 and state :

(a) the total amount of concessional foreign loan received during 1994-95 indicating names of foreign lending agencies and amount of concessional foreign loan lent by each along with rate of interest;

(b) the percentage of this total concessional foreign aid received and disbursed in servicing past debt during 1994-95; and

(c) the percentage of G.D.P. of amount of concessional foreign loan received by the Indian Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) A statement showing the concessional foreign loans received and rate of interest paid on Government Account during 1994-95 is attached.

(b) External resources are mobilised to bridge the gap between the total investment outlay and internal resources available for the plan development of the country. It is used for meeting the foreign exchange requirements of the project and non-project needs of the country. However, it may be mentioned that the debt service ratio is normally computed on the basis of debt service payment (i.e. repayment of principal and payment of interest) as percentage to current receipt i.e. export of goods and invisible earnings.

(c) Concessional foreign loan received by the Indian Government during 1994-95 is estimated to be 0.65 percent of GDP at current market prices.

#### STATEMENT

*The Amount of Concessional Foreign Loan and its Interest Rate on Government Account During 1994-95*

			(Rs. in Crores)
S. No.	Source/ Country	Loan received during 1994-95	Rate of Interest
1.	IDA	3149.88	No interest (Service charges 0.75%)
2.	IFAD	27.33	No interest (Service charges 1%)
3.	OPEC	1.96	0.5 to 3%
4.	Australia	15.94	1.625%
5.	Belgium	4.11	0 to 3%
6.	France	48.59	2 to 3.7%
7.	Germany	357.51	0.75%
8.	Japan	2126.84	2.5 to 4.5%
9.	Kuwait Fund	3.92	4 to 4.5%
10.	Saudi Fund	1.31	3 to 4%
11.	Sweden	99.99	1.5 to 2%
12.	Switzerland	30.13	1.5 to 2%

#### Advertisement in Rojgar Samachar

3455. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the various advertisements put up by some institutions in the Rojgar Samachar purporting to offer professional and

engineering courses;

(b) whether the Government have examined the veracity of these advertisements before their acceptance in Rojgar Samachar;

(c) whether the Government have received any complaint about these advertisements on the ground that these are from fake institutions and seek to mislead unemployed youth; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). A complaint was received in the Employment News/Rojgar Samachar about an institution in Uttar Pradesh offering some professional courses and the concerned advertising agency through whom the advertisement is received has been asked to produce documentary evidence regarding authenticity of the advertisement of the said institute.

#### Disruption of AI Flights

3456. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the number of flights of Air India disrupted in 1993-94 due to requisition of the planes by Government;

(b) if so, the number of Air-India regular flights disrupted as a result thereof during the above period; and

(c) the steps the Government propose to take to avoid such disruptions of flights in future?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). During 1993-94, 114 single flights of Air India were cancelled due to requisition of aircraft by the Government.

(c) Chartering of Air India aircraft is resorted to only under unavoidable circumstances and efforts are made that the disruptions, if any, are minimal.

#### Utilisation Certificate for Grants

3457. DR. R. MALLU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether statutory bodies and non-Government institutions are required to furnish utilisation certificates regarding grants;

(b) if so, the number of such utilisation certificates which could not be obtained together with the amount involved therein;

(c) whether the Government have reviewed the working of the machinery entrusted with responsibility of collecting the information; and

(d) if so, the outcome of the review?

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

(a) In accordance with the provisions of the General Financial Rules, certificates of utilisation of grants are required to be given by the grantee institutions. However, such certificates need not be furnished in cases where the grants are sanctioned after certain pre-requisite conditions are satisfied.

(b) to (d): Receipt of utilisation certificates is required to be watched by the administrative Ministry/Department. Information regarding the number of utilisation certificates which are awarded and the amounts involved therein is not centrally maintained.

#### Textile Commissioner

3458. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have appointed one man committee to carry out comprehensive reappraisal of the functioning of the office of the textile Commissioner;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the report of the committee is likely to be received?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) to (c). Ministry of Textiles has constituted a One Man Committee comprising of Shri M.N. Ardhanareeshwaran to make a comprehensive reappraisal of the office of Textile Commissioner. The Committee has been constituted in April, 1995 to review the functioning of the Textile Commissioner's office and recommend the future role in the context of present policy of liberalization and de-regulation of the industry. The report of the Committee is expected to be submitted shortly.

[Translation]

#### Import and Export of Urea by STC and MMTC

3459. SHRI MOHAN SINGH (DEORIA):

DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether global tenders have been invited by the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India Ltd. and State Trading Corporation of India Ltd. for import of

urea and other fertilizers;

(b) if so, the details thereof during 1994 and 1995 till date separately;

(c) the total quantity of urea likely to be imported and the foreign exchange incurred thereon during the current financial year;

(d) whether the lowest bidders, fulfilling all the prescribed conditions have not been awarded the contracts during the above period;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to curb such irregularities in these Organisations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). A Statement on import of urea and other fertilizers is attached.

(c) Estimates of imports of urea during the current financial year depend on a number of factors including rainfall, availability of indigenous supplies etc. It is not possible to quantify this at the present juncture.

(d) to (f). Both STC and MMTC normally award contracts to the lowest bidders who fulfil all prescribed conditions. However, rare exceptions may occur when the credibility of the foreign supplier in ensuring timely deliveries at quoted prices is doubtful.

#### STATEMENT

##### TENDERS FLOATED BY MMTC DURING 1994-95 & 1995-96 TILL DATE

UREA	T-11/93	21/01/1994
	T-1/94	22/02/1994
	T-2/94	22/04/1994
	T-3/94	17/05/1994
	T-4/94	12/08/1994
	T-5/94	01/09/1994
	T-6/94	28/12/1994
	T-7/94	17/01/1995
	T-8/94-95	21/02/1995
	T-1/95-96	02/03/1995
	T-2/95-96	01/07/1995
	T-3/95-96	10/08/1995
	DAP	T-2/95
SULPHUR	Tender/1995	07/07/1995

##### TENDERS FLOATED BY STC DURING 1994-95 & 1995-96 TILL DATE

	1994	NIL
UREA	1/1995	15/05/1995
	2/1995	19/07/1995

### Handicraft Artisans

3460. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the plight of handicrafts artisans in the country;

(b) if so, whether any action plan has been formulated or proposed to be formulated by the Government to improve the conditions of craftsmen in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government provide funds at low rate of interest to artisans to encourage art of handicraft linked with Indian culture in the country; and

(e) if so, the number of persons benefited therefrom during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. For the development of handicrafts and to improve the living conditions of craftsmen in the country, the Government has been implementing various schemes which include: training, marketing development, design and technology upgradation, setting up of crafts development centres, exhibition etc. Recently Government have brought craftpersons under the social security net with the introduction of a number of welfare oriented schemes which include: pension, workshed-cum-housing, group insurance and medical benefits.

(d) and (e). No, Sir. The Commercial banks and the banks in the cooperative sector are extending credit to handicrafts artisans at concessional rates of interest under the refinance schemes of the National Agricultural Bank for Rural Development (NABARD) and Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI).

[English]

### Hitech Training Programme

3461. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY :

SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH :

SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :

SHRI SHIV SHARAN VERMA :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and Germany have signed an agreement to launch Hitech training programmes in certain Central and State Training Institutes, besides setting up an Apex Hitech Training Institute at Bangalore;

(b) if so, the names of such Institutes and the details regarding overall Project cost; and

(c) the details of the Institutes identified for coverage under the scheme?

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

(b) and (c). The names of the Institutes are given below :

Central Institutes :

1. Apex Hitech Institute, Bangalore (New Institute to be set up).
2. Advanced Training Institute (ATI), Bombay
3. Advanced Training Institute (ATI), Calcutta
4. Advanced Training Institute (ATI), Madras
5. Advanced Training Institute (ATI), Kanpur
6. Advanced Training Institute (ATI), Hyderabad
7. Advanced Training Institute for Electronics and Process Instrumentation, ATI (EPI), Hyderabad
8. Advanced Training Institute (ATI), Ludhiana
9. National Vocational Training Institute (NVTI) for Women at Noida (UP)
10. Regional Vocational Training Institute for Women at Indore.

State Institutes :

1. Industrial Training Institute, Bangalore.
2. Industrial Training Institute, Faridabad
3. Industrial Training Institute, Pune
4. Industrial Training Institute, Madras
5. Industrial Training Institute, Kalamassery
6. Industrial Training Institute, Vishakapatnam
7. Industrial Training Institute, Ropar
8. Industrial Training Institute, Meerut
9. Industrial Training Institute, Dhanbad
10. Industrial Training Institute, Vadodra

Hitech training scheme is planned to impart new range of skills and knowledge to modern operatives and executive personnel of industries in high technology areas to supply manufacturing industry with necessary number of competently trained technicians to improve upon the productivity and quality. The scheme will be funded by the World Bank under the on going Vocational Training project, being implemented by DGE&T. The cost of the Vocational Training Project for which the agreement was signed with the World Bank in June 1989 is Rs. 441.58 Crores (1988 base).

### Insurance of Cotton Goods

3462. SHRI S.S.R. RAJENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Tamil Nadu Cotton Ginning Pressing and Graders Federation has requested the Union Government recently to work out a "fair appraisal of

Surance rating" in the case of premium chargeable by the GIC subsidiaries for insurance of cotton and cotton goods; and

(b) if so, the decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) The General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC) have reported that no such request from the Tamil Nadu Cotton Ginning Pressing & Traders Federation has been received.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

### Smuggling of Uranium

3463. SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases regarding smuggling of Uranium detected in the country during the last three years;

(b) the number of cases of smuggling in which ISI was found involved; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government against the smugglers of Uranium?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

### Financial Assistance to Voluntary Organisations in Orissa

3464. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of voluntary Organisations in Orissa given financial assistance for the eradication of child labour during each of last three years;

(b) whether these Non-Government Organisations have submitted their balance sheets duly audited to the Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) to (d). One Non-Governmental Organisation, Ruchika School Social Service Wing, Bhubaneswar has been given financial assistance for their project titled "Non-Institutional Care for Working Children" during the last three financial years.

Ruchika School Social Service Wing has submitted their balance sheets for the years 1992-93 and 1993-94. They have been asked to submit their balance sheet for the year 1994-95.

### Import of Soyabean

3465. SHRI RAM KAPSE :

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have allowed import of Soyabean upto one million tons;

(b) if so, whether the first tentative attempts at opening up the protected Oilseeds Sector have been systemized by the Agriculture Ministry under pressure to protect the domestic farmer;

(c) whether the Government have decided that import may be made only after July 15, 1995; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. A quantity of 9.23 lakh tonnes of Soyabean has been allowed for import against 38 advance licences issued under Special Scheme notified *vide* Public Notice No. 273 (PN)/92-97 dated 20.2.95 in accordance with the provisions of Export-Import Policy.

While framing the Scheme adequate safeguards were provided, *inter alia*, for ensuring that the Soyabean imported under the Scheme is only used for production of oil and soyabean extracts and not diverted for planting purposes. Accordingly the licence holders were directed to effect imports only after 15th July 1995 and to complete imports by 30th September, 1995.

### Equity Stake in ITC

3466. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL :

SHRI M.G. REDDY :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased be state:

(a) whether the Government have held some negotiations with financial institutions asking them to bring Indian Tobacco Company into the public sector;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have asked the financial institutions to raise their stake in large to private sector companies like ITC; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a). No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.  
 (c) No, Sir.  
 (d) Does not arise.

### Revival of TAFCO

3467. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the decision taken by the BIFR for revival of Tannery and Footwear Corporation of India Ltd. (TAFCO) :

(b) whether the decision of BIFR in this regard was based without a proper report from the operating agency as it did not made out comprehensive revival plan for over three years;

(c) if so, the fact thereof; and

(d) the status of the company as on date and whether there is any scope for revival of the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (d). The Board for Industrial Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has reported that the Tannery & Footwear Corporation of India Limited (TAFCO) was registered with it on 30.06.1992 and declared a sick industrial company on 25.11.1992. The Industrial Finance Corporation of India (IFCI) was appointed the operating agency to examine the viability of the company and prepare a report. No viable revival scheme could however be formulated. The BIFR, therefore, in its hearing held on 21.12.1993 formed a *prima facie* opinion to wind up the company. The BIFR in its hearing held on 14.02.1995, after considering a revival proposal submitted by another group, confirmed its opinion that the company should be wound up under Section 20(1) of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 (SICA). Subsequently the Officers Association of the company filed an appeal before the Appellate Authority for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (AAIFR) on 19.04.1995 against the order passed by the BIFR.

### Jute Production

3468. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :—

(a) whether the Government have started a programme through UNDP for production of Jute and development of jute industry;

(b) if so, details of the scheme/programme; and

(c) the nature of assistance provided by UNDP?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) to (c). The Government of India had

entered into an agreement with the UNDP in June, 1992 for the growth and development of the jute sector. Under this agreement, UNDP assistance of the order of US\$ 23 million is being made available. A matching input would be provided by the Government of India.

The Programme covers the areas of jute agriculture, development of new products, employment generation, development of jute machinery sector, R & D, institution building, private sector development, export promotion, human resource development and introduction of effective systems of coordination. The programme aims at increasing the share of diversified products in total production of jute goods.

### Outflow of Foreign Exchange

3469. SHRIGEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the outflow of foreign exchange on account of the vehicles manufactured and sold in India during 1993-94 and 1994-95 by Maruti Udyog Limited; and

(b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to minimise the above outflow of foreign exchange?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

### Prices of Cotton Yarn

3470. SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the prices of cotton yarn have declined in Tamil Nadu during the past four months;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent upto which it has helped the handloom/ powerloom and hosiery industry in the State?

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

(b)

Period	(Rs. Kg.)		Wt. Average
	Hank Yarn	Cone Yarn	Hosiery Cone Yarn
April' 95	97.23	119.91	106.86
Aug.' 95 upto 12.8.95.	94.23	114.94	99.25

(c) Decline in Prices in raw material will benefit the manufacturers of finished product.

### Purchase of Raw Jute

3471. SHRI ANIL BASU : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have given any directives to Jute Corporation of India for purchasing of raw jute during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the funds provided by the Government for the purpose; and

(c) the details of the purchasing centres set up by JCI and the locations thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (c). Directions have been issued to the Jute Corporation of India (JCI) to be in readiness to undertake price support operations in raw jute in the eventuality of fall in prices below Minimum Support level.

Funds are provided to JCI as per the budget provision and its requirements. So far Rs. 6 crores have been sanctioned to JCI.

JCI has a network of 208 Purchase Centres and Sub-Purchase Centres in eight jute growing States. Details are given below :

STATE	REGION	TOTAL NO. OF DEPARTMENTAL PURCHASE CENTRES & SUB-CENTRES
WEST BENGAL	1. BARASAT	17
	2. SHEORAPHULLY	15
	3. KRISHNALAR	16
	4. BETHUA DAHARI	13
	5. BERHAMPORE	16
	6. MALDA	11
	7. SILIGURI	13
	8. COOCHBEHAR	15
		<u>116</u>
BIHAR/ UTTAR PRADESH	1. PURNEA	12
	2. SAHARSA	18
		<u>30</u>
ASSAM/ MEGHALAYA	1. NAGAON	13
	2. DHUBRI	11
	3. GUWAHATI	6
		<u>30</u>
TRIPURA ORISSA	AGARTHLA	8
	CUTTAK	10
ANDHRA PRADESH	VIJAYANAGARAM	14
	GRAND TOTAL	<u>208</u>

### Cooperative Banks in Maharashtra

3472. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of co-operative banks in Maharashtra for the establishment of which sanction/approval has been accorded during the last three years; and

(b) the achievement of these banks during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that during the period from May 1993 to July 1995, 'in principle approval' for registration in respect of 59 proposals in Maharashtra have been accorded. Of these, 29 urban cooperative banks have been issued licence to commence banking business. 20 banks have since commenced business.

(b). As per the latest information available, 11 of these banks have mobilised deposits to the tune of Rs. 940.18 lakhs and have granted advances to the tune of Rs. 479.93 lakhs.

### Export of Cotton

3473. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :  
SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Cotton Mills Federation has urged the Government to reconsider its recent decision of allowing export of 68,000 bales of cotton;

(b) if so, whether the Government have accepted the suggestions of ICMF;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the total quantity of bales proposed to be allowed by the Government?

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

(b) to (d) Government has, as of date, released 1.856 lakh bales of staple cotton for export in the 1994-95 cotton year. This has been done after taking into account the interests of the Cotton growers, textiles mills, demand for Indian Cotton in the international market and India's status as a stable supplier of cotton in the World Market.

### Sick Public Sector Undertakings

3474. SHRI RABI RAY :  
SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY :  
SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any plan for the revival of some sick public sector undertakings;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the concept of revival has been formulated on the basis of deliberations of tripartite industrial committee meetings;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government are aware that in a number of public sector undertakings the workers are not being paid their statutory dues even wages in some cases; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to ensure the payment of wages to the workers?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA):  
(a) to (d). It is mandatory for a sick Public Sector Company to make a reference of the case to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) as per the provisions of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985.

BIFR sanctions a scheme for revival or recommends winding up of the company on the basis of the report submitted by the Operating Agency and submissions made by other concerned parties, including Labour and Government as the promoter. A Group of Minister (GOM) has been constituted for reviewing sick CPSUs and finalising the stand to be taken by the Government in a proceeding in the BIFR. The GOM's decision is based on the submissions made by the concerned Administrative Ministry, which generally includes the views of the Tripartite Committee of the Labour Ministry/ Trade Unions.

(e) and (f) The Government is aware that certain sick CPSUs viz. M/s. Jessop & Co., Burn Standard Co., N.T.C. and N.J.M.C. have defaulted in payment of wages and statutory dues of workers. Ministry of Labour has taken up the matter with the concerned Administrative Ministries as well as the Ministry of Finance so that funds are made available in time for payment of Statutory dues and salaries and wages to the workers.

The Union Labour Minister has also advised creation of a co-ordination mechanism in the Cabinet Secretariat for regular review and monitoring of the status of payment of statutory dues to the workers of Central PSU's and prompt release of budgetary support wherever necessary.

[Translation]

### Labour Participation in Management

3475. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA:  
SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem appearing in the "Business Standard" dated July 21, 1995 under the caption "Study

sees productivity gain from labour role in management";

(b) if so, facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) whether there are potentialities of increasing the production as a result of the participation of the workers in management;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard;

(e) whether the Government have taken certain decisions in this regard during the last three years; and

(f) if so, the details of the action taken by the Government for the implementation of these decisions?

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

(b) to (f): The study notes that participation of workers may be both formal and informal and that the two are not mutually exclusive. It also emphasises the need for a conducive organisational climate with the commitment of the management and the cooperation of the trade unions for the success of participatory management.

Government recognises that workers play a very significant role in enhancing production as well as productivity.

Following the Constitutional amendment of 1975, successive schemes for Workers' Participation in Management have been formulated. Keeping in view the shortcomings of various schemes implemented from time to time and also the experience gained in this regard, the Government decided to give legislative back-up to the concept of participatory management. Accordingly, the Participation of Workers in Management Bill was introduced in the Rajya Sabha in May, 1990. The Bill now stands referred to the Department related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Labour and Welfare for examination and report.

[English]

### Voluntary Retirement Scheme in Coffee Board

3476. SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Coffee Board employees who took voluntary retirement since the introduction of the scheme;

(b) whether the Government have any plan to resettle these employees;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) the number of Coffee Board employees who have been transferred from the Southern States to the Northern States and Delhi; and

(f) the reasons for such long distance transfers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) 1493 employees of the Coffee Board opted for voluntary retirement since the introduction of the Voluntary Retirement Scheme. Out of these, only 1373 employees were eligible, of which 1322 options have already been accepted and 51 applications are pending acceptance for want of vigilance clearance.

(b) to (d): Voluntary Retirement Scheme was introduced in order to reduce the manpower rendered surplus in Coffee Board consequent to the introduction of Free Sale Quota and the sharp reduction in marketing activities of the Board that resulted. Apart from payment of terminal benefits in accordance with the approved scale, no separate resettlement plan is envisaged.

(e) and (f) In respect of Promotion Department, 7 Assistant Sales Officers and 30 Group 'D' staff from Southern States were redeployed in the Northern States including Delhi due to acute shortage of manpower in Northern depots compared to Southern ones after the Voluntary Retirement Scheme was implemented.

[Translation]

#### Welfare scheme for the Mine Workers

3477. SHRI PHOOLCHAND VERMA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any welfare scheme for the mine workers of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have introduced Group Insurance Scheme for mine workers and all the workers have been included under Employees State Insurance Scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA):

(a) and (b): Various welfare schemes are under operation under the Limestone and Dolomite Mines Labour Welfare Fund, Iron Ore Mines, Manganese Ore Mines, Chrome Ore Mines Labour Welfare Fund; and Mica Mines Labour Welfare Fund to extend housing, health, education, recreation and other facilities to workers working in these mines in all the States including Madhya Pradesh.

(c) and (d): There is no proposal at present to take up a group insurance scheme for these mine workers or to bring them under the ESI Act. However, for employment related injuries resulting in death/disablement, the mine workers are eligible for compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923.

#### Production of Textiles

3478. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH :

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated production of textiles made of fibres and mixed yarns during 1995-96;

(b) the details of production figures of textiles, sector-wise;

(c) whether any major change is expected to take place in the production of different sectors in comparison to the production of 1993-94 and 1994-95;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the total subsidy provided to the handloom sector during 1994-95?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G.VENKAT SWAMY): (a) The production of textiles (including Yarn, Fibre and Cloth) during 1995-96 as per the information available so far is as under:

1. Spun Yarn	374.20 MN. KG.
2. Man-made Filament Yarn	71.70 MN. KG.
3. Man-made Fibres	79.33 MN. KG.
4. Cloth Production	4919.4 Mn. Sg. Mtrs.

(b) The production of cloth in different sectors during 1995-96 so far is as under:

Cloth Production	Ml. Sg. Mtrs.
1. Mill Sector	422.7
2. Powerloom Sector	3416.2
3. Handloom Sector	1080.5

(c) and (d): No major variation of cloth production is anticipated during the current year as compared to the sector-wise cloth production of 1993-94 and 1994-95.

(e) The total subsidy provided to the Handloom sector during 1994-95 has been Rs. 90 crores.

[English]

#### Immigration Procedure

3479. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to simplify the immigration procedures; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) and (b): The emigration procedure is periodically reviewed with a view to simplifying it. Six additional categories of workers viz. supervisors (all professions); skilled workers (all profession semi-skilled workers (all

professions); light/medium/heavy vehicle drivers; clerical workers of all categories including stenographers, storekeepers, timekeepers, typists etc. and cooks excluding those in domestic employment which were brought under 'Emigration Check Not Required' (ECNR) category initially for a period of six months with effect from 4th October, 1991, have been continued in the E.C.N.R. category. The above is intended to promote emigration of manpower and to minimise the regulatory role of the Protectors of Emigrants.

#### Aircraft taken on Wet Lease by AI

3480. SHRI RAM SINGH KASHWAN:

DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA:

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

- the average number of hours per day for which the aircraft taken on wet lease by Air India are operating;
- the average number of hours per day for which the Air India's own aircraft are operating;
- whether the leased aircraft have outperformed the Air India's own aircraft;
- if so, the reasons therefor; and
- the action the Government propose to take to improve the performance of the aircraft owned by the Air India?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c): The average utilisation of the two wet leased A-310-300 aircraft of Air India is 11.2 hours per day. The average utilisation of A-310-300 aircraft in the fleet of Air India is 8.21 hours per day.

(d) and (e): In the case of leased aircraft, the utilization rate does not take into account the grounding time required for major maintenance/checks, as replacement aircraft are provided during such period. The comparison between utilization rate of Air India and the lease aircraft is thus, not a comparison of like to like.

#### Public issue of Private Airlines

3481. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- whether some of the private airlines propose to raise funds through public issues;
- if so, the details thereof alongwith the name of the private airlines;
- whether the Union Government have given the clearance for the same; and
- if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (d): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Anti-dumping cases

3482. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

- whether the Government are aware that there are imports in excess quantity in the country;
- if so, the details thereof;
- whether the Government will lay a copy on the Table of the House the detailed information about the present position of anti-dumping cases both in India and abroad; and
- the steps taken by the Government to check the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). Imports into India are permissible only in accordance with the extant EXIM policy which is designed to cater to needs appropriately.

(c) and (d): Government has notified a Designated Authority to deal with cases relating to dumping. The status of actions under anti-dumping cases initiated in India is attached as statement-I.

A Statement II of anti-dumping cases initiated abroad against India is attached.

#### STATEMENT-I

##### Anti-Dumping Cases Initiated in India

1	2	3	4	5	6
I. Cases finalised and duty imposed.	S.No.	Item	Country.	Duty imposed.	Present Status
	1.	PVC Regions	Argentina Brazil	- Rs. 2036/MT.	Duty levied on

1	2	3	4	5	6
			Mexico	R 1619/MT	18.1.94.
			South Korea	Rs. 1253/MT	
			USA	Rs. 504/MT	
	2.	Bisphenol-A	Japan	Rs. 7477/MT	Duty levied on 11.3.94.
II. Cases finalised but notification for levy of duty under issue.	1.	Isobutyl Benzene.	Peoples Republic of China.	Rs. 13809/MT (P)	Provisional duty levied on 20.9.94.
				Rs. 10634/MT (F)	Final findings issued on 27.7.95. Notification for levy of duty under issue.
	2.	3, 4, 5, Trimethoxy Benzaldehyde (TMBA)	-do-	Rs. 237/MT (P) Rs. 237/MT (F)	Prov. duty levied on 20.3.95 Final findings issued on 24.7.95 Noti. for levy of duty under issue.
	3.	Theophylline & Caffeine.	-do-	Rs. 108/Rs (P)/(F) Rs. 101/Kg (P)/(F)	Prov. duty levied on 20.3.95. Final finding issued on 26.7.95. Notification for levy of duty under issue.
	4.	Potassium Permanganate.	-do-	Rs. 5992/MT (F)	Final findings issued on 21.7.95. Notification for levy of duty under issue.
III. Cases under investigation.	1.	Bisphenol-A	Russia & Brazil	-	Investigation in progress
	2.	Acrylonitrile Butadine Rubber (NBR).	Japan.	-	-do-
	3.	Dead Burnt Magnesite	People's Republic of China. (DBM)	-	-do-
	4.	Low Carbon Ferro Chrome (LCFC)	Russia, Ukraine & Republic of Kazakistan.	-	-do-
					(P) Provisional Duty. (F) Final Duty.

### STATEMENT-II

#### Anti-dumping Actions By U.S.A. Against Indian Exports

ITEM	YEAR	TYPE OF DUTY	RATE OF DUTY (%)
1	2	3	4
1. Steel pipes & tubes	1990	AD	0-87.39
2. Steel Wire ropes	1992	CVD/AD	5.6
3. SS wire rods	1993	AD	48.80

1	2	3	4
4. SS flanges	1993	AD	18.8 - 210
5. Sulphur Dyes	1992	AD	US U International Trade Commission made negative injury determination.
6. Stainless Steel Bars	1993	AD	Final order imposing AD duties from 3.87% to 21.02% issued.
7. Carbon Steel Butt Weld Pipe	1994	-	US International Trade Commission has stated that no injury has been caused.

ANTI-DUMPING ACTIONS BY EU AGAINST INDIAN EXPORTS

YEAR	PRODUCT	ANTI-DUMPING DUTY IMPOSED/REMARKS
1. 1990	Cotton Yarn	Case dropped by the EU Commission preliminary investigations proved no substance.
2. 1990	Polyester Blended Yarns	2% to 7.8% w.e.f. 04.4.1992. Duty repealed w.e.f. 8.12.1994 after review.
3. 1990	Oxalic Acid	4.4% w.e.f. 29.11.1991
4. 1990	Polyester staple Fibre	0% to 7.2% w.e.f. 16.1.1993.
5. 1994	Cotton Fibres	No injury. ECOFIN Council over rules EU Commission proposed discontinuance of investigations. Status-quo continues.
6. 1994	Synthetic Fibres	-do-
7. 1994	Bed Linen	under investigation
8. 1994	Polyester Textured Filament Yarn	-do-
9. 1995	Polyethylene, Polypropylene. Woven, Sacks and bags.	-do-

ANTI-DUMPING ACTION FACED BY INDIAN EXPORTS IN COUNTRIES OTHER THAN USA AND EU

S. NO.	YEAR	PRODUCT	COUNTRY	REMARKS
1	1992	Sorbitol	Australia	Investigation terminated.
2	1990	Carbon Steel Welded Pipes	Canada	19.8% w.e.f. 25.11.19
3	1992	Cast Iron Castings	Australia	No duty imposed.
4	1992	Finished Chrome Tanned Bovine Leather	Australia	-do-
5	1992	H-Acid	Republic of Korea	-do-
6	1992	Sodium Cyanide	Australia	-do-
7	1992	Steel Bars	New Zealand	-do-
8	1992	Granite	Canada	0%-45%
9	1994	Single speed free wheels	Brazil	15.73% to 20%-Provisional
10	1994	Bicycle tyres	Argentina	Under investigation
11	1994	Bicycle tyres	Mexico	Under investigation

3483. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Telugu language was engraved on coins till recently from British Rule onwards;

(b) if so, the reasons for its deletion in recent times; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to inscribe Telugu language on coins along with English and Hindi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

### Indian Investment Centre

3484. DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question No. 3928 on April 28, 1995 and state:

(a) whether the Government have since reviewed the role and relevance of the Indian Investment Centre, New Delhi;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

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

(d) the details of the plans of the Government regarding strengthening/closure of Indian Investment Centre?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (d): The review of the Indian Investment Centre is part of an ongoing process aimed towards harmonising the investment promotional efforts undertaken by various Governmental agencies.

### Flow of Currency

3485. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHUNDURI:

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a serious depletion of the stock of issuable currency notes and that the printing presses had failed to meet the currency note demand as reported in the 'Hindustan Times' dated June 15, 1995;

(b) if so, extent of shortage involved;

(c) whether the Reserve Bank of India is also not equipped with adequate facilities for transporting currency notes; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Reserve Bank

of India to tackle the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b): The annual production capacity of the existing two note printing presses at Nasik and Dewas is about 5725 million pieces. As against this, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)'s annual requirement of fresh notes during 1994-95 was 14010 million pieces. Thus, the existing two note printing presses were able to meet only about 41% of RBI's demand for fresh notes. In order to abridge the gap between demand and supply, following measures have been initiated:

(i) Two new note-printing presses are being set up by RBI—one at Salboni in West Bengal and other at Mysore in Karnataka.

(ii) Government has taken up modernisation of the existing note-printing presses at Nasik and Dewas.

(iii) RBI has put issuable soiled notes back into circulation by salvaging maximum number of reissuable notes and recycling them.

(iv) Re. 1, Rs. 2 and Rs. 5 have been coined and the capacity so released is diverted for production of notes of higher denominations.

(c): For transportation of notes, the Reserve Bank mainly utilises the services of the Railways. It also makes use of Indian Airlines to transport notes to North-East sector and Jammu and Kashmir. The services of State Police are taken for escorting such remittances.

(d) Whenever any contingency arose in the past in transportation of currency notes through above services, the RBI has always strived to tackle the situation by making alternate arrangement.

### Income Tax Exemption

3486. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to identify the backward areas for granting exemption in income tax;

(b) the names of backward areas notified for granting income tax exemption to newly set up industrial units for five years;

(c) whether the Government have consulted the State Governments while identifying the backward areas;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (e). The matter regarding identification

of backward districts was entrusted to the Study Group on Identification of Backward Districts. The Report of the Study Group, submitted in October, 1994, is under consideration of the Government.

### Expert Group for Restructuring of R.R.Bs.

3487. SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN:  
SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:  
SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has constituted an expert group to examine major issues relating to restructuring of Regional Rural Banks as reported in the 'Hindustan Times', dated July 31, 1995;

(b) if so, the composition and terms of reference of the group; and

(c) the time by which the group is likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. In order to examine major policy issues concerning the managerial and financial restructuring of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) taken up during 1994-95 and continued in 1995-96 and to monitor the progress of the said exercise an Expert Group has been constituted by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) with the Chairman and Managing Director of Syndicate Bank as its Chairman. An Officer each of Government of India, Reserve Bank of India, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development, Bank of Baroda, Oriental Bank of Commerce, Syndicate Bank, Canara Bank and the Chairman, Gorakhpur Kshetriya Gramin Bank are members of the Group.

The Group has been set up to make recommendations on policy issues to the Reserve Bank of India on an ongoing basis and report progress in the restructuring exercise at quarterly intervals.

[Translation]

### Development of Gaya Airport

3488. SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal of Bangkok based company

in regard to develop the Gaya airport is pending for decision for the last more than one year;

(b) if so, the reasons for not finalising the said proposal; and

(c) by when the final decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) No, Sir.

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

(c) by when the final decision is likely to be taken?

The MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

### Export of Seeds

3489. DR K.V.R. CHOWDARY:

EXPORT OF SEEDS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the total quantity of various varieties of seeds exported and the foreign exchange earned therefrom during 1994-95, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : During 1994-95 (April-February) 5155 MTs of seeds valued at Rs. 19.36 crore were exported. Countrywise details are available in the monthly bulletin/annual number published by the Director General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Calcutta copies of which are available in the Library of the Parliament.

[Translation]

### Categorisation of Bank Branches

3490. SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether bank branches have recently been categorised under a new scheme;

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

(c) whether a number of officers in public sector banks are likely to become surplus as a result thereof;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to employ such officers gainfully?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (e). Indian Banks' Association (IBA) has reported that it has advised banks to re-categorise their branches as per the revised norms which have been agreed upon between IBA and Officers' Associations in the banks. The new norms for categorisation of branches are as under :-

Category of Branch	Average aggregate deposits & Advances during the last two years	Incumbency
Small Branches	Below Rs. 2 crores	Scale I
Medium/Main Branches at State/District Capitals	Rs. 2 crores and above but below Rs. 15 crores	Scale II
Large branches	Rs. 15 crores and above but below Rs. 50 crores	Scale III
Very large branches	Rs. 50 crores and above but below Rs. 150 crores	Scale IV
Exceptionally large branches	Rs. 150 crores and above	Scale V

IBA has reported that the banks have also been advised to make assessment of posts which have become surplus in each grade/scale. It has further reported their the number of officers in higher scales holding charge of branches eligible for lower grade incumbency on account of re-categorisation of branches would be re-deployed suitably and set off against future vacancies that may arise in their respective scales in the succeeding years.

[English]

### Credit Deposit Ratio of Banks

3491. PROF. SUSANTA CHAKRABORTY:

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV:

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed and achieved by the scheduled commercial banks in the matter of credit deposit ratio during each of the last three years including the current year, State-wise;

(b) the reasons of the shortfall;

(c) whether the credit deposit ratio in the Eastern and North-Eastern States is lesser than the national average; and

(d) if so, the reasons thereof and the steps being taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (d). The Credit Deposit Ratio (CDR) of Scheduled Commercial Banks, State-wise, as on last Friday of March 1993, 1994 and 1995 are given in the attached statement. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have advised the banks that they should achieve a CDR of 60 per cent in respect of their rural and semi-urban branches separately on an all-India basis. Banks have also been advised that while it is not necessary that this ratio should be achieved separately branch-wise, District-wise or Regionwise the banks should nevertheless ensure that wide disparity in the ratios between different States/Regions is avoided in order to minimise imbalances in credit deployment. However, the CDR in a particular State or Region depends upon the credit absorption capacity of the State/Region which in turn is determined and influenced by factors such as development of infrastructural facilities like irrigation, power, rail, road, transport, basic and technical education, entrepreneurship and availability of required inputs and marketing outlets for agricultural and industrial production etc. In some of the States/Union Territories including Eastern and North-Eastern States where CDR is low, RBI has constituted Task Forces to look into the problems and suggest remedial measures. In others, where CDR is poor and no Task Forces have been constituted, RBI have advised convenor banks of State Level Bankers' Committee of the State to discuss the issue and to take suitable measures for improving the low CDR.

### STATEMENT

#### State-wise Credit-Deposits Ratio of All Scheduled Commercial Banks

State	As on last Friday of		
	March 1993	March 1994	March 1995
Haryana	55.5	50.3	46.7
Himachal Pradesh	31.8	28.6	26.3
Jammu & Kashmir	44.5	45.7	42.8
Punjab	42.5	42.0	41.4
Rajasthan	55.2	49.2	46.0
Chandigarh	50.6	83.8	115.8
National Capital Territory of Delhi	88.9	73.8	74.6
Arunachal Pradesh	13.8	13.1	11.3

State	As on last Friday of		
	March 1993	March 1994	March 1995
Assam	48.8	42.8	38.0
Manipur	84.3	72.1	55.6
Meghalaya	16.9	15.7	15.8
Mizoram	20.9	20.5	15.4
Nagaland	40.4	41.5	35.4
Tripura	58.3	56.2	45.7
Bihar	38.8	36.1	33.2
Orissa	66.7	61.0	54.1
Sikkim	24.3	22.0	24.3
West Bengal	52.2	46.5	54.4
Andaman & Nicobar Island	29.1	18.6	17.8
Madhya Pradesh	62.3	56.0	53.3
Uttar Pradesh	42.4	37.2	35.0
Goa	30.6	25.5	26.5
Gujarat	52.4	46.3	46.3
Maharashtra	61.2	61.9	70.3
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	29.1	20.5	15.5
Daman & Diu	17.7	15.4	14.5
Andhra Pradesh	80.0	71.5	75.7
Karnataka	75.1	70.1	67.8
Kerala	48.7	44.3	44.9
Tamil Nadu	87.1	86.8	91.2
Lakshadweep	9.9	9.3	9.9
Pondicherry	44.8	42.2	44.0
All India	60.5	56.6	59.2

[Translation]

#### Loss of Market Share of IA and AI

3492. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether since the introduction of liberalization scheme Indian Airlines and Air India have lost 37% and 21% of their market respectively;

(b) whether the Government of the other countries had strengthened their national airlines before taking such steps; and

(c) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to make these national airlines stronger to face this problem?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAMNABI AZAD) : (a) After demonopolisation of domestic air transport sector, market share of Indian Airlines progressively came down to 63.7% in 1994-95. Air India's market share came down from 24.5% in 1990 to 20.5% in 1994.

(b) Governments of countries take steps keeping in view their specific economic conditions and circumstances.

(c) Air India and Indian Airlines are taking steps to face the competition by improving their product, image and on time performance.

#### Earning through Tax from Private Airlines

3493. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the income earned by the Government by way of tax from each private airlines during the last year, airline-wise;

(b) the name of the airlines which have not paid tax; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government against the erring airlines?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) *Statement I* showing details of Inland Air Travel Tax collected during 1994-95 from private airlines, airlineswise is attached.

(b) *Statement II* showing the amounts outstanding against private airlines is attached.

(c) Action has been initiated to recover the outstanding amounts under provisions of the Inland Air Travel Tax Rules, 1989.

#### STATEMENT-I

*Inland Air Travel Tax collected during 1994-95*

S.No.	Name of the Private Airlines	Total IATT collected (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Indian International	22.25
2.	Trans Bharat	3.3
3.	Delhi Gulf	4.5
4.	Jagson Airlines	43.86
5.	East West Airlines	1114.55
6.	Aerial Services	1.7
7.	Udar Research	0.06
8.	Sahara India	474.20
9.	Modiluft	1405.32

10.	Jet Airways	3684.64
11.	Archana Airways	88.77
12.	Saraya Aviation	0.32
13.	Megapode Airlines	22.60
14.	NEPC	363.54
15.	Damania Airways	2084.76
<b>Total</b>		<b>9318.46</b>

### STATEMENT- II

#### Amounts of Inland Air Travel Tax outstanding against Private Airlines

Name of the Carrier	Amount outstanding (Rs. in lakhs)
1. Jagson Airlines	16.48
2. Continental Aviation	74.86
3. City Link Airways	60.15 + 18.47 (Penalty) (1992-93)
4. Damania Airways	155.00
5. East West Air lines	97.73
6. Raj Aviation	46.64
7. Air Asiatic	57.58
8. Goaways	6.80
9. Modi Luft	129.37
10. Archana Airways	26.99

[English]

#### Inflow and Outflow of Foreign Exchange

3494. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the position of inflow and outflow of foreign exchange during the last two years;

(b) whether the Government are taking steps to check outflow of foreign exchange by controlling unnecessary expenses and unnecessary foreign tours; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) The position of inflow and outflow of foreign exchange arising from India's international transactions is reflected in the net movement of the country's foreign exchange reserves. Accordingly, India's

foreign exchange reserves (including Gold and SDRs) showed a net increase of US \$ 9422 million and US \$ 5932 million in 1993-94 and 1994-95 respectively.

(b) and (c). The Government's policy in regard to current payments on India's external account ensures that foreign exchange is made available to meet the genuine requirements of the economy for imported raw materials, components and capital goods and imports for technology. Release of foreign exchange for travel abroad for various purposes including foreign tours is made by the authorised dealers provided they are satisfied about the bona fides of the application and the need for releasing exchange at the level requested.

#### IA Flights to NE Region

3495. SHRIMATI DIPIKA H. TOPIWALA:  
SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA:  
SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HANDIQU:

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

(a) the number of flights being operated by the Indian Airlines to the North Eastern region, every week;

(b) whether the Indian Airlines have reduced the number of flights to the North Eastern region during the last one year;

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

(d) whether after the reduction of the Indian Airlines flights to the region, the private Airlines have hiked the fares for the places in this region;

(e) whether all the scheduled airlines are operating the required number of flights in the North-Eastern region; and

(f) if not, the steps being taken by the Union Government to improve air travel facilities in the region?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c). The details of flights operated by Indian Airlines in August, 94/August, 95 in the North-Eastern sectors are given in *Statement-I* and *Statement-II* respectively. The reduction of services is due to shortage of operating crew.

(d) Private airlines are free to fix their fares in their own commercial judgement.

(e) All scheduled airlines are by and large operating the required number of flights in category II routes, which include the North-Eastern Region.

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

**STATEMENT - I***Services operated by IA to North Eastern States***SUMMER SCHEDULE**

As on 23.8.95

Flight No.	Sector	A/C type	Days of Ops
<b>AGARTALA</b>			
IC-741/742	Calcutta-Agartala-Calcutta	A320	1.3.
IC-741/742	Calcutta-Agartala-Calcutta	B737	4.6.
IC-743/744	Calcutta-Agartala-Calcutta	A320	Daily
IC-205/206	Guwahati-Agartala-Guwahati	B737	4.6.
<b>DIBRUGARH</b>			
IC-701/702	Calcutta-Dibrugarh-Calcutta	A320	1.4.6.7.
<b>DIMAPUR</b>			
IC-257	Calcutta-Imphal-Dimapur-Calcutta	B737	2.4.
<b>IMPHAL</b>			
IC-255/256	Calcutta-Silchar-Imphal & RT	B737	3.5.7.
IC-257	Calcutta-Imphal-Dimapur-Calcutta	B737	2.4.
<b>JORHAT</b>			
IC-213	Calcutta-Tezpur-Jorhat-Calcutta	B737	3.7.
<b>TEZPUR</b>			
IC-213	Calcutta-Tezpur-Jorhat-Calcutta	B737	3.7.
<b>SILCHAR</b>			
IC-253/254	Calcutta-Silchar-Calcutta	B737	1.2.6.
IC-255/256	Calcutta-Silchar-Imphal & RT	B737	3.5.7.
IC-211/212	Guwahati-Silchar-Guwahati	B737	2.6.
<b>GUWAHATI</b>			
IC-703/704	Calcutta-Guwahati-Calcutta	A320	1.3.4.5.7.
IC-205/206	Guwahati-Agartala-Guwahati	B737	4.6.
IC-879	Delhi-Bagdogra-Guwahati-Delhi	A320	1.2.4.7.
IC-229/230	Calcutta-Guwahati-Calcutta	A300	Daily
IC-211/212	Guwahati-Silchar-Guwahati	B737	2.6.

**STATEMENT-II***Services operated by IA to North Eastern States***SUMMER SCHEDULE**

As on 8.8.94

Flight No.	Sector	A/C type	Days of Ops
<b>AGARTALA</b>			
IC-741/742	Calcutta-Agartala-Calcutta	A320	3.6.
IC-743/744	Calcutta-Agartala-Calcutta	A320	Daily
IC-705/706	Guwahati-Agartala-Guwahati	A320	2.6.

<b>DIBRUGARH</b>			
IC-701/702	Calcutta-Dibrugarh-Calcutta	A320	2.4.6.7.
IC-703/704	Calcutta-Guwahati-Dibrugarh & RT	A320	3.5.
<b>DIMAPUR</b>			
IC-257/258	Calcutta-Guwahati-Dimapur & RT	B737	4.7.
<b>IMPHAL</b>			
IC-707/708	Calcutta-Guwahati-Imphal & RT	A320	1.4.7.
IC-253/254	Calcutta-Silchar-Imphal & RT	B737	2.6.
IC-255/256	Calcutta-Silchar-Imphal & RT	B737	3.5.
<b>JORHAT</b>			
IC-213	Calcutta-Tezpur-Jorhat-Calcutta	B737	2.4.7.
<b>TEZPUR</b>			
IC-213	Calcutta-Tezpur-Jorhat-Calcutta	B737	2.4.7.
<b>SILCHAR</b>			
IC-253/254	Calcutta-Silchar-Imphal & RT	B737	2.6.
IC-255/256	Calcutta-Silchar-Imphal & RT	B737	3.5.
IC-211/212	Calcutta-Guwahati-Silchar-Imphal & RT	B737	3.5.
IC-259/260	Calcutta-Silchar-Calcutta	B737	1.7.
<b>GUWAHATI</b>			
IC-707/708	Calcutta-Guwahati-Imphal & RT	A320	1.4.7.
IC-703/704	Calcutta-Guwahati-Dibrugarh & RT	A320	3.5.
IC-711/712	Calcutta-Guwahati-Calcutta	A320	2.6.
IC-705/706	Guwahati-Agartala-Guwahati	A320	2.6.
IC-879	Delhi-Bagdogra-Guwahati-Delhi	A320	2.4.6.7.
IC-889/890	Delhi-Guwahati-Delhi	A320	1.3.5.
IC-229/230	Calcutta-Guwahati-Calcutta	A300	Daily
IC-211/212	Calcutta-Guwahati-Silchar & RT	B737	3.5.
IC-257/258	Calcutta-Guwahati-Dimapur & RT	B737	4.7.

### Raids conducted by Enforcement Directorate

3496. SHRI UDAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi Zonal Unit of Enforcement Directorate has conducted some raids in Delhi in recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof with the background of each of the case;

(c) the details of the seizure made there;

(d) the modus operandi used by the accused; and

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to check such occurrences?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (e) During the current financial year, Delhi Zonal office of the Enforcement Directorate has conducted 116 searches resulting in seizure of Indian

currency worth Rs. 212 lakhs (approx.), foreign currency worth Rs. 72 lakhs and incriminating documents. The modus operandi used by the accused persons consists of purchase of foreign exchange from foreign tourists etc. and sale thereof at a premium or its siphoning out of India. A constant vigil is kept on such transactions. Action as warranted by the facts of the case is taken as and when any such incident comes to the notice of the Directorate.

### Child Labour made Products Banned Abroad

3497. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some countries have threatened to stop import of products made by child labour from India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b) Government is aware of some non-governmental efforts in some countries which seek to link trade with child labour which are not specifically directed against products made in India. Two Bills seeking to prohibit imports into the U.S. of products made wholly or in part with child labour are at present pending consideration in the U.S. Congress. In Germany attempts are being made by non-government agencies to build consumer awareness against products made from child labour.

(c) The Government have taken the stand that trade action is not an efficacious method of dealing with the problem of child labour and that the GATT/WTO Agreement does not sanction the use of trade measures to address any country's concern on social issues.

#### Procurement of Small Aircraft for NE Region

3498. SHRI LAETA UMBREY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether 40 to 50 seater aircraft are being procured for North Eastern Region;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Private airlines are already operating 40-50 seater aircraft in the North-Eastern region. Indian Airlines is considering acquisition of 50 seater aircraft for its Short Haul Operations.

(b) and (c) The proposal is at present at the preliminary stage of evaluation of the aircraft types available in the market.

#### Beedi Workers

3499. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the amount released by the Union Government for the welfare of Beedi workers in the State of Gujarat during the year 1993-94 and 1994-95 and till date; and

(b) the reasons for not utilising the full amount released for welfare of Beedi workers?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA):

(a) Year	Amount released
1993-94	Rs. 36.24 lakhs
1994-95	Rs. 36.19 lakhs
4/95 to 7/95	Rs. 5.66 lakhs

(b) Only a small amount could not be utilised mainly due to some vacant posts of Medical Officers.

[Translation]

#### Banking Ombudsman Scheme

3500. DR. CHINTA MOHAN:

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE:

SHRI SHIV SHARAN VERMA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the RBI has recently announced Banking Ombudsman Scheme to look into the complaints relating to banking services; and

(b) if so, the details of persons appointed in the country under this scheme so far together with the location of their offices separately and the specific guidelines issued in regard to the modus-operandi to be followed for redressal of grievances of bank customers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have announced and operationalised the Banking Ombudsman Scheme, 1995 on 14.6.95.

(b) The Banking Ombudsman Scheme seeks to provide for expeditious and inexpensive resolution of customers' complaints against banks. Any person whose grievance against a bank is not resolved to his satisfaction by the bank within a period of two months can approach Banking ombudsman, if complaint pertains to any of the matters specified in the Scheme.

RBI have so far appointed Banking ombudsmen at Bombay, New Delhi, Bhopal, Bangalore and Chandigarh. The details are given below:-

Name	Location	Jurisdiction
1. Sh. B.N. Shetye, (former Secretary Maharashtra Legislative Assembly)	Bombay	State of Maharashtra & Goa
2. Sh. A.K. Pandya, (former Secretary, Govt. of India)	Bhopal	State of Madhya Pradesh

Name	Location	Jurisdiction
3. Sh. B.L. Chadha* (former Chairman & Managing Director, Managing Director, Syndicate Bank)	New Delhi	National Capital Territory of Delhi and States of Haryana, Jammu & Kashmir
	Chandigarh	State of Himachal Pradesh, Punjab and Union Territory of Chandigarh
4. Sh. J.C. Lynn, (former Chief Secretary, Govt. of Karnataka)	Bangalore	State of Karnataka

\*Sh. B.L. Chadha is holding concurrent charge as Banking Ombudsman, Chandigarh.

[English]

#### Expenses on security of Airports

3501. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Committee has been set up to examine the issue of expenses on security of Airports;

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

(c) whether any report has since been submitted by the said Committee to the Government;

(d) if so, whether the Government have taken any decision on the recommendations of the report; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). A Committee to review the funding pattern for security at airports was set up in September, 1994 under the Chairmanship of Commissioner of Security (Civil Aviation), with Executive Director (Finance), National Airports Authority, Member (Finance) International Airports Authority of India and Director (Finance) Deptt. of Civil Aviation as Members.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e). The report of the Committee is under consideration.

[Translation]

#### Export of Woollen Garments to USA

3502. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH.  
DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR.  
SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA.

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the USA has declared one sided control

on the import of woollen garments manufactured in India;

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

(c) whether the World Trade Organisation propose to organise a meeting between both the countries in this regard;

(d) if so, details thereof; and

(e) the time by which such a meeting is likely to be organised by the world Trade Organisation between both the countries?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (e). Under the provisions of the Indo-US textile agreement and the Agreement on Textiles and Clothing (ATC) of the Uruguay Round, the US Government have imposed unilateral restraints (quotas) on the import of woollen garments from India in categories 434 (Gents and Boy's Wool Coats); 434 (Ladies and Girl's Wool Coats) and 440 (Woven Shirts and Blouses of Wool).

Under the provisions of the ATC, the Textiles Monitoring Body (TMB) of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) has to review such actions. The TMB is to review the fixation of the unilateral restraint levels by the USA shortly and both the USA and India can present their views before the TMB, during the course of the review.

[English]

#### Foreign Institutional Investors Gujarat

3503. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the foreign institutional investors registered in Gujarat are reported to be facing severe technical problems in the form of custodian service and in the area of settlement; and

(b) if so, the steps the Government are taking for removing the technical problems faced by these foreign investors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b). Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) are registered centrally with the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and not on a regional basis or State-wise. In the initial stages of investing in India, FIIs faced difficulties in obtaining efficient Custodial Services, as considerable paperwork involved in share transfer and very few custodians were catering to the needs of the FIIs. The situation has, however, considerably improved with Government and SEBI having taken measures to reduce the extensive paper work through the introduction of Jumbo Transfer Deeds to handle bulk transfer of shares and the provision of a facility of consolidated payment of Stamp Duty by Banker's Cheques where bulk transactions occur. Additional Custodial Services are also being provided by new market entrants.

#### Wage settlement for Bankmen

3504. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some Bank Unions, representing about 7 lakhs workmen have demanded reopening of the recent agreement signed by them in respect of Wage Settlement with the Indian Banks' Association;

(b) if so, the main reasons for which the revision of pact has been demanded; and

(c) the action the Government propose to take to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (c) : Indian Banks' Association (IBA) has reported that four workmen unions, viz., All India Bank Employees' Association (AIBEA), National Confederation of Bank Employees (NCBE), Bank Employees Federation of India (BEFI) and Indian National Bank Employees' Federation (INBEF), which were parties to the VI Bipartite Settlement dated 14.2.1995, have demanded re-opening of the above settlement on the ground of alleged injustice and discrimination meted out to workman staff in respect of "neutralisation" and "load factor" vis-a-vis officers' salary revision. IBA has further reported that the Deputy Chief Labour Commissioner (C), Bombay has initiated conciliation proceeding under section 12 of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947.

#### Production and Export of Plantation Items.

3505. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total fund invested by the Government and

achievements made so far for the production of plantations and agriculture like tea, coffee and rubber during the Eighth Plan period; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to increase the production and export of these items during the remaining period of Eighth Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) :

(a) Expenditure incurred by the Government on the plantation sector comprising of tea, coffee and rubber during the first three years of VIII Plan i.e. from 1992-93 to 1994-95 is as follows :

Tea	:	Rs.	33.75 crores
Coffee	:	Rs.	16.61 crores
Rubber	:	Rs.	85.91 crores (includes Rs. 8.47 crores disbursed by NABARD under World Bank Rubber Project)

The Plan allocations during the year 1995-96 in respect of tea, coffee and rubber are as under,

Tea	:	Rs.	22.00 crores
Coffee	:	Rs.	9.00 crores
Rubber	:	Rs.	49.27 crores

#### ACHIEVEMENTS:

Achievements in respect of production of tea, coffee and rubber during the first three years of VIII Plan are as follows:

#### Production Targets and Achievements in Tonnes

COMMODITY	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
TEA			
TARGET	7,65,000	7,30,000	7,70,000
ACHIEVEMENT	7,44,570	7,58,540	7,37,390
		(Est.)	(Est.)
COFFEE			
TARGET	1,85,500	1,91,000	2,10,000
ACHIEVEMENT	1,69,395	2,08,000	1,80,100
RUBBER			
TARGET	4,05,000	4,40,000	4,75,000
ACHIEVEMENT	3,93,490	4,35,160	4,71,815

(b) : Steps taken to increase production of tea and rubber include improved agricultural practices, financial and technical assistance to growers, production and distribution of high yielding planting materials, extension of advisory and training services and Research and Development applications for higher production and better processing. Steps taken to increase production of coffee include adoption of intensive cultivation practices, replanting of old and moribund coffee plants with new and high yielding varieties, effective water augmentation, and biological control of pests including berry borer disease.

Steps taken to increase exports in respect of tea and coffee include promotional campaigns by participation in international trade fairs/exhibitions, media campaigns, conducting market surveys and deputation of business delegations to foreign markets, etc.

### IA Ticketing Agencies

3506. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government follow the policy of reservation in allotting ticketing agencies of Indian Airlines to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and minority communities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of ticketing agencies of Indian Airlines allotted during the last three years, category-wise?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) : Since reservation policy is not followed, information on allotment of ticketing agencies is not maintained on the basis of caste/community.

### Pending Applications for Licences to Exporters

3507. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVISINGH PATIL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to issue licences to all the new exporters within five days after filing the applications by these exporters;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of applications pending till date; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to clear these applications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c) As per Paragraph 258 of the Hand Book of Procedures Vol. I, every effort has to be made by the licensing authorities to dispose of applications for grant of licences expeditiously provided the application is complete in all respects and accompanied by prescribed documents. The time limit of five days is prescribed only in respect of duty free advance licences where input-output norms are notified and applications are not required to be placed before the Zonal Advance Licensing Committee/ Advance Licensing Committee. While every effort is made to ensure that such licences are issued within the prescribed time period, there have been instances where the prescribed time limit has been exceeded. Such cases are closely monitored and instructions issued to

ensure that they are disposed of at the earliest.

### Kerala Trade Union Recognition Bill, 1995

3508. SHRI K. MURALEE DHARAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Kerala Trade Union Recognition Bill, 1995 is pending in his Ministry for concurrence; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Clarifications on certain points are being sought from the State Government.

### Counter Guarantees to Projects

3509. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have announced any counter-guarantees to all fast-track projects with foreign participation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the projects with foreign participation awaiting the Government guarantees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c). Govt. of India have decided 'in principle' to extend counter guarantees in respect of the payment obligations of the State Electricity Boards to the private generating Companies and guaranteed by the State Governments concerned, in respect of the eight fast-track private power projects. Of these, Govt. of India counter guarantees are yet to be issued in respect of six private power projects. The relevant details are given in the attached statement.

### STATEMENT

*Details of fast-track private power projects approved 'In Principle' for a Government of India Counter Guarantee and Indicating the projects for which such counter Guarantees are yet to be issued.*

(a) and (b). The details of fast-track private power projects for which GOI counter guarantees have been approved 'in principle' are as follows:

1. Dabhol Combined Cycle Gas Turbine Phase-I (695 MW), Maharashtra.
2. Ib Valley Thermal Power Station Units 3&4 (2x210

MW), Orissa.

3. Jegrupadu Gas Based Power Plant (216 MW), Andhra Pradesh.
4. Godavari Gas Based Power Plant (208 MW), Andhra Pradesh.
5. Visakhapatnam Thermal Power Station (1000 MW), Andhra Pradesh.
6. Zero Unit (250 MW) at Neyveli, Tamil Nadu.
7. Mangalore Thermal Power Station (1000 MW), Karnataka.
8. Bhadravati Thermal Power Station (1072 MW Maharashtra).

(c) Govt. of India counter guarantees in respect of the following projects is yet to be issued:-

1. Jegrupadu Gas Based Power Plant (216 MW), Andhra Pradesh.
2. Godavari Gas Based Power Plant (208 MW), Andhra Pradesh.
3. Visakhapatnam Thermal Power Station (1000 MW), Andhra Pradesh.
4. Zero Unit (250 MW) at Neyveli, Tamil Nadu.
5. Mangalore Thermal Power Station (1000 MW), Karnataka.
6. Bhadravati Thermal Power Station (1072 MW), Maharashtra.

Govt. of India counter guarantee agreements in respect of two projects i.e. Dabhol Combined Cycle Gas Turbine, Phase-I (695 MW), Maharashtra and Ib Valley Thermal Power Station Units 3 & 4 (2x210 MW), Orissa have already been signed on 15.9.1994 and 16.1.1995 respectively.

### Performance of Nationalised Banks

3510. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the performance profile of nationalised banks during 1994-95 and its comparative figures during the previous three years;

(b) the action plan formulated to improve the operational performance and profitability of the nationalised banks;

(c) whether bad debts of nationalised banks are mounting over the last five years and have assumed serious proportion; and

(d) the details thereof, State-wise, bank-wise and year-wise during the last three years together with their profit and loss account statement separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the performance of nationalised banks for the year ended 31st March, 1995 had shown an improvement in comparison to the previous year in as much as while the nationalised banks as a whole made a net profit of Rs. 269.33 crores for the year ended 31st March, 1995, they had suffered a net loss of Rs. 4705.01 crores for the year ended 31st March, 1994. The number of banks incurring net loss has also decreased from 12 in 1993-94 to 8 in 1994-95.

(b) RBI has reported that while allocating the recapitalisation funds, nationalised banks have been advised by it to prepare an action plan on key areas of their working viz. improving house keeping and internal control, recovery of non-performing assets, profitability, productivity, strengthening vigilance machinery etc. Emphasis has also been laid on the reduction of expenses and closing down loss making and unviable branches.

(c) and (d). RBI has reported that its data base does not generate Statewise figures of profit/loss, bad debts etc. However, bankwise and yearwise details of bad debts written off by nationalised banks for the years 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 and their profit and loss during these years are given in the attached statements I and II, respectively.

### STATEMENT-I

*Amount of bad debts written off by the nationalised banks during the last three years*

Sl.	Name of the Banks No.	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
1.	Allahabad Bank	93.67	127.28	3584.00
2.	Andhra Bank	1015.50	8282.97	13163.33
3.	Bank of Baroda	14927.34	12027.43	48997.52
4.	Bank of India	18882.12	17374.26	32846.78
5.	Bank of Maharashtra	147.42	102.01	142.01
6.	Canara Bank	5595.67	39548.26	15230.27
7.	Central Bank of India	3627.56	197.70	10557.27

8.	Corporation Bank	2887.55	3273.36	6207.53
9.	Dena Bank	2677.79	8701.01	12371.73
10.	Indian Bank	447.30	76.16	600.70
11.	Indian Overseas Bank	89.88	419.25	461.09
12.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	176.00	166.00	260.18
13.	Punjab National Bank	5144.75	19412.34	36550.00
14.	Punjab & Sind Bank	673.43	11282.40	15139.45
15.	Syndicate Bank	141.06	118.55	857.70
16.	Union Bank of India	3531.30	4412.62	8236.90
17.	United Bank of India	205.00	156.00	1182.00
18.	UCO Bank	5593.56	27346.67	36866.35
19.	Vijaya Bank	213.70	304.23	451.56
20.	New Bank of India	19.76	113.21	*

\*Merged with Punjab National Bank.

Note : Figures include both actual and technical write off.

### STATEMENT-II

#### Profit/Loss of Nationalised Banks

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	Name of the Bank	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
1.	Allahabad Bank	28.11	-105.89	-367.72
2.	Andhra Bank	8.42	-141.08	-162.25
3.	Bank of Baroda	95.10	8.23	66.15
4.	Bank of India	56.63	-331.12	-1089.15
5.	Bank of Maharashtra	4.04	-196.51	-296.93
6.	Canara Bank	156.59	26.07	120.35
7.	Central Bank of India	30.49	-383.31	-711.93
8.	Corporation Bank	5.20	4.12	27.04
9.	Dena Bank	9.10	-90.46	-69.84
10.	Indian Bank	36.50	6.51	-390.65
11.	Indian Overseas Bank	9.05	-752.74	-351.18
12.	New Bank of India	-41.52	-75.79	*
13.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	26.78	20.50	32.11
14.	Punjab National Bank	112.44	38.01	74.52
15.	Punjab & Sind Bank	0.68	-195.19	-175.99
16.	Syndicate Bank	4.46	-670.08	-299.40
17.	Union Bank of India	29.45	11.26	50.27
18.	United Bank of India	6.68	-279.36	-618.06
19.	UCO Bank	-20.99	-444.19	-546.15
20.	Vijaya Bank	1.84	-97.88	4.10

\*Merged with Punjab National Bank.

\* indicates loss.

[Translation]

### Deposits in Public Sector Banks

3511. DR. SAKSHIJI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether deposits in public sector banks has declined sharply during the last six months;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the remedial steps being taken to contain the same; and

(c) the details of the deposits in each of the public sector banks from July, 1994 to May, 1995, month-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and to the extent available will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

### Working condition of Unorganised Labour in Gujarat

3512. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps for the improvement in the working and living conditions of the unorganised rural labour in Gujarat State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b). The Government have taken up several schemes for the improvement in the working and living conditions of the unorganised rural labour including that in the State of Gujarat. Some of such major schemes are given below:-

(i) Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP)

Under this Scheme, financial assistance is provided for acquiring income generating assets, comprising of a varying mix of subsidies and term credit as differential rates for small farmers, marginal farmers, agricultural labourers and rural artisans with special provision for SCs/STs and women. The number of families assisted under this Scheme during 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 (upto Feb., 95) in the State of Gujarat are 61,842, 79,725 and 61,444 respectively.

(ii) Jawahar Rojgar Yojana (JRY)

The Scheme aims at generation of additional gainful employment and creation of productive community assets. Employment generation under this scheme in the State of Gujarat during the year, 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 is 235.03, 210.55 and 195.68 lakh mandays

respectively. This scheme has been intensified in 120 backward districts of the country where there is concentration of unemployment and under-employment. In Gujarat 62.80 lakh mandays were generated under Intensified Jawahar Rojgar Yojana (IJRY).

(iii) Training of Rural Youth for Self Employment (TRYSEM)

The scheme aims at skill upgradation of rural youth for self-employment.

(iv) Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS)

On 2nd October, 1993, a new scheme known as 'Employment Assurance Scheme' has been launched in 1752 identified backward blocks throughout the country and seeks to provide assured wage employment of 100 days of unskilled manual work in lean agricultural season. The scheme will mainly benefit agricultural workers. During 1994-95 physical achievement under this scheme was 20.25 lakh mandays.

Besides, there is a scheme known as Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA) which was launched in 1982-83 for bringing about economic and social upliftment of rural women belonging to families below the poverty line using a group approach for taking up income generating activities suited to their skills and aptitude. The Scheme operates in conjunction with TRYSEM AND IRDP.

(v) Group Insurance Scheme for Landless Agricultural Workers

With effect from 1.4.87, the State Government have launched a Group Insurance Scheme for Landless Agricultural Workers covering nearly 23 lakh Agricultural Workers between the age group of 18-60 years. Under this Scheme compensation for natural and accidental death and for full and partial disability is given. Full premium is borne by the State Government and the LIC. Nearly 17,000 claims amounting to Rs. 2 crores annually are reportedly to have been settled.

(vi) Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY)

The Scheme was started in May, 1985 and aims at construction of dwelling units free of cost for the poorest of the poor with preference given to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and freed bonded labourers. 10% of the resources at national level under Jawahar Rojgar Yojana (JRY) are earmarked for this programme. Target for Gujarat under this scheme is construction of 28,501 houses out of which 414 had been constructed and construction of others 3522 was under progress by April, 1995.

### Punjabi Bagh Cooperative Society Ltd.

3513.

SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Will

the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Punjabi Bagh Co-operative Society Ltd., Punjabi Bagh collects lakhs of rupees every year from its members and other sources;

(b) if so, the Income Tax paid by the society during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether the Government have also investigated into the matter of lavish expenditure made by this society on various celebrations and other activities;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof;

(e) if not, whether the Government have received several complaints against non-payment of Income Tax, mismanagement of funds and excessive expenditure in celebrations by this co-operative society; and

(f) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to regularize the IT payment and keep a vigil on the excessive expenditure by the society?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (f). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Maintenance Facilities of Planes

3514. SHRI MANABENDRA SHAH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the maintenance facilities for aircraft available with each of the public sector and private sector airlines;

(b) the plans drawn by each carrier alongwith the details of the stations, financial outlay and the facilities being raised in both the sectors alongwith the advantages in short and long term; and

(c) the manner in which Air Taxi Operators were meeting this requirement individually for the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Air India Ltd. and Indian Airlines Ltd. have full fledged maintenance facilities for the type of aircraft operated by them.

The private sector scheduled airline operators have established maintenance facilities for routine and major maintenance. Some of the airlines use the facilities of other approved agencies in India and abroad for higher checks.

(b) East West Airlines is in the process of establishing overhaul facilities at Madras for overhauling of components installed on B737-200 aircraft. However, no concrete proposal has been received by DGCA for grant of approval. Other than the above, no other scheduled operator including Indian Airlines and Air India have proposed to raise additional facilities for maintenance of

aircraft. The financial outlay of East West Airlines is not known.

(c) : All scheduled airlines operators were required to establish minimum maintenance facilities upto Flight Release Inspection at their own bases which was complied with. For higher checks, these operators had been using the facilities of agencies in India or abroad with the approval of DGCA. However, recently most operators have established certain facilities for higher inspections within the country.

#### Welfare Scheme for Migrant Labour

3515. SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV:

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state the details of welfare measures introduced by the Government for migrant labourers serving in different parts of the country especially in agricultural sector and other unorganised sectors?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): Statutory benefits available to inter-State migrant workers include payment of minimum wages, displacement and journey allowance and prescribed free medical facilities, protective clothing and suitable residential accommodation. However, no distinction between local and migrant labour is made for the implementation of welfare schemes for workers.

#### Illegal Imports

3516. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that the customs officials at Bangalore allowed on a large scale the imports of second-hand diesel engines and spices, including poppy seeds, in the past year after accepting grossly under-valued prices;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent of revenue loss caused to the Government as a result thereof; and

(d) the action taken against the customs officials involved in this fraud?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) It has been brought to the notice of the Government that there have been some irregularities in the Bangalore Custom House in clearing certain items import is restricted or require licence under the provisions of the Customs Act, 1962. The Government is reviewing these cases for appropriate action under the law.

(b) 22 consignments of second-hand diesel engines, 1 consignment of Cassia, 9 consignments of Poppy Seeds and 6 consignments of Orange Oil have been noticed by the Government.

(c) In the case of imports without a licence at Bangalore, irregularities have been detected and the duty, redemption fine and penalty have been collected.

(d) Investigation is under progress to determine the adequacy of the fine and penalty imposed and fix the responsibility, if any, of the officials concerned.

[Translation]

#### Reserved Posts

3517. SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of reserved posts of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes lying vacant in the banks, Life Insurance Corporation of India, Customs and Income Tax Department; and

(b) the time by which these posts are likely to be filled up by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b). As per available information, data in respect of public sector banks and financial institutions is as under:-

(Data Provisional)

Cadres	Backlog as on 1.4.1995		Identified for clearance through Special Recruitment Drive 1995 upto 30.11.1995	
	SC	ST	SC	ST
Officers	168	132	100	86
Clerical	754	710	274	250
Sub-staff	331	778	150	294

Information in respect of other Offices referred to in the Question is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Indian Banks in Foreign Countries

3518. DR. P.R. GANGWAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the Indian Banks functioning abroad, country-wise;

(b) whether the capital base of these banks in the foreign countries is still low;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the measure being taken by the Government to improve the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) The number of Indian banks functioning abroad countrywise as reported by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), is given below.

Name of the country	Number of Indian Banks	Name of the country	Number of Indian Banks
U.K.	6	Bahamas	2
U.S.A.	3	Belgium	2
Japan	2	South Korea	
Hongkong	4	Channel Island	
France	2	Bangla Desh	
Germany	1	Thailand	
Singapore	5	Panama	
Fiji Island	1	Maldives	
Mauritius	1	Kenya	
Sri Lanka	3	Gayman Island	
Oman	1	(West Indies)	
U.A.E.	1	Guyana	
Bahrain	1	Seychelles	

(b) and (c). RBI has reported that the capital base of the Indian banks at overseas centres is maintained depending on the minimum capital requirements of the host country regulatory authorities. RBI has further stated that as and when banks are required to remit capital abroad, based on minimum capital requirements, the same is permitted by it. However, the banks would not be able to strengthen their capital base abroad freely since the rupee is not convertible on the capital account. The banks' capital base at the head office level is maintained at the required level based on the global balance sheet.

(d) With a view to strengthen the capital base of the banks abroad, banks are permitted to retain their profits earned at overseas centres whenever such requests are received from the banks.

[English]

#### Curb on Crime activities in Banks

3519. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Bureau of Investigation has demanded that the bank managers be placed under an obligation to render reports on all heavy transactions and suspicious accounts to help curbing activities of organised crime syndicates as reported in the *Economic Times* dated August, 2, 1995;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) No, Sir.  
(b) and (c). Do not arise.

#### Export of Cotton under O.G.L.

3520. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the export of Cotton has been allowed under OGL;  
(b) if so, the reason thereof;  
(c) the arrangement of making an export of old and new arrival of cotton during 1994-95; and  
(d) the steps are being taken to fix up reasonable prices of cotton both in local market and foreign market?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) and (b) Raw Cotton is freely exportable subject to terms and conditions specified in Public Notice No. 15-ETC (PN)/92-97, dated 31.3.93, issued under the EXIM Policy 1992-97. This has been done keeping in view the interests of textile industry, handloom & powerloom weavers and is subject to availability, demand, supply and prices prevailing in the Indian market *vis-à-vis* those in the international market.

(c) The exporters are free to procure cotton from old stocks or new arrivals of cotton in the market for export as and when permitted.

(d) Each year, Govt. announces Minimum Support Prices for different varieties of cotton based on cost of production and various other factors for the domestic cotton grower. Govt. of India does not have any control over price of cotton in the foreign market.

[Translation]

#### Smuggling on Indo-Nepal Border

3521. SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have conducted or propose to conduct any survey, inquiry or study for unabated free trade between India and Nepal so as to check the smuggling at Indo-Nepal Border; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b) Trade between India and Nepal at Indo-Nepal Border is conducted in terms of Treaty of Trade and Transit between Government of India and HMG Nepal through Land Custom Stations specified for the purpose. Trends of smuggling on Indo-Nepal Border and measures required to deter the same are evaluated

from time to time to ensure prevention and detection of smuggling.

[English]

#### Setting up of "Agri Business Consortium"

3522. SHRI SOBHAN ADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the announcement for setting up "Agri Business Consortium" to give boost to the agricultural development leading to higher exports benefitting particularly small farmers has since been made; and

(b) if so, the details of the objectives, targets fixed and the amount disbursed to help the farmers, as on March 31, 1995 Statewise?

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

(b) The details of the Aims and objectives of Small Farmers "Agri Business Consortium" (SFAC) are given in the attached statement. As on March 31, 1995 no scheme had been sanctioned under SFAC.

#### STATEMENT

##### *Aims and Objectives of 'Small Farmers' Agri Business Consortium*

- (i) to catalyse agro-industrial growth in different parts of the country based on principles of ecological sustainability, economic efficiency and social equity;
- (ii) to undertake or assist in undertaking programmes for employment generation, growth and diversification of agriculture and agro-based industries to increase food production and export of agriculture products, in both primary and processed forms;
- (iii) to organise technology transfer through training and extension involving non-government organisations and farmers associations;
- (iv) to sponsor specific and relevant research projects and technology demonstrations;
- (v) to organise input, material supply and production services through public, private and cooperative sector;
- (vi) to identify and promote post-harvest processing/manufacturing units in the public, private and cooperative sectors;
- (vii) to promote organisation of marketing chains both for domestic and export marketing;
- (viii) to build a cadre of skilled managers for managing the affairs of various units being established as a

- part of the development process;
- (ix) to accelerate the development of rainfed, drought-prone, eastern and hilly regions;
  - (x) to encourage efficient use of marginal lands and augmentation of bio-mass production through agro and farm forestry;
  - (xi) to revive and strengthen local institutions of the farming community as instruments of decentralisation/development process in agriculture sector;
  - (xii) to promote measures for increasing the utilisation of irrigation potential, water conservation and its efficient management;
  - (xiii) to organise/catalyse the primary producers in suitable groups towards the performance of activities related to the achievement of the objectives of the consortium;
  - (xiv) to influence Government policies for correcting the terms of trade to make them favourable for agriculture, thereby increasing the flow of resources and augmenting the rate of capital formation in agriculture sector;
  - (xv) to pave the way for establishment of integrated producers' organisations with forward and backward linkages;
  - (xvi) to assist and promote programmes aimed at conservation of the environment and natural resources; and
  - (xvii) to prepare, print and publish papers, periodicals, monographs and books in furtherance of the objectives of the society.

### Unutilised Foreign Aid

523. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the major part of the financial aid received from foreign financial institutions including World Bank remained unutilised during the past years;

(b) if so, the amount sanctioned by each of the foreign financial institution for the development of the projects during the years 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 respectively and the percentage of the sanctioned amount utilised during the above period;

(c) the commitment charges paid to the different financial institutions towards the unutilised amount during the above period, year-wise and institution-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by the Govt. to improve the utilisation of external loans and implementation of foreign aided projects?

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

(a) the project tied external aid is received as reimbursement on the basis of utilisation. As such no amount received is left unutilised.

(b) The total amount sanctioned as per fresh loan agreements, on Govt. account by foreign financial institution and the percentage of utilisation out of above mentioned sanctioned amount during 1992-93 to 1994-95 are enclosed in the *statement*. The sanctioned amounts pertain to project cycles of various projects which may extend upto 3-7 years. The disbursements are related to the implementation of various projects over the number of years.

(c) The total commitment charges paid to foreign financial institutions for the total unutilised amount, including the projects sanctioned during the above period, year-wise and institution-wise is as follows:—

	(Rs. Crores)		
	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
IBRD	40.18	34.79	24.25
ADB	21.68	29.04	31.80

(d) Ensuring adequate provisioning for externally aided projects, release of ACA as 100% additionality, advance release of ACA to the States, standardisation of bidding documents and streamlining of procurement procedures, disintermediating of flow of external aid to Central PSU's Portfolio Rationalisation and setting up of Project Management Unit in the Department of Economic Affairs are some of the steps taken by the Govt. to improve aid utilisation.

### STATEMENT

*The amount sanctioned by loan Agreements and the disbursement percentage of the sanctioned amount utilised in respect of foreign financial institutions during the years 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 respectively.*

Institution	Amount of Loan (Rs. in Crore)	% age of sanctioned amount utilised during the period.
1	2	3
1. I.D.A.		
1992-93	3353.04	52.56%
1993-94	2213.73	8.64%
1994-95	3668.70	5.36%
2. I.B.R.D.		
1992-93	1538.98	8.77%

## STATEMENT (CONTD.)

1	2	3
1993-94	937.63	100.00% (fully disbursed)
1994-95	1095.08	19.53%
3. I.F.A.D.		
1993-94	93.26	6.88%
1994-95	86.83	6.49%
4. A.D.B.		
1992-93	3243.18	31.85%
1993-94	459.44	Nil
1994-95	766.55	Nil

## Agreement of IA with Sahara India Airlines

3524. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Sahara India Airlines and the Indian Airlines have entered into an interline agreement;

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

(c) the details of the working results of the agreement?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) No, Sir.

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

## EPF Defaulters

3525. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the default cases relating to Employees Provident Fund have been mounting year after year in the offices of the Regional Provident Fund Commissioners

and the settlement of claims has been very slow to the disadvantage of the employees;

(b) if so, the number of the delayed and default cases in the offices of the Regional Commissioners year-wise and region-wise during the last three years and the main reasons for their delayed settlement of claims;

(c) whether the Government have decided to strengthen the EPF enforcement machinery for early detection of defaulting establishment delayed payments;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government also propose to raise the rate of interest on the delayed payments by the defaulters; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) (a) to (d). A Statement showing marginal increase in the incidence of EPF default during the last three years is annexed. The claims of the employees for Provident Fund money are settled by various Sub-Regional/Regional Offices set up by the Employees Provident Fund organisation in different parts of the country.

There have been complaints about delay in payment of Provident Fund dues to the employees. Delay in settlement of the claims sometimes occurs because of defects in the claim-forms submitted by the subscribers. The information relating to number of such delayed cases is not available. However for providing prompt service to the EPF subscribers a massive computerisation programme has been launched in the EPF Organisation. A Central Action-Plan has also been formulated to monitor settlement of the claims and recovery of the E.P.F. arrears.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

## STATEMENT

Name of Region	1992-93		E.P.F. DEFAULT		(Rs. in lakh)		ANNEXURE	
	No. of defaulters	Amt. of defaults	1993-94	1994-95*	No. of defaulters	Amt. of defaults	No. of defaulters	Amt. of defaults
1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
Andhra Pradesh	793	988.29	971	1018.22	647	1132.22		
Bihar	1120	747.97	1139	1116.30	1304	844.03		
Delhi	275	382.78	456	364.30	536	254.65		
Gujarat	585	436.56	282	620.08	274	1836.12		
Haryana	327	710.56	360	838.84	464	1389.07		
Karnataka	330	370.50	409	508.80	412	688.90		
Kerala	145	356.83	503	350.35	388	411.28		
Madhya Pradesh	662	1893.32	993	1989.56	673	2476.00		
Maharashtra	887	2396.12	376	3137.41	768	3089.11		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
N.E. Region	277	172.20	145	232.15	144	294.13
Orissa	468	472.56	387	425.39	343	601.80
Punjab	1081	687.71	1329	1595.54	1389	1909.84
Rajasthan	420	266.35	490	331.22	546	429.07
Tamil Nadu	1296	834.71	1316	923.92	1525	999.31
Uttar Pradesh	1011	1920.67	1230	3511.26	1353	3943.25
West Bengal	1223	14103.28	1232	18536.47	1216	17641.50

(\*) = Provisional.

**12.00 hrs.**

MR. SPEAKER : We will take up the matters one after the other please. There are some important matters. We will take up one after the other.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have a very important issue.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I will give you time.

**12.01 hrs.**

ALLEGED DELAY IN UNRAVELLING THE CONSPIRACY BEHIND THE ASSASSINATION OF SHRI RAJIV GANDHI

[English]

SHRI ARJUN SINGH (SATNA) : Hon. respected Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me this opportunity. I had the privilege to bring this matter to your notice and I firmly and humbly believe that this is neither an occasion for acrimony nor for controversy. It is a moment for a dignified and sensitive response from this sovereign Parliament to the concern and anguish expressed by Shrimati Sonia Gandhi about the delay in bring to book those responsible for the assassination of our late Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi.

Sir, I will not go into anything which will even remotely suggest any kind of controversial discussion on this matter, because my purpose is not that. My purpose is only, as I said and I feel, that the House would be agreeable to this, that we should, in a very dignified manner, give a unanimous response on this occasion; and I am sure that itself will sent the right messages all around.

I have prepared a formulation which I think will serve the purpose. With your permission, if it could be said:

'This House notes with great sympathy the concern and anguish expressed by Shrimati Sonia Gandhi at the delay in unravelling the conspiracy behind the assassination of her late husband and the former Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi. The House directs

that the Government of India should move expeditiously and transparently so that the guilty are brought to book immediately'.

Sir, I would beg of the House, and beg of you, Sir, — it would be in the fitness of things and within all bounds of propriety — that the House adopts this as a response on this occasion.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (BOLPUR): Of course, we are all concerned that the guilty persons should be properly, suitably dealt with immediately. It was a tragedy that had befallen on this country when we lost our young leader, a great promise and a former Prime Minister. What are concerned is that such commissions and investigations seem to take interminable time and what we really join in Mr. Arjun Singh is, in asking the Government that all possible steps should be taken to complete the enquiry, finish the investigation either through Commission or, otherwise it cannot go on protracted and no feelings should be there in the people's mind that there is some procrastination in this matter.

Therefore, to that extent the Government should expedite to the best of its ability and take the people into confidence that all possible steps are being taken. To that extent I submit that the Government should also respond and tell us what has been done. You also tell as to how long do you think that this process will take.

The trouble is that when such important and tragic events happen, the Government comes forward and says that they are doing this and they are doing everything. But there do not seem to be any results as has been the case of 1984 riots.

Therefore, there is a lack credibility so far as the Government's actions are concerned. It is for the Government to take steps and to show that they are serious as to what is being done.

Naturally an anguish has been expressed and we share that anguish. So far as the House is concerned, we request the Government to respond and to say what steps are being taken. You also say as to how long do you think that this inquiry will go on and whether it will see the end of the tunnel or not, because we want that guilty persons should be appropriately dealt with.

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Arjun Singh has raised a very serious matter in the House. We all feel sorry for the inhuman and heinous murder of the late Prime Minister of the India, Shri Rajiv Gandhi. Now his widow has expressed her anguish over the tardy manner in which this Government has handled this case and the entire nation shares her concern. I feel Government must place all facts of this case before this House. The Commission appointed to go into the case will submit its report based on the evidences given by witnesses. Many names of witnesses have appeared but I do not want to go into it because the matter is before the Commission. But I would certainly say that Government must place before this House and explain to the people all the facts keeping in view the statement made by Smt. Sonia Gandhi. The hon. Home Minister must explain to this House and to the people of the country as to how seriously and honestly Government are dealing with this case. The Government must make a statement and take the people into confidence because the case is of murder of a former Prime Minister of this country. We have not been able to apprehend and punish any culprit and assassin during the last four years, nor have we reached any conclusion. It is a sad commentary on the affairs of the country. I would submit that Government should make a statement on this issue.

[English]

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (CHITTORGARH) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have heard with great care what hon. Shri Arjun Singh, a very senior Congressman, uptill lately number two of this Cabinet, has proposed to be the wish of the House.

Sir, I must, at the very outset, say that we share the grief of the bereaved family. We do believe that guilty persons ought to be brought to book expeditiously. I must, nevertheless, with due regard, add two or three observations.

And if I say due regard, I say due regard to the sentiments not only of the House but sentiments of the bereaved family also. I must, Sir, in all earnest, because I will be dishonest to my creed and my belief and I will not be stating the correct thing if in this House, in this very formulation that is coming up I did not get a whiff of Congress Party's inner political turmoil. We personally wish to have nothing at all to do with the Congress Party's inner turbulence or turmoil. That is for them to settle and it is entirely their matter — whether they choose to have this or they choose absurdity like renaming old historical sites in the capital city. In all this I sense symptoms of Congress Party's inner turmoil. I did start by saying that we share the grief of the bereaved. And also I share with

what Shri Somnath Chatterjee has said that when people in high places who have served the country with distinction are taken away from our midst by dastardly crime, and the assassination of the late Prime Minister, late Rajiv Gandhi was, without any doubt, a dastardly crime deserving not simply of the highest condemnation but the most expeditious and salutary punishment. That having been said, how am I, as a Member of Parliament or as a Member of this Assembly to weigh in the scale of my concern the bereavement of one against the other?

I believe that the grief, for example, that was caused by a much larger carnage that took place in 1984 when the official figures, the figures given by the Government, say 3,000 citizens of the sikh community were killed in various parts of India in November, 1984, is equally important. To my knowledge not one single guilty for that, leave alone being punished, has been charged even. I do take into account the grief of the families of those 3,000 persons. I think the Government stands charged. This Government stands charged with dereliction. Successive Governments stand charged with that dereliction.

And if I do not refer to the assault against India, which is virtually an assault against India in March, 1993 by the Bombay bomb blasts killing over 360 Indian citizens and the grief to those families, I will be failing in my duty. There again I charge the Government with inaction.

Therefore, if I were to take the name of a distinguished lady, at one time a first lady and use the anguish that she has poured at a place which was the place that returned her late husband to Parliament, which Parliament the late husband served with great distinction, I do not know if we are not actually using this to play the inner Party politics of the Congress Party.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : There are no inner Party politics ..... (Interruptions)

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Sir, I am relieved to hear that they say that there is no inner Party politics in which case some authorised spokesman from the Government ought to stand up and should give reaction to these three issues, one issue has been pointed out by a one-time Number two in your Cabinet and the other two issues which I, as an ordinary Member of the Opposition, have now brought to your notice. Let the Government first stand up and give their reaction. Then we will also, with utmost seriousness, apply ourselves to that because unless we know what the Government does, what am I to say other than what I have just said? ... (Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : Sir, something has been said about Delhi riots. I was listening very carefully about what the hon. Member said about the 1984 riots. Tomorrow morning I will lay on the Table of the House the whole report as to what action we have taken

against those who were found guilty. Even we have ordered an enquiry against one of the M.Ps., who belongs to our Party, and we have cleared the Court to go ahead as per the law to take its course. We will put it on the Table of the House.....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MAJOR GENERAL (RTD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (GARHWAL):

You are placing it on the Table after 12 years.

[English]

(Interruptions) You cannot Conceal your sins

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: We have taken action.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (BANKURA): What is the result of your inquiry which is going on for 11 years? How many have been arrested and how many have been punished?

[Translation]

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (Aawla): Who were the persons involved in 1984 riots? How many of them were arrested.....(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN (Gobichettipalayam) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is matter of great concern that Rajiv Gandhi was killed four years back. But there is delay in the investigation process and the inquiry is going on very slowly. It shows that the Government is not taking this inquiry seriously. There is apprehension in the minds of the people that the Government is protecting the guilty persons in this case. Mrs. Sonia Gandhi is very much worried on the attitude of this Government. So, steps must be taken speedily to bring the culprits to book as soon as possible.

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY (Jagatsinghpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the assassination of Rajiv Gandhi is a great tragedy to our country, because he was not only our former Prime Minister, but he was also a visionary who wanted to take the country to a particular time — we may not agree with him—and he was encouraging the scientific temper. So, the loss of such a man, not as the Prime Minister alone, is a loss for the whole country. This is what I feel. Now, four years have passed and naturally there is a doubt that perhaps the inquiry is delayed and

the Government is not taking any action. Moreover, it is further highlighted by the reaction of his wife, Mrs. Sonia Gandhi.

So, my point is that such processes are generally delayed. But certain issues should be dealt with expeditiously when the former Head of the Government is assassinated. If the matter is not pursued quickly, naturally the morale of the country will go down. So, it is not the question of the cases, as Somnathji has said; cases may be there. Since he was the head of the Government; naturally the process of inquiry should have been expedited long before and by not expediting the process, the Government has created a basis for suspicion. So, the Government should have explained to this House as to why it has not expedited the process, before Mrs. Sonia Gandhi expressed her remarks. Now it is late.

As Shri Jaswant Singh has said that Shri Arjun Singh who was number two in the Government earlier has raised this question today in the House and whether he has raised it with honesty or with a political motive that also becomes suspicious and that brings down the gravity and the importance of the question to a low level.

So, naturally I would demand that the Government should apprise the House as to what has happened and why it has been delayed so that the House will know the causes for the delay and the suspicion from the minds of the people will evaporate. If the Government does not put the facts before us clearly, the suspicion will become a political suspicion which virtually, in practice, minimise the importance of finding out the culprits who had assassinated the former Head of the Government. So, naturally the Government has to give a reply to satisfy the country and satisfy Madam Gandhi and also to satisfy this Parliament as to what steps they have taken.

Why is this suspicion coming? I would like to know whether they have faulted somewhere due to which they have failed to take act on during the last four years against the culprit who has assassinated the former head of the Government? If the assassin will not be found, if the guilty who might have conspired will not be found and if the matter is allowed to go on like this, it will definitely bring down the morale of the people as also the dignity of the country.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh) : Sir, this House had expressed its concern earlier also about the undue delay being caused in the inquiry being conducted in the case of assassination of the former Prime Minister Late Shri Rajiv Gandhi. It is necessary to identify the culprits involved in it and to punish them. Today, the House again has a motion before it expressing concern

about undue delay. It seeks to direct the Central Government to take all possible steps to identify the people involved in this murder conspiracy. This House and the entire nation is concerned over it. It is natural that his widow, his family are worried over it. I, therefore, fully support this motion and request the Government to make a statement explaining the reasons for delay in completing the inquiry and take immediate steps in the matter.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, a number of hon. Members have expressed their concern on what they believe to be avoidable delays in **punishing the guilty** for the assassination of late Shri Rajiv Gandhi.

Sir, I have also noted the **observations** made by Shrimati Sonia Gandhi in the course of her **speech at Amethi** yesterday. She said, '*vedna*'. I think, it means anguish. Some months ago she at a private meeting expressed her anguish to me. I shared her anguish and concern. In fact, I found that everyone in the Government, the Prime Minister, Ministers and Members of Parliament share these concerns. It is because I share Mrs. Gandhi's anguish and concern, I accepted the assignment entrusted to me by the Prime Minister to coordinate all matters relating to the assassination of late Shri Rajiv Gandhi.

Since 24th May, 1995 I am responsible. The Government is collectively responsible but I have a special and direct responsibility. In the last 90 days, the Government has taken a number of steps to quicken the process of the trial as well as the inquiry by the Jain Commission, Sir, with your permission I will just take two or three more minutes to spell out the stage of each investigation or trial.

So, within days after I accepted this responsibility, on the 3rd June, 1995 a formal request for extradition of three accused was sent to Sri Lanka and I made a statement before this hon. House on the events and circumstances leading to that request for extradition.

There is a trial of 41 accused before the designated court in Poonamalle. Of these, 41 are accused, 12 are dead, three are absconding and 26 are facing trial. In my statement made to Parliament on the 3rd of June, I indicated the enormous legal and procedural hurdles that were placed and are being placed in the conduct of the trial by the designated court.

Just to give you an idea, there have been in the last few years since the trial began, 399 petitions involving procedural and substantive matters before the designated court, 25 petitions in the High Court and three petitions

in the Supreme Court. Tremendous amount of preparatory work had to be done with the cooperation of the Government of Tamil Nadu for the trial to proceed because these are among the most hardened and ruthless killers that the world knows with a special prison, a special court and very high security requirements. Nevertheless, the judge whom I believe to be a very courageous, straightforward and honest judge, has conducted 212 days of hearings in the trial, 183 witnesses were examined and so far 908 documents and 557 material objects have been marked.

I have laid down a very tight time-table for the conclusion of the evidence on behalf of the prosecution. The Senior prosecutor is a very experienced lawyer, a very distinguished criminal lawyer and despite his very advanced age, he has devoted his full time to this case. I am confident, God willing, the evidence will be completed by December, punishment is certain for the guilty and punishment will be severe for the guilty. I only pray that **no further** impediments come up in the way of trial.

As far as **the Jain Commission** is concerned, it has held 65 sittings so far. **Today** is the 66th. The Jain Commission of Inquiry is **required to look into the matters**, not covered by the Justice Varma Commission of Inquiry whose report has already been tabled before this **House**. The Jain commission also, by its own self-restraint order as well as an order of the Delhi High Court is prohibited at this stage to go into the matter prior to 29th of July, 1987. The Jain Commission is, therefore, not concerned with criminal trial, nor can it go into all the matters covered by the Justice Varma Commission. Justice Jain had, on more than one occasion, expressed some unhappiness about the lack of information and documents which he or some other counsel had sought. After I have accepted this responsibility, I have ensured that every document, every paper and every report which Justice Jain wants or wanted, has been made available or will be made available, subject only to two reservations.

The first reservation is, as anyone acquainted with criminal law will know, the case records and case diary cannot be produced before Justice Jain at this stage. The learned Judge has appreciated it and has upheld this contention for the present. The second reservation is in respect of a very few, a very small number of documents in which the claim of privilege has been upheld by Mr. Justice Jain or the claim or privilege has not been decided by Mr. Justice Jain. Except the Judge himself, other Counsels are not given access to those documents. But that is a very small number. Every other document, every other report has been made available or will be made available to Mr. Justice Jain.

Sir, Justice Jain is a respected Judge. He has been the Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court. I believe, he

knows what he is doing and what he would like to do. Before the Commission, time has been consumed by a number of people claiming to have knowledge or information. The Judge will, no doubt, sift the grain from the chaff and then make his report, I have promised Justice Jain every cooperation in completing his task and submitting his report, presenting his report.

In conclusion, I only wish to say this that we all share the grief of the family. For me, it is a deep personal loss. I accepted this assignment only because I believe I enjoy the confidence of the Prime Minister and I believe I enjoy the confidence of Mrs. Gandhi. I will do everything possible, everything humanely possible to ensure that the trial is completed according to the time-table which I have discussed with the Prosecutor and I will do everything possible to help Justice Jain to give his report as early as possible.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Sir, I heard very carefully what the hon. Minister has said. And, as I said in the very beginning, I would like to stick to what I said in the beginning that this is not an occasion for acrimony or controversy. The hon. Minister has given many details. If I were to go into those details, that acrimony and that controversy, which I want to avoid at any cost, would arise. Therefore, I would deny myself this opportunity.

What has been said is with some qualification. Yes, I think the hon. Members have every right to point out certain things which are there in their minds. That is very right. But everyone has said that he shares the agony, the anguish and concern. If you look at the wording that I have read out, there is not a single comma, full-stop or word which is accusatory in contempt. There is nothing like that. As it now appears to be the position, from all quarters of the House that agony and anguish is being shared, I see no difficulty that, with your permission, this expression in the words that I have suggested to you has been the consensus that the House has. I would like to assure hon. Member Shri Jaswant Singh that his doubts and suspicion about inner things are not correct, I think definitely there are pull-strings in the hearth. I am sure - every Member here in some way or the other - those strings of the hearth are certainly stirred and pulled.

There is no political controversy. This is an appeal which I would again beg that the House in its wisdom agree to and I am sure, Sir, you yourself would apply your mind to it and give us the opportunity to say what everybody here feels. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: If I have understood correctly, Arjun Singhji is trying to say that his notice should be accepted and passed. Is it correct?

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Naturally, when I make this request to you in what manner.....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Is my understanding correct or not?

....(Interruptions)

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: In what manner it is done is entirely your discretion so that the impression of the House comes forward, I have suggested a formulation. It is obvious....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: There is no insistence on formal acceptance. It is left to the Chair.

....(Interruptions)

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: **Everything is left to the Chair** but I hope the hon. Chair will also remember that in what manner and in what form is definitely your discretion, but the feeling have to go in a manner ..... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: If it is naturally left to the Chair, Chair will try to do justice. If insistence on this is there, then I will seek the consensus of the House and act accordingly.

....(Interruptions)

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: I think the Chair can formulate it in a 'language' it wants.

MR. SPEAKER: No, I am not asking for the 'language'. I am asking about the 'form'.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: I am saying in whatever 'language' or 'form', the Chair feels right...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Shri Arjun Singh has moved an informal motion and not a formal motion. He has said that he has not levelled any allegation therein against any one. He has expressed his concern which is shared by the entire House including Shri Chidambaram. This motion has charged the Government of delay. The word 'delay' has been used. I think, this word has prompted Shri Som Nath Chatterjee and my colleague Shri Jaswat Singh to remind the House that in such cases, if the culprits are not punished immediately, it harms the interest of the nation and results in greater mental agony. The crime was committed in 1991 but the culprits have not been punished so far. This naturally causes concern. In 1984 also, heinous crimes were committed which resulted in the killings of three thousand persons. Later, 300-350 persons were killed in Bombay in 1993.....(Interruptions)

SHRICHHEDI PASWAN (Sasaram): He has forgotten what happened in Ayodhya on 6th December, 1992.. (Interruptions)

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: I am also talking of what happened in Ayodhya. Wherever the crime is committed, if the culprits are not punished, it will have an adverse effect on law and order situation. I can understand if the

House expresses its concern over this. I think the statement made by Shri Chidambaram needs discussion. It will be known whether adequate action was taken or not. Broadly, it transpires from what he said that the Government is proceeding in that direction. I think the motion should be formal to express this House's concern over 1984 riots, on Bombay explosions and also on Ayodhya, as has been said by my friend..... (*Interruptions*) I have no objection. But I fully support the contention that wherever this sort of heinous crimes are committed, the perpetrators of crime must be punished, otherwise this will have an overall adverse impact on country's tranquility.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : I would now seek the Government's response on what Arjun Singhji has suggested. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, we all certainly share the concern expressed on the floor of the House that this tragedy had taken place. All steps have to be taken for finding the persons guilty and providing combined punishment to them. Of course, we have expressed our views and those are all part of the records of this House.

Sir, so many other issues are there. The events of 1984, the events of 1991 and the events of 1992 would also come up. Therefore it is not right that we shall isolate only one incident, however important it might be, when the concern is about the delay in punishing the guilty. If it is done, then all sorts of controversies will arise. Therefore, let this be put on record and let the Government give its response.

[*Translation*]

How long will you keep \*mum, you must speak on such issues.

[*English*]

SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM : I have spoken, Somnathji. You were not there.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : They should say that they are committed to it.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have shared with the House, the information which was in my possession. I think, Somnathji may not have been here when I spoke .... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : It appears that something is being done.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, the Hon. Member, Shri Arjun Singh, has suggested a particular course of action.

One can hold two mirrors — there is truth; there is

perception. I realise that it is not enough to be truthful, but one must be perceived to be truthful. I have stated truthfully the position obtaining today and the steps taken by Government in the last three months to quicken the process. I most humbly appeal to Mr. Arjun Singh and others to accept my statement as a truthful statement of the position and a promise to continue the process until it reaches its logical conclusion.

Sir, every section of this House has already expressed its sense of anguish and concern. Instead of a resolution or a motion to be moved by Mr. Arjun Singh, I would humbly appeal to you to consider if the Chair can sum up the sense of the House and I will take it as a direction to the Government, to me to continue to find a way to expeditiously conclude the trial and the enquiry. I would request you, if you consider it appropriate, to sum up the sense of the House.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : Sir, I have already left it to the hon. Chair to sum it up in whatever way you wanted to do it. I am denying myself time and again from going into this matter in detail because it would raise a controversy and controversy is the last thing that I want to raise at this moment of time. Mr. Chidambaram has said, and I use his word, that dividing line is certainly also to be perceived. Now, I do not want to go into that dividing line on which side is perception and on which side is truth because that is what I want to deny myself on this occasion. Therefore, I have not challenged his statement. But the fact is that there is something which can be perceived and which some people consider to be truth and that dividing line, I would not like anybody to have the right to draw. I again say, I am not pressing for anything. The Chair should do it in its own wisdom.

MR. SPEAKER : Well, I would like to say that the way in which the matter has been discussed on the floor of the House is quite appreciable and understandable; and it is on occasions like this that the House appears to be rising to very high levels. So, I thank all the hon. Members. We should do our best to book the culprits and punish them as per the law of the land expeditiously. That appears to be the wish of the majority or I would say, nearly all the Members or all the Members of the House. ....(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : The Government has explained all that it has been doing. All these facts may be taken note of by all concerned for correct and speedier action. We all very sincerely share the grief and anguish involved in the poignant and the great tragedy. This is what I have derived from the discussions that have occurred here. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Sir, it is not a comment on

what you have observed from the Chair; and we share all that. But there were some views expressed by us from this side of the House which have perhaps inadvertently not found reflection in what you have said. I wish to only leave it at that, Sir.....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : This is exactly for this reason why I wanted to hear your views; and my impression was that we are dealing with a particular issue and not all the issues.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : But I do feel that - if any Members say that - the offence against any individual or against many other individuals is equally to be investigated in a proper manner and appropriate action is to be taken.  
...(Interruption)

12.49 hrs.

RE : GIVING BENEFITS OF SCHEDULED CASTES TO DALIT CHRISTIANS.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to draw your attention to a very vital issue, which is above party lines. The Constitution of India enshrines special provision for Dalits and socially and educationally backward people. Para 3 of Presidential Order, 1950 promulgated under the above provision of the Constitution provides for reservation for those who have changed their religion. The Sikh Community has already been covered under this order. When there was our Government, we provided for reservation for convert Buddhists. We have been similarly demanding reservation for dalit christians. I am happy that Union Welfare Minister, Shri Sita Ram Kesari is sitting here. The dalit christian population accounts for 60 per cent of total christian population. I want that reservation should be extended to the socially and educationally backward christians also. Shri Sita Ram Kesari has given repeated assurances about this. In the Dalit Christian conference held in Vijayawada on 21st November 1992, he had as a Minister of Social Welfare, said that he would endeavour to bring about a Bill in this regard in the coming session of Parliament. But I am sorry to say there is a lot of difference between Governments saying and action. Three years have passed since 1992 but Government has failed to bring a Bill or promulgate an ordinance in this regard. This is not a constitutional amendment which needs two third majority. This can be adopted by a simple majority. We are prepared to extend our full cooperation in the matter. We know the incident that took place in Chundur, Karmcheru and Nirukonda which involved the dalit christian community. The Supreme Court has clearly said in its judgement that :

[English]

"To deny the SCs constitutional protection of reservation solely by reasons of change of faith or religion is to endanger the very concept of secularism and religion that way on the reservations."

[Translation]

There is great resentment among dalits on this issue. All the political parties had urged Shri Sita Ram Kesari to bring forward a Bill or an order in this House by 26th of this month, which is the last day of the Session so as to provide justice to dalit christians also and to do away with the resentment among this community. Shri Sita Ram Kesari is sitting here and I would like to know the Government's mind in this respect. Whether it will honour the commitment made by it and introduce a Bill in this session?

[English]

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha): Sir, this is a grave issue which has been submitted by all of us many a time in this House. You have been pleased to give us opportunity as we have stated in this House. It was heard by the Government and the Government had given very many assurances.

Yesterday, some of the MPs met the Prime Minister on this issue. We are happy that the Prime Minister was gracious enough to give a word to us: this is a grave issue to which the Government has given a very serious thought, and the Government will bring a Bill to include the Christians of Scheduled Caste origin also in the Schedule and thereby a motion to amend the Scheduled Castes Order of 1950 so that this grave issue will be solved.

There is only one more day. As per the assurance given by the Prime Minister, I would urge upon the Hon. Minister, Shri Sitaram Kesri, to bring this Bill if not today at least tomorrow because tomorrow is the last day.

I want to raise one more point. The urgency is that this Government has been gracious enough to declare crores of rupees for the poor, the downtrodden and also the Dalits of this country. Those crores of rupees are going to be spent for these downtrodden people.

MR. SPEAKER : Please be brief. There are many hon. Members.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Sir, I am finishing. These poor persons also, who just happen to have a faith in a particular religion, may be allowed to come under this Schedule.

MR. SPEAKER : Now I propose to allow almost all the Members to raise their points today because this happens to be the penultimate day of this session. That is why please have patience. But at the same time, do realise

that yesterday you had decided not to rise before completing the business on the agenda today. There are many items on the agenda. That is why please be brief. Where it is absolutely necessary, get up and speak. Otherwise avoid it.

SHRI PETER G. MARBANIANG (Shillong) : Sir, in 1990 when the Janata Government brought a Bill—Presidential Order-I had stood up and asked to include the Christian Dalits also.

He promised but he did not do. I have been raising this from 1991, when I came to the Tenth Lok Sabha. I went with a delegation to meet the Prime Minister on this issue. We are happy that we have Mr. Sitaram Kesri as the Welfare Minister. Let us hear from him what he has to say on this issue. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI P.C. CHACKO (Trichur) : It is most unfortunate that some Members are of the view that we should not repeat it. This issue was raised on a number of occasions in the House and assurances were given by various Governments on various occasions ... (interruptions) ... Sir, please bear with me. This issue had been agreed to by various Governments on various occasions. For the last 45 years, a majority of the section of SCs and STs have been deprived of their fundamental right. It is the fundamental right of any citizen of India to adopt any religion. That fundamental right is being denied. Constitution provides certain protection to the members. There is already a draft bill. Government can introduce that Bill in this Session itself. So, we request the hon. Minister that this Bill can be introduced in this Session itself.... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You may just endorse the statement of others.... (Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : Sir, hon. Member, Mr. Ram Vilas Paswan, while mentioning this subject, narrated that the Sikhs were given the right of reservation. I want to correct the record. When this concession was given to the Sikh Scheduled Castes, I think in 1952, they were allowed only in four States. Those four States were Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Delhi.

Now, Sir, I myself had suffered. When I shifted my university from Punjab to Maharashtra, I was denied this right because they said that this concession was not available to the Sikhs in Maharashtra. Therefore, that concession has to be extended and moreover, under the constitutional provision, if I am not mistaken, under Article 25, these four religions, namely, Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists and Jains are considered as Hindus. Therefore, the concessions were extended to the Buddhists also, perhaps, under the same provision of the Constitution. If there is any other community or caste to be brought for

the purposes of extending the concessions available to the Scheduled Castes and Tribes, I am afraid, the Constitution will have to be amended... (interruptions)... Although we are keen that the Christians who have converted into Christians from among the Scheduled Castes and Tribes are suffering from the same handicap and some social disability, I am afraid, the Constitution will have to be amended. They do deserve it but Constitution will have to be amended. Mr. Sitaram Kesri will throw some more light on this issue. But my submission to the House is that earlier concession given to the Sikh Scheduled Castes should be extended in all the States, throughout the country .... (interruptions)..

SHRI A. CHARLES : Sir, Article 16 clearly states that there cannot be any discrimination on the basis of religion...(interruptions)... I am just replying to the observation made by the very distinguished Member. This is purely discrimination on the basis of religion. I appeal to Kesriji to accept the consensus of the House to give all the benefits of the Scheduled Caste Hindus to the Scheduled Caste Christians also...(interruptions)...

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers and Minister of State in Ministry of Parliamentary affairs and Minister of State in the Department of Electronics and Department of ocean Development (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : Sir, I am really sorry to bother you. I know that we are running out of time. But I rise here because this is a very strong deep-seated feeling and important issue for the Christian community. The poor brethren who suffer the same disabilities happen to be Christian brothers by reason of religion. They should not be deprived of all these facilities. Their condition is no better. In many places, it is worse than the brothers of other religions ... (interruptions) ...

SHRI PALAI K.M. MATHEW (Idukki) : Sir, I also endorse the views expressed by him .... (interruptions) ...

13.00 hrs.

[Translation]

Shri Shiv Sharan Verma (Machhlishahar) : Sir, the democratic institutions in the country have been diluted. The bureaucracy is having its say and there is nobody to listen to the atrocities being perpetrated by this bureaucracy. I am a member of this House ...

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITA RAM KESARI) : Sir, we are seized of the issue raised here by Sarva Shri Chacko, Ram Vilas, Buta Singh and Shri Faleiro. My contention is that the people belonging to depressed classes whether they are converts or otherwise, are entitled to reservation. As for bringing forward a Bill in Lok Sabha today or tomorrow, you know, Sir, it is not possible

because it has to go through different processes. I can only assure the House that we will try to process the matter by the start of next session. We are in favour of reservation for depressed classes ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : You favour them, it is all right. But, what are you going to do in the matter?

SHRI SITA RAM KESARI : You have not listened to me. I have given an assurance that we shall try our best to bring this Bill in the next session.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Why try, why not bring it tomorrow .... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh) : During the last session, several issues were raised relating to reservation. You had intervened then and Vidya Charan ji had also intervened. Sita Ram ji had said that it was an assurance of the Government to this House and not of any individual Minister. There are other aspects also; such as abolition of the ceiling of 50 per cent reservation etc. So he should bring a comprehensive Bill next time ... *(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER : You must have heard what has been said. Should I say in Hindi, please sit down. All of you who want to speak will be given time but please be brief. I think there is no need for four or five members to speak on the same issue. Please keep this in mind while putting forth your views.

*[English]*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : With your kind permission, Sir, with some of the hon. Members of the Standing Committee on Railways, we visited Firozabad. I do not wish to go into any matter which is now under investigation. Now, the steps are being taken, there is no doubt about it. But certain issues, I want to raise, so that the Government can also look into it.

There are grievances, some complaints about lack of coordination. We appreciate because the Railways are there, GRP - half under the control of the State Government and half under the Railways - is there and then the State Administration and the District Administration are there. Somebody are in-charge of the dead bodies, the Railways are in charge of the reseve operation and the treatment is also of another authority. Therefore, for a proper relief to the affected persons, we requested then, and I hope action is being taken that there should be proper coordination. In this regard, I would request the Government of India, the Ministry of Railways to send some officers of an appropriate rank who can coordinate with all the different agencies.

I am not making any complaint, at the moment,

against anybody now that will not be proper - except that in the Firozabad hospital, we were told that because of lack of resources, all medicines are not available, scanning machine is not available and they have been demanding for it because many serious injuries are there. They are trying their best.

We met most of the patients. They are generally satisfied with the arrangements.

Sir, but one very tragic incident has taken place. A couple, who was coming from Orissa had been killed in that accident but their three years old son who was in the hospital - there is record in the hospital about the admission of the child in the hospital - is not traceable. Therefore, what is necessary is coordinated and comprehensive efforts. It is because these are matters of such a human trauma. The people of their family and the colleagues of that gentleman, who has been killed - he was an officer of the NTPC, he has lost his life; he has lost the life of his wife - are searching for the child all over the place who is untraceable from the hospital. What was unfortunate was, for two days no enquiry was made. Only after we brought it to the notice of the District Magistrate, he said that he would start the enquiry.

Sir, therefore, I would request the Government - at the time we shall consider the question of safety and all that - to kindly see that there is proper coordination, even in addition to what is there. Some goods are still to be returned, people are coming and waiting even for hours. They are waiting for three - four days. Even for death certificates, they are to wait for hours together. I hope, by now something has been done. I was told that all the officers of the three different organisations - the Railways, the State Government and the Central Government - are sitting together. Earlier, they were doing things separately. I requested them and they told me, before I left Tundla, that action is already being taken. I would hope that the Government would oversee from here also so that something is done. There should not be any problem with regard to administrative authority. Somebody says, 'he is junior to me and why should he pass orders on me' and things like that. Officer of an appropriate authority should go there and coordinate the relief operations, whatever little of it is still to be done.

Great sorrow is being expressed about the fact that about 100 dead bodies have been cremated by the authorities even after the bodies were identified by the relatives of the deceased. Some people told us that they identified the bodies and went to get the death certificate from the police authorities and in the meantime, by the time they came back, the bodies had been cremated. Some such things have happened. We appreciate the feelings of those who have lost their near and dear ones.

It is in appreciation of their feeling that we should try to cooperate as much as possible so that their trauma is not intensified; their trauma is somewhat lessened.

Sir, therefore, I am requesting the Government - I am thankful for all the arrangements that had been made for us - to please see that human misery is not compounded; please see that it is lessened as much as possible. I would request that effective action may please be taken.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : What is the total figure of the death toll?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, yesterday, we were told that the figure of the death toll was 298.

13.09 [Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER IN THE CHAIR]

[Translation]

SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH (Meerut) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government of Uttar Pradesh, i.e. the Sampurna Nand Government in 1955, the Narayan Dutt Tiwari Government in 1975 and the Banarasi Dass Gupta Government in 1980 had recommended to the Union Government to set up a High Court bench at Meerut in West Uttar Pradesh and the then Law Minister Shri Shiv Shankar had made a statement in Lok Sabha on 14.4.1981 for setting up a High Court bench in Aurangabad and Meerut. The bench has been set up in Aurangabad but it has not been set up in Meerut. The Government of India had also given an assurance in Lok Sabha on 21.7.1986 for setting up a High Court bench at Meerut. I had raised this matter under Rule 377 on July 26th, during 1994 Monsoon Session. On this, the hon. Law Minister had agreed in a written reply to write to the Government of Uttar Pradesh to select a suitable site for setting up a High Court bench in West Uttar Pradesh.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, only two days ago, on 23rd August, the Mayawati Government of U.P. had announced in the Legislative Assembly setting up of a High Court bench at Meerut. Meerut is a central place of West Uttar Pradesh and the hon. high court has a large quantum of old and pending cases. The result is that the criminals of West U.P. do not get punishment for a long period and this is the reason for increased criminal activity in this area. Therefore, in order to afford cheap, easy and speedy justice to the people of West U.P. I request the Union Government to set up High Court bench at Meerut.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will call your name also ... (Interruptions)

DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI (Kodarma) : Sir, I have to go some where. Please call my name.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : As per the list before me, I will call everyone.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMCHANDRA MAROTRAO GHANGARE (Wardha) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I want to draw the attention of the House to a vital issue of public interest. In 40 villages including Sayar, Temani, Vargud Ghiri, Murum, Serpar and Kosamdehi villages under Lanji tahsil including Deorbali Gram Panchayat as well as Gram Panchayat Dabri, Songudda, Dulhapur, Ghumur Dhundhun, Wardha, Darkasa villages under Virsa Block Development of Katiapar and Baihar tehsils nearly 100 children have died of starvation and water borne diseases. This is a tribal belt. The people there have no food to eat and no potable water to drink. They are living on vegetable roots. All handpumps set up there had dried during summer, a year ago. They have been forced to drink rotten water for the last one year. This has spread diseases among them. This disease causes death within three-four hours. The tragedy still continues.

Sir, the Balaghat District Officials have not paid any attention to the problem nor has the M.P. Government taken care of it. The Union Government drafted their team only when these cases were reported by Zee TV. It has sanctioned three crore rupees for their treatment etc. These funds are being misused there. All the work is being done on papers and funds are not actually being spent. The officials have pocketed a large amount. Doctors, and medicines are not available, moreover, there is no dispensary. I would through you, request the Government to pay special attention to this problem.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Sharma, this subject pertains to the State. How can this matter be raised on the floor of the House? The State subjects cannot be raised on the floor of the House.

SHRIV.N. SHARMA (Hamirpur) Sir, there is a Supreme Court decision on this, otherwise I would not have raised it here. Only day before yesterday this decision was given. ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will call the names of the Member one-by-one. If I were to deviate from the list, I will be in the dock.

[Translation]

SHRIV.N. SHARMA (Hamirpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Delhi Press has reported that the Supreme Court in its judgement of 23rd August has held that the Principals of Public Schools have no authority to refuse admission in 11th class to a student of the same school who had once been admitted to any class of the school. The same opinion had been expressed earlier by the Delhi High Court. But the 'Christ the King' school in Jhansi refused admission in 11th class to its 40 students who had

passed tenth class in first division.. (*Interruptions*) And admitted students of other schools who had secured only 40% marks. This is against the judgments of the Supreme Court and the Delhi High Court. These institutions are affiliated to ICSE or CBSE. The Government must get these judgements, honored..(*Interruptions*) The irony is that when the students launched an agitation, all the Christian schools were closed and parents of 40 thousand students of the whole district were blackmailed.

Sir, just now it was said that the dalit christian should be given reservation benefits, but they tried to blackmail the parents of 40 thousand students of entire Jhansi district. I would urge the Government to get the Supreme Court decision implemented.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : In this case I am deviating a little because Mr. Mumtaz Ansari is in a hurry to go for the prayer.

DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI. Thank you, Sir. Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I have been raising this issue time and again. Mica industry is the major industry in my constituency kodarma. This industry is one of the most important industries from all points of view. This is a foreign exchange earning industry. It was earning Rs. 70 crore for the country as foreign exchange. But now this industry is languishing very badly. At least four lakh people are employed in this industry who are thrown out of employment. I draw the attention of this House and the Ministries of Finance and Commerce to this issue. They are just paying lip service to mica industry. As you know, Sir, 70 per cent of mica is located in my constituency Kodarma in Giridih District. But not even one expert committee has been appointed by the Government to go into all these aspects of mica industry so that this industry is revived and employment is provided to the people. Our area is *adivasi* dominated area. There is a huge shortage of employment and there is no alternative arrangement to be provided to these people. That is why, my humble request to the Government is that some sort of an expert committee should be appointed go into the issue and to revive this industry.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Gangwar, reading is prohibited. Please put forth your point in two minutes.

[Translation]

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Barielly) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Kashinath Seth Bank Ltd., Shahjahanpur, U.P. is a private sector bank and its financial position is in shambles because of irregularities committed by the management. The Reserve Bank of

India has put moratorium on it for the last 24 months under section 35 and 45 (2) of the B.R. Act. As a result, uncertainty is looming large among the depositions and on the future of bank employees for no fault of theirs. The bank has deposits worth Rs. 80 crore of about 2½ lakh depositions and has 600 employees ... (*Interruptions*).. The irregularities in the bank were not pointed out by the Reserve Bank officials during the inspections carried out by them from time to time and have now imposed moratorium when the position has worsened. This issue has been raised many times earlier also but no satisfactory solution has been found so far by the Ministry of Finance ... (*Interruptions*). The problem was brought to the notice of the Government by Shri Atal Bihari Vjpayee, the leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha..(*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Parashuram Gangwar, if anybody reads, I will ask the Reporters not to record. You cannot read it during Zero Hour. If you want to read, for that Rule 377 is there. I have been repeatedly telling you and you are deliberately violating the rule. (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : I would like the Government to look into this matter on priority basis and initiate steps for lifting the moratorium and restoring normal functioning of the bank. Keeping in view the interest of depositors and bank employees, it will be appropriate to amalgamate this bank with some nationalised bank as has been done in cases of some other banks.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Hon. Members, why are you straining your hands by just raising them again and again? If your names are there in the list, I will call your names. I will be calling the names as per the list which is with me. (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

DR. P.R. GANGWAR (Pilibhit) : Sir, 558 employees are working in Kashinath Seth Bank.. (*Interruption*). It has 2.50 lakh depositors.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Fatmi, if you also want to go for a prayer, I have no objection. But your's is the 21st name in the list.

[Translation]

DR. P.R. GANGWAR : The bank has a deposit worth Rs. 71 crore and a loan of Rs. 49 crore.. (interruptions) The proportion of irregularities committed there by the Directors, Chairman etc. was so large that the RBI had to invoke Section 35 and again section 45(2).. (Interruptions) The bank has been placed under moratorium by RBI since 15.9.1993. The bank deposits belong to farmers and no financial transactions are being carried out for the last 24 months. The farmers cannot withdraw or deposit their money because under section 35 only Rs. 5000 can be withdrawn and under section 45(2) no money can be paid. This has caused further difficulties...(Interruptions) It is for the first time in the world that section 45(2) has been imposed.

I would request the hon. Finance Minister to merge this bank immediately with one of the nationalised banks, keeping in mind the future of innocent employees and officers and solve this problem being faced by the common man.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Parashuram Gangwar, before quoting, you should follow the norms of the House. You should maintain the dignity of the House. This is the highest body in the whole country. You should not forget this. (Interruptions)

SHRIB.N. REDDY (Miryalguda) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, at Miryalguda in Nalgonda district of Andhra Pradesh, an FCI Modern Mill which is situated at the midst of paddy producing area under Nagarjuna Sagar commanding area was closed in October, 1993.

This closure of the mill is quite illegal in accordance with Section 25 of NID Act without taking prior permission of the appropriate Government. As a result, more than 255 workers who were working in the said Mill for the last 17 years have been rendered jobless. These starving workers have been agitating by peaceful relay hunger strike for the last 600 days demanding reopening of the Mill or else to permanently employ them in FCI.

Despite several representations, the Centre did not act. Atleast, they should give them humanitarian consideration.

Now, I have received an alarming news that out of those starving workers, one of them had died and another one has become mad. In the absence of any employment, they will continue to starve. Some others workers who are also involved in this are in critical condition.

Now, I would request the Centre to arrange for re-

opening of the Mill or employ them permanently in the FCI and save the lives of hundreds of workers.

I request some reply from the Minister. It is a very serious matter.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Reddy, you cannot expect a reply on the floor of the House during Zero Hour. If the Minister comes voluntarily, then it is all right. There should be some norms. ...(Interruptions)

SHRIBASUBDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : One hundred workers for the last three years ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Basudeb Acharia, you are right. But it is up to the Minister. If he volunteers to answer, well and good. You cannot compile him to answer.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : No, this is not the way. You must know the norms. You should know the procedure of the House.

[Translation]

SHRIMOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI (Darbhanga) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to draw Government's attention to an important issue and would seek a definite reply from it.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have made it very clear.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : We are celebrating this year as a literacy year and are claiming that India will become fully literate by 2000 A.D. Hundreds of millions of rupees have been provided by the UNO but I would like to draw your attention to the Nav Bharat Times front pages news item - "Delhi ke Nak Tale Ek Anguthachhap Gaon" (An illiterate village under the nose of Delhi). If you go into the details of this news item, you will be surprised to find that Delhi, the capital of the country, the heart of the nation has a village with a population of 2000, totally illiterate, Save the people engaged in electricity, road, ration shops and polling booths, not a single person is literate.

Today, we claim that India will be fully literate by 2000 AD, but in the national capital there is a village named Badarpur Khadar which is predominantly a muslim village where not a single person is literate. I have tried to raise this issue several times. How can you then claim of full literacy by 2000 AD? Thousands of crores of rupees have been received from UNO. May I know whether we

have been successful in our mission? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI KALKA DAS (Karolbagh) : The people of this village are Block Commissioners, Tehsildars. Badarpur Khadar has good percentage of literacy. His information is not correct. There are many literate persons. (*Interruptions*). It may be a village in Bihar and not in Delhi. (*Interruptions*) Sir, the village has a school. There are officers. too (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : He does not have the knowledge. Why is he arguing ? (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Kalka Das, your Government has come to a decision. Somebody was ruling there for a long time. Why do you take the blame on your shoulders? (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We should go by the normal procedure of the House. I think, because the lunch hour is coming so fast, you are getting hungry with the result you are becoming angry also it is better I should go to the scheduled programme. ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Bansal, the hon. Speaker has made it very clear that every Member should have a chance. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh) : We are waiting for that. But you are telling that you are going according to the scheduled programme. Please control them. We are waiting very quietly for our chance.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will call the names as per the list. Some of the Members wanted to go for their prayers so I deviated from the list with the permission of the House. I have not exercised my goodwill arbitrarily.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh) : They are making so much noise and still getting chance.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have told several times that I shall allow all of you.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to draw Government's attention to a very vital matter of public interest. Bihar occupies second place in the country in terms of population. Madhubani, Sitamarhi and Samstipur districts of Bihar bordering Nepal are most backward from transport, agriculture, industrial and employment point of view. The centrally sponsored intensive employment scheme and assured employment scheme have not been implemented fully in several divisions. The unemployment position is having an adverse effect on

agriculture in these districts because the agricultural labour is migrating to other states in search of employment. This is a national problem. This recent floods have severely affected these districts. The Central Employment schemes should be implemented fully in these districts so that the local labour gets employment throughout the year and its migration is minimised and the regional imbalance is bridged. The will have a good effect on agriculture also. I would urge upon the Government to respond positively to my submissions.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will definitely go as per the list before me. I will never deviate. Why are you raising your hands unnecessarily? I have been repeatedly telling this. Why do you get yourselves strained? After all, it is a part and parcel of your body. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

DR. S.P. YADAV (Sambhal) : I would like to submit that whenever hon. Speaker is in the Chair nobody interrupts but when the hon. Deputy Speaker occupies the chair hon. Members try to disturb him. I shall request hon. Members not to interrupt.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : This is my weakness. I shall have to survey my weakness.

DR. S.P. YADAV : My constituency is reeling under the floods of the Ganga and five six villages, namely Singhol, Samaspur, Sarbara, Raghupur etc. are being eroded by the floods. The Water Resources Ministry was allocated Rs. 6500 crore in 1994-95 for preventing flood and soil Erosion but nothing has been done. This matter was raised through questions in this House but no reply was given. I would request the Government to allot some residential and agriculture land to the people of these four villages which have been eroded by floods.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Every member will have a chance to speak. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna) : Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Defence Minister towards my constituency, Patna. In Patna, Danapur Cantonment is one of the major cantonments of the country. It is in a very poor condition. Roads and drains are damaged and it is totally delinked. No development work worth the name has taken place there during the last few years. I contacted the Defence Ministry and approached the concerned officers, but no funds are reported to have

been released for the development. The hon. Defence Minister gave an assurance in this regard but no funds have been allocated so far for the development of Danapur cantt. The result is that roads and drain continue to be in poor conditions. Waterlogging may spread some kind of epidemic. People are on the verge of death. Defence officers live there, common people also live there but no attention has been paid to their problems. I shall request the hon. Defence Minister, who is sitting here, to release some funds for the development of Danapur cantonment to ensure repairs and construction of roads and provide some relief. The hon. Minister must take his matter seriously and release funds for speedy development and welfare of this cantt.

**SHRI RAJESH KUMAR (Gaya) :** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Bodh Gaya is a place of international pilgrimage and the Buddhists people from this country and abroad visit this place in Lakhs every year. The information and Broadcasting Minister is sitting here but he is not listening to my submissions. The world has three major religions. First being Islam, second christianity and third is Buddhism. Bodh Gaya has its own importance. I want to congratulate Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad who has announced linking Bodh Gaya with air service from 2nd October. This place is visited by, both domestic and foreign tourists. But it lacks a T.V. Station. in the absence of which the people visiting this place remain ignorant about the developments taking place in the country and abroad. Bodh Gaya is the mecca of Buddhists, So, I would demand of the hon. Minister to set up a T.V. Centre at Bodh Gaya.

**SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN (Vidisha) :** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the L.P.G. has become a common consumer item but I am sorry to say that the security deposit for the same has been raised from Rs. 450 to Rs. 1000.

[English]

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER :** Shri Chauhanji, this subject of LPG has already been raised so many times here.

[Translation]

**SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN :** It has been raised from Rs. 450 to Rs. 1000. I would like to say that in these days of rising prices, this increase is unjustified.

Sir, I would also like to submit that the discretionary quota of allotment of LPG agencies and Petrol Pumps is misused. There are press reports alleging that the Prime Minister has allotted many LPG agencies under discretionary quota. I would, therefore, demand that a list of such persons who have been allotted gas agencies and petrol pumps under this discretionary quota during the last two years should be placed on the table of this House. The discretionary quota is being misused and it

should, therefore, be abolished and gas agencies and petrol pumps should be allotted on merits.

**SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR (Hingali) :** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would also like to raise the same issue. Today one lakh persons are on LPG waiting list and the Government has increased the security deposit amount from Rs. 450 to Rs. 900. It should be reduced immediately because it has become an essential consumer item and increase in deposit amount affects the common man. The Government should immediately announce reduction in this amount.

**SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH (Buxar) :** Sir, my submission relates to Railway department. The Delhi-Howrah Janata express was an old train which had been operating for a long time and the fares of this train were that of passenger train. It used to run like an express train and passed through all the stations between Delhi and Howrah. Poor people used to travel by this train. I fail to understand what made the Railway Minister or the Prime Minister to cancel operation of this train a month ago. People are staging dharmas and demonstrations at various stations between Delhi and Howrah for restoration of this train. I would demand that this Delhi-Howrah Janta Express should be reintroduced as soon as possible for the benefit of poor people. The Government should have no difficulty in it. Moreover it has no danger of being thrown out.....(Interruptions)

[English]

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER :** Tej Narayan Singhji, if your name is not called you are very much agitated, but when there are other Members to speak you should cooperate with the Chair.

[Translation]

**SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North) :** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, late Shri Chintamanrao Dane Deshmukh was a great son of the country and his birth centenary falls on coming 19th January, 1996. Shri Deshmukh was a very intelligent man and was the first Indian Governor of Reserve Bank of India. He was a specialist of economics and fiscal matters. He was the propounder of five year plan schemes. He was a great linguistic and wrote many poems in Sanskrit. The country has produced very few people of his calibre. During the course of reorganisation of States on linguistic basis, when he felt that Maharashtra was being subjected to injustice he tendered his resignation from the post of Finance Minister.

Therefore, I urge upon the Government to celebrate his birth centenary in a befitting manner and all preparations for this purpose should start right now. A special postal stamp should also be brought out on this occasion. I would like that the Finance Minister and the

Communication Minister should inform the House as to what they propose to do in this regard....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You will have your chance. I will call your name provided you all agree and cooperate. You should speak only for one minute or one-and-half minutes. After all, how long can we prolong the unscheduled hour?

[Translation]

MR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA (Etah) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of Human Resource Development Minister to the resolution passed in 1989 in the meeting of Indian Sports Authority which provided for setting up of 4 centres for the development of sports and sports persons. There was also a proposal to set up a central regional centre at Lucknow as the 5th Centre. The other centres have been constructed but the Lucknow central region centre has not been constructed so far, although the U.P. Government has already acquired 100 acre land for this purpose. But necessary funds were not made available despite writing several letters to the Government. A period of five years has elapsed since the proposal was mooted but the sports centre has not been set up in Lucknow. I would, therefore, request the Government to make funds available to the Uttar Pradesh Government for setting up this centre in Lucknow. I thank you for giving me a chance to speak.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : It may not be fair for us to carry on this unscheduled hour for a long time. It does not give a good impression also in the procedural aspect. So, shall I close this now and take up the regular business?

MANY HON. MEMBERS : No.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : All right. We will continue for some time. For how long shall we continue? I will call one by one. Kindly cooperate so that nobody is denied of this opportunity. Hon. Speaker also made it very clear. Please be kind enough to cut short your speeches for a short time.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY (Allahabad) : I did not get a chance to oppose when he was speaking about Allahabad..... (Interruptions) You should have given me an opportunity to oppose him.

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA (Padrauna) : Sir, I

would like to draw the attention of hon. Railway Minister to the fact that Lucknow-Bombay Pushpak Train does not stop at Manmad Railway Station near Shirdi. As a result, the passengers going to Shirdi for the 'Darshanas' of Sai Baba face great difficulty in reaching Shirdi. I, therefore, request the Railway Minister to issue orders for providing a stoppage at Manmad Station for the Pushpak train.

My second submission is that the Chauri-Choura incident in independence struggle of 1922 is well known in the country. The Chauri-Choura police station was set on fire in which 22 policemen were burnt alive and at that time, 19 freedom fighters of the area were hanged to death. The freedom fighters connected with Chauri-Choura incident were not getting freedom fighters' pension. The pension was extended to their families later when former Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi went there to inaugurate the Chauri-Choura Shaheed Smarak. The present Prime Minister had also assured them of payment of freedom fighters' pension. The Uttar Pradesh Government accordingly started paying them this pension. But only the families of the 19 persons who were hanged to death are getting freedom fighters' pension from the State Government but they are not getting pension from the Central Government. I request that they should be given pension by the Government of India.

[English]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh) : You should go by the serial numbers marked on member's notices. My number was 19. I saw it on my notice in the List. But now in the list my number is 37. There is no rationale here. I waited for a chance the whole of yesterday and I am waiting today also. I found in the application which I submitted in the name of Speaker that my number was marked 19. But now I find my number at 37. I want explanation for this. What is this? How are the numbers given? Please go by some national method whether it be by draw of lots or some other procedure. I submitted the same matter yesterday. That means it will not come up even today. I saw with my own eyes that my number is 19. But my number is not 19 here in the List. It is 37 now. I would like to have an explanation on this.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will take up the issue and it will be done.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : What procedure are you following? It is not fair. I wanted to raise a very important issue yesterday and it is the same today regarding accommodation to journalists.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We will see if there are any mistakes.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : This is not the way for anybody to prepare the List. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Let me not make any mistake. Don't put me in hot waters.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RABI RAY (Kendrapada) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have been permitted to speak after waiting for long. Thank you very much. I want to raise the issue involving the image and dignity of the country. I had a talk with hon. Speaker in this regard two-three days ago. I fail to understand why Ministers of our Government are insensitive towards the interest of the nation. I have with me a prominent mouthpiece 'span' of American Embassy in Delhi. Mr. Wisner, Ambassador of the United States of America in India had in a 8-10 pages interview, interfered in our internal matter. I will not take much of your time because I am not in the habit of repeating what has already been said. Shri Salveji, Singh Deo ji, Mallikarjun ji and Bhatiaji are sitting here. Bhatiaji is my learned friend. I do not understand why his sensitivity and Indianness did not awaken when Mr. Wisner had in his interview said :

[*English*]

"I believe that given the fact that Kashmir situation has three parts in it — the Indian, the Pakistani and the people themselves who live up there — all of them have to be engaged. And the people of the valley have simply got to be engaged because it is their lives and not expect other people to settle it for them."

[*Translation*]

MR. WISNER says further:

[*English*]

"I would prefer to argue that we have a sense of what will stabilise the situation in South Asia. We are talking to the Indian side about it."

[*Translation*]

He then says a very serious thing :

[*English*]

"I think one of the real dilemmas Americans face in the world is that we have enormous reach. Even when we do not think we are affecting peoples' lives, we really do."

[*Translation*]

Mr. Wisner has a right to give his opinion

[*English*]

"He is accredited Ambassador appointed by the Government of United States to India."

[*Translation*]

He has divided Kashmir in two parts *i.e.* Kashmir Valley and Jammu Ladakh region having a majority of Hindu and Buddhist population. What I say is, he should not have given such statements as an Ambassador to India. We respect him in our land and no patriot of India would agree with him. Not only this, he has supported Enron deal. He has also supported CNN and Doordarshan agreement. The CNN correspondent termed us as Hindu India and the Norwegian Citizen killed by UL-Faran has been named as Muslim separatist. He has not said that they are goondas, militants or terrorists. Such a statement of his on Kashmir definitely goes against the interest of India.

[*English*]

If you do not raise our voice of protest against these objectionable statements made by Mr. Wisner in their mouth-piece "Span", then we will commit hara-kiri and will betray the interest of our nation.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am saying this because the Union External Affairs Minister is sitting here. I would urge him to call the Ambassador and tell him in plain words that Kashmir is an integral part of India and that we register our protest on the statement made by him. The Government should also lodge a protest against the anti-Indian statement made by Mr. Wisner. Otherwise a message will go around the World that U.S.A. is a donor country of India and therefore we are afraid of calling a spade a spade. I would like to remind particularly Shri Bhatia ji that during Jawahar Lal Nehru ji's rule the entire world respected India and India was World leader. Today such things are happening because we have lost our sensitivity. We fail to talk in terms of interest of the country. The American Ambassador in India, Mr. Wisner should have given such a statement after having self-introspection because he himself lives in India. He should not have talked against the interest and policies of India. It does not behove the Ambassador of the U.S.A. to say so. I would only say that we protest the statement made by him.

**14.00 hours**

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now, I call Shri V.

Dhananjaya Kumar to speak. He is not here. Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Bhuwan Chandra Khanduri to speak.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR (Mangalore) : Sir, I am here.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Are you there? It is all right. You are such a nice man.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Sir, I am really sorry to say this. If this is the attitude of the Chair towards the backbenchers, then what will be the attitude of the Government?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Dhananjaya Kumar, you have mistaken me. This is lunch hour. Probably, you are very strict about your lunch. Thank you very much. It is very nice that you are here. You can speak now.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the severe spread of malaria fever in various parts of Dakshina Kannada district for the last three months. 25 people died out of malaria fever in various parts of Dakshina Kannada district including Mangalore City. In the case of some persons, the recurrence has been twice, thrice and four times. It is said that once a person suffers from malaria fever, then he will become a permanent carrier of that disease. It is also said that the mosquitoes which spread this malaria fever have become immune to the DDT etc. There has been a programme which was being implemented by the Government of India called the National Malaria Eradication Programme. I would request the Government to send a team of experts immediately to Dakshina Kannada district and take immediate steps to control further spread of malaria. Recently, it is reported that though in Allopathy there is no medicine to prevent the infection of malaria to any person yet some of the Ayurvedic medicines have been found to be very effective. Recently some studies were made in this regard. In the State of Rajasthan, one medicine which is called *sidda ousadh*, which is an Ayurvedic medicine has been tried to prevent the malarial disease and also to prevent further spreading of the malarial disease. It has become very effective. I would like to impress upon the Government of India to send the team along with experts immediately and control the spread of malarial disease. I would like the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to respond at least at this late hour. Let him kindly respond....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : This is a general subject.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : 25 people had died already.

... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Dhananjaya kumar, I

have been repeatedly telling this. Can you expect reply on the floor of the House?

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : At least why can the Government not say that it will send a team?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : That means it goes to the notice of the Government. Do you think the Government are deaf and they do not apply their mind?

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : When they do not respond, it appears so. Otherwise, they are not serious about this. If they are really serious, let them stand up and say about it.

[Translation]

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (Garhwal) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw government's attention towards the problem faced by my constituency which borders Tibet. Barahoti is a disputed territory under my constituency and that is why contingents of Defence forces have been posted there. A Rishikesh-Srinagar-Badrinath State highway has been constructed to link this area with plains and this is a border road and its maintenance has, therefore, been entrusted to DGBR. But during the monsoon, this road is closed for traffic and therefore, from security point of view we should have a second similar road so that if one road gets closed, the management regarding patrolling of disputed territory by our Defence forces is not disturbed. I would, therefore, urge upon the government that the second road of the area, i.e. Kotdwar-Pauri-Srinagar should be entrusted for maintenance to the DGBR so that one of these two roads is available to the Defence forces during all weathers. I would request the Defence Ministry and the Ministry of Surface Transport to hand over the maintenance of Kotdwar-Pauri-Srinagar to DGBR.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : There is a small suggestion. Now, it is two of the Clock. Shall we take the remaining names in the evening?

AN HON. MEMBER : No, Sir... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI HARADHAN RAI (Asansol) : Why do not you allow me. Mr. Speaker had agreed to give me time.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Let us do one thing. Let the Papers be laid and after that we shall take it up. You have to come to some conclusion. After all, we should follow the procedure. We cannot violate it. ... (Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : Sir, I have to make a small statement. After that, you can adjourn the House...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : There is no lunch break. We will continue to sit.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Prabhu Dayal, a majority of the Members have taken a decision. Why do you single out of the big group? Always be with the group. Now, Papers to be Laid.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani) : No, Sir. Is it only when names are called, people like me can get a chance to speak. (Interruptions) I will be sitting here. (Interruptions) Let it go.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Bhogendra Jha, it is an accommodation.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : No, you cannot get them at any time.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Basudeb Achariaji, what is your suggestion?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Every single name should be read out.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : All right. My request is kindly do not deliver speeches. Please tell what is the point and if you have any suggestion, you can make. Cut it short so that one should not lose one's own patience.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : You please call all the names, Sir.

SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL (Jabalpur) : Respected Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of this August House to a serious matter of public importance regarding the proposed eviction of some 25,000 residents of Jabalpur Cantonment Board by the local Army people there. These people have been living in this Cantonment area for over several generations and the elected Members of the Cantonment Board have taken amiss of the action taken by the Army people. The elected Members of the Cantonment Board have approached me to seek assistance from the Central

Government. Sir, the problem of settlement and rehabilitation of the civilians who have been living in Jabalpur Cantonment area for generations needs to be resolved absolutely on humanitarian grounds and on rational considerations and not on the whims and fancies of the Army personnel. This I am saying because just two years ago, owing to a small altercation, the Army people descended upon the unsuspecting civilians at the dead of night and committed excesses. The Defence Minister is also here. That is why I would like take this opportunity to request him to take up this matter in a dispassionate manner and resolve this problem amicably.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please excuse me. Without my permission, you are not expected to make any remark.

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL (Joynagar) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, Sunderbans area in West Bengal is renowned as the preserve of the Royal Tiger Projects...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Mandalji, please don't read.

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : No, Sir. I will take only two minutes. Very frequently, these tigers enter the villages and kill the animals kept by the poor villagers. When these Tigers try to prey upon human beings, the villagers get together and shoot them in self-defence.

The villager shooting is hauled up under the Wild Life Act and prosecuted. Sir, I will urge the Government that a lenient view may be taken in cases, where these helpless villages act in self-defence. There have been recently some cases in my constituency, involving these self-defending villagers from attacks by these Tigers, where prosecution had been launched against them.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM PAL SINGH (Domariaganj) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, our district Siddharth Nager is affected every year by both flood and drought. This has a border with Nepal and whenever the Nepal rivers are flooded, Nepal releases the water towards our district and Naugarh Tehsil of it is inundated. This year too, Naugarh Tehsil area was badly affected by floods in July. Roads are broken and the Crops of farmers have been damaged extensively. On the other hand, the second part of my constituency faces drought for want of irrigation facilities. A Saryu canal system has been under construction for about last 15 years, but the work has not been completed so far. The lands of the farmers have been acquired but water has not been discharged through this canal system. I shall therefore, request the Union Government and Water Resources Minister to formulate a flood protection scheme for my district and get the Saryu Canal system

completed early so as to provide irrigation facilities to the area.

[English]

SHRI DWARAKA NATH DAS (Karimganj) : Sir, Badarpur Railway Junction of Karimganj District of Assam is the nerve-centre of rail service of Southern Assam. Rail service in this vast area remains neglected where the railway tracks are unaugmented, stations and platforms are not improved, worn-out engines with old coaches are running on the tracks, shortage of staff and so on. Moreover in several sections frequency of trains has been very less; inconvenient timings and late running of trains are there in all the sections. In such circumstances, to improve rail service in Southern Assam's Badarpur Railway Junction should be upgraded as a Railway Division.

So, I request the hon. Minister of Railways, Government of India to upgrade the Badarpur Railway Junction of Karimganj District, Assam as a Railway Division at an early date. ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please wait. Let me call the names according to the list.

... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I am sorry, I cannot yield to the pressure.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS (Jalpaiguri) : Sir, on the 21st of this month, more than 1,000 teachers of colleges and universities of our country stages a *dharna* under the banner of All India Federation of University of College Teachers' Organisations (AIFUCTO), in front of the Parliament to draw the attention of the Central Government reiterating their seven legitimate demands. I would like to read out those demands.

- (1) Expedite pay revision of university and college teachers;
- (2) Interim relief for all university and college teachers at par with the teachers of Central Universities;
- (3) Settle immediately the problems pending since the last pay revision.
- (4) Stop privatisation in higher education;
- (5) Increased allocation of fund for higher education;
- (6) Democratise governance of universities and colleges; and
- (7) Uphold university autonomy.

I do urge upto the Central Government to look into them seriously so that all the legitimate demands of the college and university teachers are fulfilled at an early date.

[Translation]

\*SHRI HARADHAN ROY (Asansol) : Sir, I want to raise a very serious matter. Sir, Indian Iron and Steel Co. Ltd., a Central Government Public Sector Undertaking is a very old and renowned factory. Two concerns, IISCO Employees' Cooperative Stores and a girl's school, India Priyadarshini Girls School at Kulti are managed by an officer of IISCO. This Officer, K.K. Tiwari is a very powerful man patronized by the Steel Ministry, has created a reign of terror in the area. He has been bungling and looting lakhs of rupees from the Employees' Cooperative. He has also misappropriated lakhs of rupees from the school as well. After bungling huge amount of money from both the sources, the officer asked one of the clerks working in the Employees Cooperative to sign some vouchers so as to manipulate his misdeeds. When the clerk refused to sign those vouchers, he threatened him with dire consequences. He and the members of his family were threatened to be killed. After being pressurised and terrorized, the young man had no other option but to commit suicide. Before committing suicide he left a note behind. The officer was arrested on the basis of that statement written in the note. The said officer then was transferred to Growth Division, Head Office, Calcutta. It should be noted that production increased in the factory and law and order problem was also peaceful in the area during his absence from IISCO.

Then there was pressure on the State Government from the Minister, Secretary and Additional Secretary of Steel, Chairman and Additional Chairman of SAIL to retransfer him to IISCO at Kulti. Now he has come to Kulti again and has created a reign of terror there. I do not understand being an officer how can he indulge in trade union activities? He has been bungling and looting money from the Cooperative and School funds. Still no action has been taken against him. I draw the attention of the Prime Minister and the Minister of Steel to take action against this atrocious officer. He has created a state of terror in the area. He has collected the goondas, the anti-social elements from the adjoining border State of Bihar and has created a reign of terror in IISCO.

Sir, I condemn the move to transfer this officer to Kulti again and I request not to post him again at IISCO. I urge upon the Government to suspend him immediately and send him to jail. I demand strong action stringent punishment for this officer. so that IISCO is free from the vicious atmosphere created by the antisocial elements engaged by this person.

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN (Sasaram) : Mr. Deputy Speaker. Sir, Before I make my submission I would like to express my gratitude to the Chair for doing commendable job.

\*Translation of the Speech originally delivered in Bengali

Sir, you have done a very commendable job by installing in the Central Hall, the portrait of Late Babu Jagjivan Ram who was a leading freedom fighter and who had held various portfolios in the Union Cabinet by getting the same unveiled by the hon. President of India Shri Shankar Dayal Sharma. By Honouring Babu Jagjivan Ramji, you have bestowed honour on the entire dalit, suppressed and poor people of the whole nation. The entire population of the nation is overwhelmed by this pious act.

I have represented Sasaram in the 9th Lok Sabha and am representing it in the 10th Lok Sabha also. I therefore, on behalf of my party and of the entire population of Sasaram, press my gratitude to you.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : This issue was taken up on 28.8.95.

[Translation]

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN : I have given a notice which concerns these people who had always been neglected. I shall take only two minutes to make my point. The National Scavenging staff commission was appointed by Government about six months ago but the Chairman, Deputy-Chairman and five other Members have not so far been provided with government accommodation, suitable office accommodation and personal staff in spite of the fact that Government have resolved to abolish the practice of carrying night soil on heads by 1997.

The Plight of this section of the society continues to be same even after 48 years of Independence. Will this commission be able to achieve the target within three years without suitable office accommodation and staff? The Backward Classes Commission, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Commission and Minorities Commission have been provided all sorts of facilities and they can function properly and submit their reports to Government. May I know from the Government why the Scavenging Staff commission is being discriminated against. How can the Government expect it to submit report within three years in the absence of proper facilities pointed out above? The Government should make a statement in this regard.

SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN (Araria) : Major cities of the country are infested with drug trafficking. It is more manifest in Bombay. Two officers namely Shri Rahul Rai Sood and Sh. Salaskar of Anti-narcotics Department are reported to have close relations with drug smugglers. The Daily Pakistan of 5th February published from Lahore has reported the connection of Shri Rahul Rai Sood and Shri Salaskar with drug smugglers. The two big smugglers Abu Dawood and Yunus who were

arrested in Pakistan for smuggling activities have confirmed the connections of these officers with them. Sh. Rahul Rai Sood has acquired property worth about Rs. 250 crore during the last few days. The Interpol and CIA have shown special interest in this case. A report in this regard has also appeared in the 'Asian Age' of 17th August, 1995 published from Bombay.

This is a very sensitive issue and the government should have a serious enquiry done in this case and the guilty officers should get the severest punishment. The House should be taken into confidence after the completion of the enquiry.

SHRI RAM NIHOR RAI (Robertsganj) : Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, the U.P. Rajbhar Mahasabha and All India Rajbhar Maha-Sabha have been on relay fast at Jantar Mantar since 17th August 1995. I along with thousands of people courted arrest yesterday, the information of which has not been given to this House so far. I was detained for 4 hours along with 732 other persons. I have submitted a charter of demands to the P.A. of the Prime Minister. These people are staging relay fast over their demand for inclusion of Rajbhar caste in the scheduled caste list. The U.P. government had on 26th May 1982 written to the Central Government for declaring this caste as scheduled caste. But no action has been taken so far. The Bhar caste has been included as scheduled caste at serial No. 17 of U.P. Government order No. 148(B), 126-700(5), 1956 dated 26.3.1962 but they have not been issued scheduled caste certificates. They are holding protests, fast rallies since 17th of this month. The Bhar caste has a population of crores, settled in various towns of U.P. like Basti, Jaunpur, Ghazipur, Ballia, Deoria, Sultanpur, Gonda, Pratapgarh, Nainital, Baharaich, Haridwar, Rishikesh, Gorakhpur, Siddharthnagar, Maharajganj, Ghaziabad, Sitapur, Mirzapur, Azamgarh, Lucknow, Sonbhadra, Varanasi, Bhadoi etc. These people had not accepted the dominance of British government and they were therefore excluded from scheduled castes. I would request the Social Welfare Minister to take immediate action to include this caste in the list of scheduled castes.

SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI (Maharajganj): Sir, under the leadership of Sh. Som Nath Chatterjee, we had gone to see the tragedy arising out of the Railway accident that took place at Ferozabad on the black night of 20th.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : This issue has also been raised.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI : I had requested that it is another issue on which I should be allowed to

speak.....(Interruptions) The month in which people come to Gaya not only from India but from all over the world to perform paternal rituals is approaching. The people who gather there do not belong to only one religion. The people professing Buddhism also congregate there. The definition of Hinduism in my opinion is very wide. The sufi saints were born here. People come there to offer namaj in their memory. The district Gaya is very important from tourism point of view. Bodh Gaya and Gaya station have not been provided with proper rail links nor are they connected with air service. This is a sorry state of affairs not only in Bihar but the entire tourism industry of India Bodh Gaya is rightly termed as the gateway of tourism but it has not so far been connected with rail.

Many prestigious trains do not stop at Gaya. The Rajdhani Express has a stoppage but there is no booking office. The people travelling by Rajdhani Express can alight only at Gaya. They have no option to travel to other destinations after boarding the trains at Gaya station. This is a serious neglect and discrimination against Bihar. Sir, there is a proposal to construct an airport at Bodh Gaya with a cost of Rs. 24 crore, where any plane of any country would land but till this airport is completed, I would request that stoppage for Purshottam Express should be provided and arrangements should be made for booking in the train itself. The Howarah bound Rajdhani Express stops there daily but it has no arrangements for the booking of tickets. Therefore, an additional bogey should be attached at Gaya. Some new fast trains should also be introduced for this place, if not for the whole year, they can be introduced in this holy month keeping in mind the religious sentiments of Buddhists, Hindus and people belonging to other faiths. It will increase the revenue of tourism industry also. This should be taken up as early as possible.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I am calling the names which are before me.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Sir, the pay and allowances that have been given to the public sector banks have not been allowed in case of the employees of the Regional Rural Banks. The Government has accepted the Award of the National Industrial Tribunal - which was given in 1990 - which provided for equal pay, allowances and benefits with the sponsored banks as per the industrywise settlement.

The Association of the employees of the Regional Rural Bank had called a strike, which was to take place today - the 25th of August, 1995. I took a delegation of the employees Association of the Regional Rural Banks to the Union Finance Minister and demanded that the

employees of the Regional Rural banks were getting the same pay and allowances as prescribed for the public sector banks, so when the wage or the employees and officers of the public sector banks was negotiated, the same pay, allowances and benefits should also have been extended to the employees of the Regional Rural banks.

The Finance Minister gave an assurance that he would consider it and would try to implement it. On this assurance the association has withdrawn the strike call. I would urge upon the Government to accept the genuine demands of the employees of the Regional Rural Bank. And also, the wage settlement that is there for the employees of the public sector banks should also be extended to the employees of the Regional Rural Bank.

[Translation]

SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA MUNDA (Keonjhar) : So many Members are absent, why do't you give me a chance?

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Since many of the Members are absent your turn will come early.

DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR (Hapur) : Pilkhuwa and Modinagar are commercial centres under my Parliamentary Constituency which are visited by traders from all over India. The local traders are required to make frequent telephonic calls to Delhi in connection with their business. The aerial distance of these two places from Delhi is less than the aerial distance of Dadri. Dadri has the facility of making local calls to Delhi but these two places have been deprived of this facility despite the fact that they are at shorter distance from Delhi. Similarly, the aerial distance between Farrukhnagar and Delhi is less than the aerial distance between Delhi and Dadri. So I shall request the Communications Minister to extend the local call facility to Pilkhuwa, Modinagar and Farrukhnagar in the public interest and in the interest of the people of these towns.

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY (Allahabad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, thank you for giving me time to speak. Only two days ago, the U.P. Health Minister had made a sensational announcement in the U.P. legislative Council about government's decision set up a bench of Allahabad High Court at Meerut. I would like to draw the attention of Government to this matter.

I strongly oppose the bifurcation of Allahabad High Court and setting up a bench at Meerut. Efforts are being made to dilute the dignity of Allahabad High Court by bifurcating it in the name of easy access and affording Chief justice at the doors of the people. You know, Allahabad High Court is the oldest High Court of the

country. It has its own traditions. Its historic and magnificent building has its own charm. It has a well equipped library to maintain high legal standards of the local bar and the bench. The legal experts take advantage of this to increase their capability. There is a conspiracy to bifurcate the Allahabad High Court. There is not the demand only for setting up a High Court Bench in Meerut district but people are demanding setting up of such benches at Bareilly Kumaon, Dehradun, Gorakhpur, Agra etc. Will then the Government accept their demands and set up benches at these places by dividing the Allahabad High Court into places and by diluting its dignity? If Government intends to provide cheap and accessible justice, why does it not set up the benches of Supreme Court in other states also, because the people of Madras, Bihar and Bengal experience a lot of inconvenience in coming to Delhi. If in the name of cheap and accessible justice Allahabad High Court is divided into pieces then the Supreme Court benches should also be set up at every nook and corner of the country with the same aim.

I, with a heavy heart and associating my sentiments with Allahabad, want to say that if Allahabad cannot be separated from the confluence of the Ganga, Yamuna and Saraswati, the pious river of justice flowing from Allahabad High Court cannot be diverted. I would therefore, demand of the central Government not to divide Allahabad High Court and take urgent steps to stop the division of this High Court so as to maintain its entity and dignity. I strongly oppose the setting up of a bench at Meerut.

[English]

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia) : Sir, after coming back from Benares, I have been waiting for the last ten days to raise this matter. Sir, I visited the Bairat Farm at Chakia block of Benares. Sir, Musahar Community people are tribble people and they belong to Scheduled Castes. They are cultivating about 1600 *bighas* of land illegally occupied by ex-Maharaja of Kasi. Recently, in collusion with the administration, raja's goons are trying to evict them. In spite of the fact that Kasi *raja* has no record or right on the land, those people are occupying the land and evicting these poor people. The poor tribals are being beaten; they are being arrested; they are being attacked. False cases are registered against them. Harijan and tribal people are under attack. All of them are agricultural labourers and poor people. This is the situation going on there. Sir, this type of attacks in collusion with the administration of Uttar Pradesh and ex-Maharaja of Kashi against agricultural labourers belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should be stopped. The Government of India should protect these poor Harijans. Sir, for ten days I have been waiting to say this.

In only one minute would I put forward another point. If you today go to market, you will not be able to purchase anything in Delhi. All shops are closed. The tenants are on the street. Do you know why? It is because of the Delhi Rent Act. The President has given his assent to the Bill, in spite of several protests and in spite of several deputations. The Prime Minister and the Home Minister have assured on the floor of the House that it will be reconsidered. ... (Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Mollah, you cannot speak on anything which does not pertain to the issue that you have given. Your issue pertains to agricultural labourers.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Sir, the Home Minister should keep his word.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA (Firozabad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, while obeying you, I would like to draw the Government's attention towards Firozabad. I have placed before this House this matter four times under Rule 377. 124 trains shuttle up and down daily at Firozabad station and many accidents have taken place there. The recent accident is one of them. I would therefore, request the Government of India to construct an overbridge there. The Railway Minister is sitting in the House. He must take up the construction of overbridge there. There have been many delivery cases in which the women lost their lives for want of medical aid.

I would, through you, Sir, request the Railway Minister to provide there an overbridge as early as possible to extend some relief to local people.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Shakespeare had said; call rose by any name, its fragrance will never change. We can change it to say; call the market by any name, it would not make any difference to its loss and profit. The trend Delhi is witnessing today is wrong. Changing of names has become a fashion in Delhi which is wrong. After all, history is history. It is not a carpet which can be spread anywhere and which can be folded at any time. We constructed Nehru Place after independence. Similarly, the Government should construct Rajiv Place, Indira Place. But, the Government wants to pay false obeisance by changing names. I fail to understand this. I say this because it will send wrong message to the country. We supported the change of name from Bombay to Mumbai because that was a separate issue. Cownpur was changed to Kanpur is the correct name. Now a trend is picking up of changing names of mohallas, roads and towns.

AN HON. MEMBER : Somebody will change the name of his father also.

**SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN** : One who has some doubt can change it also. Some of my friends want to change the name of Aligarh to Harigarh. Others want to change the name of Aurangabad to Sambhaji Nagar, while Sambhaji has no historical relation with Aurangabad. This will establish a wrong precedent. Our history is very old and we must respect it. We must have a place in our hearts for it. We cannot change the history we cannot rewrite it.

I would again request the Government not to change the name of Cannought Place. Delhi has spread like anything. So, you can set up new Indira place and Rajiv place.

**SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY (Ranchi)** : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the house towards my constituency, Ranchi. The process of shifting central offices from Ranchi has been continuing for some years and efforts are still on. The Central Information Bureau was shifted to Kanpur. The Films Development Corporation was shifted to West Bengal. The Civil wing of AIR was shifted to Calcutta. The regional office of CBSC was shifted to Allahabad. Likewise, many other central officer have been shifted from Ranchi. The Central Ground water council's Office has been functioning from Ranchi for the last 27-28 years which has a staff strength of about 500 workers and now the action to shift this office has been initiated. The employees are staging protests and dharnas and demonstrations against this step. Other people are also demanding that this office should not be shifted from Ranchi. I have also written to the hon. Minister but the process of shifting this office from Ranchi continues. I would request the Central Government not to shift this office and allow it to function at Ranchi.

[English]

**SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM (Inner Manipur)** : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, combing operations are being conducted by the para-military forces in the State of Manipur just to flush out the insurgents. While conducting the operations, it is unfortunate that certain personnel of the force have misbehaved with woman and also outraged their modesty. Some personnel have beaten up the innocent citizes while searching their houses. While searching their house, some valuables have also been picked up by the personnel. Although it was a good mission yet it provoked, it enraged the people and it is going to be revolted by the women's organisation. Sir, these excesses are committed by this very disciplined force.

So, I would like to urge the Central Government, through you, Sir, that positive actions should be taken to restrain these Armed Forces personnel from committing

such crimes. Sir, I would request through you that an impartial inquiry should be made so that such crimes are not committed by the Armed Forces Personnel in the State of Manipur, which is an insurgent prone area and these provocations are not made to the women population of that State.

**SHRI ANNA JOSHI (Pune)** : Sir, I would like to raise the following matter of public importance in the Zero Hour.

The Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA), the apex non-governmental body to enlighten public opinion on international issues is celebrating its golden jubilee in 1995. During the past four decades, the ICWA has enviable record of its positive achievement except the past decade (1985-95). Despite the over camouflage of holding seminars, lectures and debates on India's foreign policy and international affairs, the ICWA has failed to make any noticeable impact either in contribution to public understanding or making suitable recommendations to the Ministry of External Affairs. Broadly speaking, the ICWA is virtually beset with a deterioration both academic and institutional. The maintenance of library is very poor and new addition of qualitative books and periodicals is almost non-existent. The library staff is poorly paid as compared to their co-professionals in other libraries elsewhere.

Hence, in this golden jubilee year of the ICWA, it is high time to put this august institution in order to revive its past glory so that it becomes a nerve centre of intellectual interaction. The long pending move of taking over the ICWA by the Government seems to be the best available option and it is in the fitness of things to speed up such a move.

[Translation]

**SHRIMATI LOVELY ANAND (Vaishali)** : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, today the entire country is witnessing unending political murders. The incidents are highlighted in Parliament, Legislative Assemblies and newspapers and the matter dies down there. But political murders continue one after another.

In independent India, the process of political murders started from the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi and continued with the assassination of Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya, Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia, Shri Lalit Narayan Mishra, Prime Minister Late Smt. Indira Gandhi, Parliament Member Lalit Maken, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, the Maharashtra Chief of BJP Shri Naik and so on and so forth. Nobody knows how many more victims will be there in future.

Perhaps, no State, whether it is Punjab, Kashmir, Bengal, Maharashtra, Delhi or Assam are free from these murders. Bihar and Uttar Pradesh witness more

political assassinations. In Bihar, during the last 5 years, several political leaders have been assassinated which include BJP, MP Shrilshwar Choudhary; former Congress MP, Kamakhya Narayan Singh; former Janta Dal M.P., Ram Nagina Rai; Congress-I M.L.A., Hemant Sahi and Janata Dal MLA, Ashok Singh.

Not only that, a few months ago, a very honest IAS officer Shri G. Krishnaiah was murdered in Muzaffarpur in broad daylight. Initially, the administration and press reported that he became a victim of an agitated crowd. But later on, under government's conspiracy, my husband and the then MLA, Anand Mohan, the leader of my party and the former Minister, Akhikh Ahmed.. (*Interruptions*)

[English]

SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI (Maharajganj) : In the murder of Ashok Singh and in the murder of Krishnaiah they are involved... (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI LOVELY ANAND : Twenty four honourable leaders of Bihar People's Party and Samata Party, including the member of National Executive of Samata Party and former MLA Prof. Arun Kumar Sinha were booked and lodged in jails. Similarly, this time also, my Party's Leader and former MLA, Shri Prabhunath Singh has been charged of the murder of Janata Dal MLA Ashok Singh and has been sent to jail. Shri Shakuni Choudhary, MLA was also implicated falsely in a murder case. During the last Assembly elections, my Party's candidate from Jahanabad, Shri Anil Kumar Verma was murdered in broad daylight.

Seven innocent youths of Kamarathu village under Gaighat Assembly constituency from where Shri Anand Mohan was a candidate, were picked up from a bus stop and shot dead at Bochaho police station, which was later shown as a police encounter. Shri Prabhunath Singh, a staunch supporter of my party was murdered in broad daylight in Shivhar under a conspiracy hatched by the Local MLA and a Minister. The political murders being committed in the country are not only a cause of concern for me but it is a cause of concern for the entire House. We must start some serious and special debate for the protection of life and property of political leaders and the Central Government should take some concrete steps in this regard so as to put a stop to this unending process of political murders. The Central Government should not absolve itself of the responsibility by saying that it is the responsibility of the concerned State Government.

My party and I have demanded CBI enquiries into such cases. The State Government always runs away from its responsibility, whether it is the case of murder of Hemant Sahi or that of Janata Dal MLA, Ashok Singh. I

can say with confidence that former MLA, Prabhunath Singh was not involved in the murder of Ashok Singh and he is languishing in jail because of government's wrath. If the CBI is able to apprehend the real culprits and they are punished, this process of political murder will come to an end and the political opponents who are becoming the victims of mal-intentions of local Governments, will also feel secure.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : If there is any allegation against any individual it will be deleted.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI LOVELY ANAND : All the cases of murder should be enquired into by the CBI.. (*Interruptions*)

[English]

SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI : We have not been allowed to present our views.. (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI (Sitamarhi) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this relates to her constituency. She should be heard.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Kindly hear me. If there are any allegations made by Shrimati Lovely Anand, all those allegations will be deleted.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Kindly sit down. Any allegations made against the Government or any individual, are being deleted.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI : Why did not they go to console his widow? They have not mustered the courage so far to enter her house. This should be entrusted to CBI for enquiry.. (*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have passed the order. I have given the ruling.

[Translation]

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : (Madhubani) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, during the last two years, floods have played havoc in our area on Indo-Nepal border. I want to draw the attention of Government of India to a large area

of this region, which has remained cut off for the last 12 days from rest of India. The Kamla, the Kosi and the Bagmati rivers originate from Nepal and because of shortage of water in these rivers during the last 4 months, the entire Tarai belt of Nepal and Mithila..(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY - SPEAKER : This matter was raised on the floor of this House...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : I am making some suggestions. I was absent and coming just now.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : It is true. Regarding the said hour, this matter was raised on the floor of the House and it was discussed.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Sir, you do not understand this. That is what I am telling. Please let me submit.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The job of the Chair is to see whether the subject had come up for discussion or not. If it had come up for discussion, then the rule does not permit the repetition of the subject.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : I am repeating. Please help me.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Are you refuting the subject?

[Translation]

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, these rivers are not carrying adequate water. The Kamla river has changed its course and therefore, only little water is available on the western side. The Bagmati river water is taking its course to the western side and that of Kosi to eastern side. We are affected by drought, and floods. Many rounds of talks were held with Nepal Government on the question of water of these rivers. There are 7-8 blocks beyond Jhanjhpur where rail and road routes are totally blocked. The people and farmers are facing great difficulty. The Bihar Government is facing financial constraint.. (Interruptions) Nepal Government is ready. What I want to say is that you should make available plants. The people there need more fertilizer than food. We have a very fertile land. The farmers should be provided paddy plants so as to grow full crop. Otherwise that area will face famine in the coming year. Some relief must be extended to them to save them from famine. We must hold talks with Nepal government to find out a lasting solution to this problem.

SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI : The other hon. Members have been allowed to read out in the House, but I have

been refused such permission..(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha) : I am mentioning a small matter but a very important matter. (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : What do you mean?

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : An hon. Member. I want to make some suggestions I would have your suggestions outside the house tomorrow.

[English]

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : On or about the sixth of this month the Ayyappa Seva Samiti was holding a concert or a *Gaana Mela* of Shri K.J. Yesudas in the Talkatora Stadium. There ensued an incident where some policemen of the Delhi Police wanted to enter forcibly to see the show. It is said to be a practice that men from the Police Force come when such functions are held by associations or organisations. They tried to get into but the organisers did not allow and at last there ensued fight between the organisers or the volunteers and the policemen.

That is not the end of it. After about six days one Shri Jaya Krishnan, a person from my constituency in Kerala has been kidnapped and he has not been found for the past 14 days. He is missing. It is doubted very seriously that some policemen of the Delhi Police have done this and the agony is that for the past 14 days nothing is known about him. We have submitted memoranda to the Home Minister. Shri P.M. Sayeed was also kind enough to take immediate action. Till now nothing has been heard.

I urge upon the hon. Minister for Home, who is here, to give this House an assurance or at least to let us know what the stage of the case is, because for the past 14 days we know nothing about this person.

The residents of Dilshad Garden from where he has been kidnapped have staged a rally in which 3,000 persons took part. Just because the function took place there the police wanted to go in.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Thomas, the kidnapped shall have to be traced out. That is the job of the Government. You are urging upon the Government to trace him out early. That is what is needed. Why indulge in unnecessary repetition and explanation? The Government can understand it very well.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : A word from the Government will be welcome. The hon. Home Minister is here.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Let us not continue this up to five o'clock.

Shri Mohan Rawale.

15.00 hrs. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Rawale, your subject was discussed on 24.8.95. Therefore, there is no need to take up this subject now.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : On 24.8.95 this matter was raised here.

*[Translation]*

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Bombay South-Central) : Sir, I want to make only one submission. The Textile Modernisation Bill was passed.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Before I hear you, you should hear me also. The rules do not permit to raise the same issue in the same Session.

*[Translation]*

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Sir, the issue relates to shortage of cotton.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The issue regarding modernisation of Textile Mills in Mumbai was discussed. The Bill was passed. The hon. Minister has exhaustively answered this.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Sir, I have only one demand. The Bill that was passed yesterday provides for modernisation of Textile Mills. According to it modernisation will take more than one and a half years. Therefore, workers will remain idle for that period. I, therefore request the government to supply them raw material and cotton to run the mills so that they are not rendered jobless. The hon. Finance Minister is sitting here. I make the same request to him also.

*[English]*

SHRI LAETA UMBREY (Arunachal East) : Sir, as you know and as the House knows very well, my State, Arunachal Pradesh is one of the most peaceful States in the country today. It is known as an island of peace in the turmoil North-East. But, unfortunately, because of the stubborn attitude of the Central Government there has recently been an erosion in the island. The hon. Prime Minister, during his visit to my State about five months back, has assured the people. So the Govt. should take bold steps to solve the problem of this tiny but strategically important State for the larger interests of the country and also for the larger interests of the indigenous people of Arunachal Pradesh.

The issue is that in 1965-66 about five thousand families of Chakmas and Hajong refugees were brought from the Chitagong region in Bangladesh to Arunachal Pradesh, the then NEFA, arbitrarily by the Central Government without the consent of the local people. Now, the population has grown from five thousand to one lakh in 30 years. There are about six thousand indigenous people in Arunachal Pradesh and most of these tribal communities population has decreased by more than hundred per cent over the same period of time. If they are allowed to continue to stay in the State for another ten years, I am sure, they will reduce the indigenous people to a minority.

These people were brought by committing gross violation of Inner line Regulation Act of 1873. It was also against the wishes of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru because leaders like Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia have vehemently opposed the continuance of Inner line Regulation Act. But Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru said, No and in the name development the age-old rich culture and identity of these tribal people should not be lost. That is the reason it was continuing. But, unfortunately, it has been violated.

Now, I want to stress another unfortunate thing. These Chakma refugees are trying to mobilise the world opinion with distorted figures and with fabricated informations. They are trying to mislead our hon. Member colleagues here begging with crocodile tears. Many hon. Members, out of sympathy, have put Unstarred Questions and tabled their memorandums on the Table of the House. But, I am sure, they do not know the gravity of the things. I welcome them to come to my State and see the position by themselves.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHYAM BIHARI MISRA (Bilhaur) Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, half of Delhi markets remained closed yesterday in protest against Delhi Rent Control Act and today the entire Delhi is closed and it will remain closed tomorrow also. This Rent Control Act has been passed in a hurry and it has many deficiencies, as a result of which there is great resentment among the traders of the entire country and the old tenants are also perturbed. Assurances were given that some of the provisions of this Bill will be reviewed before it is assented to by the President. But the hon. Prime Minister has got the Bill assented. This has created great resentment among traders and old tenants.

I shall urge upon the Central Government to call a meeting of the representatives of residents and traders of Delhi and have a dialogue with them to find out some solution to the situation which has resulted in complete closure of commercial activities in Delhi. It is necessary to resolve the matter so as to bring about normalcy in Delhi.

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH (Mirzapur) : Sir, I want to draw government's attention, through you, to a very serious matter. Prior to 1956, under the Distillery Act, powers to grant licences were vested with the State Governments. But after 1956, a law was enacted where under issuance of licences for manufacturing alcoholics and liquor had been entrusted to Central government. But still many state Governments are issuing these licences and thus, violating the orders of the Supreme Court and also the Law passed by this House. This is a direct blow on our federal structure. I therefore, want to submit that I have given a notice to the concerned Ministry also that such cases are happening in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. In 1992, the Bihar Government invited tenders for grant of licences to manufacture alcoholics and liquor. Similar things have happened in Uttar Pradesh also. Inviting tenders for granting such licences violates the order of Supreme Court and also the law passed by this House.

Sir, the subjects are clearly defined in respect of states and the Union by our Constitution. The laws framed by this House are not honoured. In Uttar Pradesh also, the Mulayam Singh Government invited tenders for the same as was done by Bihar government in 1992. This is a clear infringement of the law. Why is the government not initiating steps for the dismissal of Bihar Government?

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria) : Both U.P. and Bihar Government, should be dismissed.

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH : U.P. and Bihar Governments should be dismissed. Whichever government violates Central laws, should be dismissed.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Virendra Singh ji, manufacturing of liquor is at the hands of the State Government.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH : I have facts with me to support my contention that this law was passed by this House. The Supreme Court also said that these licences cannot be granted by State Governments. The Government has also said in this House that no State Government can grant these licences for manufacturing liquor despite this, State Governments are inviting tenders, which is an infringement of law enacted by the Union Government and that of the order of Supreme Court. Such Governments should be dismissed but it appears that this Government has no courage to do so.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : There is difficulty in implementing the order.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to make a submission regarding the arbitrary decision of the Central Water Commission to abolish the Brahmani Subemarekha Division of the Central Water Commission in Bhubaneswar. In this regard, the Members of Parliament from my State have already represented to the Minister of Water Resources and to the Prime Minister for not to abolish this Division.

Sir, as you know, the Brahmani-Subemarekha Division of the Central Water Commission was set up in 1969 to perform a vital function of forewarning the populace about the onslaught of flood. Every year, the State of Orissa is suffering from flood. So, this division was helping the flood affected people of Orissa. So, our demand is that this division should not be abolished. I request the hon. Minister of Water Resources and the Government to take necessary steps so as not to abolish this Brahmani-Subemarekha Division of the Central Water Commission.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through You I want to draw the attention of the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Finance Minister..(Interruptions) The employees of Rural Banks in the country have submitted a memorandum to the Central Tribunal demanding similar pay structure and other facilities as are available to the employees of commercial banks. The Central Tribunal accepted their contention and gave a judgement in their favour. Thereafter the Government also started giving salaries and allowances accordingly. But the Government is not giving them the 6th pay increase on the plea that the these banks are incurring losses. I think once the facility has been extended, there is no justification for withholding the pay increase, they are entitled to.

There are 12000 branches of rural banks in the entire country and the employees are resorting to agitations. The Government has accepted the recommendation of the Tribunal and implemented the same. It should also accept the sixth pay revision and increase the pay and allowances of these employees. With these words, I conclude.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : His name is the last one. When his name was called he was not there.

*[Translation]*

SHRI BALRAJ PASSI (Nainital) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards a very serious problem of Uttar Pradesh. Uttar Pradesh has been invaded by locusts which has caused extensive damage to crops worth crores of rupees, particularly in Bajpur, Gadarpur and Rudrapur in district Nainital. The swarm of locusts invade the fields suddenly and destroy entire crop. The local farmers don't have sufficient means to spray insecticides and protect their crops from further invasion by locusts. I would request the Government to arrange for aerial spray of insecticides to destroy locusts and save the crop of farmers from being destroyed by these locusts.

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : No, I am sorry. Whatever names which were there in the list have been called. Now, papers to be laid on the Table of the House.

15.16 hrs.

## PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

ANNUAL REPORT AND STATEMENT OF REVIEW ON THE WORKING OF INDIA GANDHI RASHTRIYA URAN AKADEMI, FURSATGANJ FOR 1993-1994 AND STATEMENT SHOWING REASONS FOR DELAY IN LAYING THESE PAPERS ETC.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND HOLDING ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAY (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : Sir, on behalf of Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad I beg to lay on the table—

- (1)(i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi, Fursatganj for the year 1993-94, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the India Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi, Fursatganj, for the year 1993-94.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the paper mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT - 8073/95]

(3) A copy of the National Airports Authority (Employees Contributory Provident Fund and Family Pension Fund) Regulations 1994, (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. SEC. 9.2.4 in Gazette of India dated 24th January, 1995, under section 40 of the National Airports Authority Act. 1985.

[Placed in Library See No. LT - 8074/95]

(4)(i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English

Versions) of the Indian Airlines, for the year 1993-94, under sub-section (2) of Section 37 of the Air Corporations Act, 1953.

- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Indian Airlines for the year 1993-94.
- (iii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Airlines for the year 1993-94 together with Audit Report thereon, under sub-section (4) of section 15 of the Air Corporations Act, 1953.

(5) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons of delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT - 8075/95]

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN COTTON CORPORATION OF INDIA AND MINISTRY OF TEXTILES FOR 1995-96 ETC.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND HOLDING ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : Sir, on behalf of Shri G. Venkat Swamy I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Cotton Corporation of India and the Ministry of Textile for the year 1995-96.

[Placed in Library See No. LT - 8076/95]

(2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956.-

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Birds Jute and Exports Limited Calcutta, for the year 1993-94.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Birds Jute and Exports Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1993-94, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned (2) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT - 8077/95]

(4)(i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Jute Industries Research Association, Calcutta, for the year 1993-94, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Jute Industries Research Association, Calcutta, for the year 1993-94.

(5) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4)

above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT - 8078/95]

ANNUAL REPORT AND REVIEW ON THE WORKING OF NATIONAL LABOUR INSTITUTE, NOIDA FOR 1992-93 AND STATEMENT SHOWING REASONS FOR DELAY IN LAYING THE PAPERS.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS and holding additional charge of Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : Sir, on behalf of Shri P.A. Sangma I beg to lay on the Table -

(1)(i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Labour Institute, Noida, for the year 1992-93 alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Labour Institute, Noida, for the year 1992-93.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8079/95]

ANNUAL REPORT AND REVIEW ON THE WORKING OF FEDERATION OF INDIAN EXPORT ORGANISATIONS, NEW DELHI FOR 1993-94 AND STATEMENT SHOWING REASONS FOR DELAY IN LAYING THE PAPERS ETC.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table -

(1)(i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Federation of Indian Export Organisations, New Delhi, 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 Federation of Indian Export Organisations, New Delhi, 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. 8080/95]

(3) A copy of the Tea (Distribution and Export) Control (Amendment) Order, 1995 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 616(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 7th July 1995, issued under sub-section (3) and (5) of section 30 of the Tea Act, 1953—

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8081/95]

(4)(i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Tobacco Board, Guntur, 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 Tobacco Board, Guntur, for the year 1993-94.

(5) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8082/95]

(6) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Export Inspection Council and Export Inspection agencies (Volume-II)\* for the year 1993-94, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(7) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (6) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8083/95]

ANNUAL REPORTS AND ACCOUNTS OF THE REGIONAL RURAL BANKS FOR THE YEAR ENDED ON 31.3.1994, TOGETHER WITH AUDITOR'S REPORT THEREON, ETC.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table -

(1) A copy each of the following annual Reports and Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Regional Rural Banks for the year ended on the 31st March, 1994, together with Auditor's Report thereon.-

(i) Sravasthi Gramin Bank Bahraich (U.P.)

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8084/95]

(ii) Mewar Aanchalik Gramin Bank Udaipur (Rajasthan)

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8085/95]

(iii) Yavatmal Gramin Bank, Yavatmal (Maharashtra)

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8086/95]

(iv) Jamuna Gramin Bank, Agra (U.P.)

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8087/95]

(v) Pragjyotish Gaonlia Bank, Nalbari (Assam)

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8088/95]

(vi) Pandyan Grama Bank, Sattur (Tamil Nadu)

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8089/95]

(vii) Sri Rama grameena Bank, Nizamabad (A.P.)

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8090/95]

(viii) Nalanda Gramin Bank, Biharsharif (Bihar)

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8091/95]

(ix) Vidisha Bhopal Kshetriya Gramin Bank Vidisha (M.P.)

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8092/95]

(x) Mizoram Rural Bank, Aizwal (Mizoram)

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\* Annual Report of the Export Inspection Council and Export Inspection Agencies (Volume-I) was laid on the Table on the 26th May, 1995.

- [Placed in Library See No. LT. 8093/95]
- (xi) Ambala Kurukshetra Gramin Bank, Ambala City (Haryana)  
[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8094/95]
- (xii) Kankadurga Grameena Bank, Gudivada (A.P.)  
[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8095/95]
- (xiii) Gurgaon Gramin Bank, H.O. Gurgaon, (Haryana)  
[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8096/95]
- (xiv) Saran Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Chapra (Bihar)  
[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8097/95]
- (xv) Balasore Gramya Bank, Balasore (Orissa).  
[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8098/95]
- (xvi) Devi Patan Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Gonda (U.P.)  
[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8099/95]
- (xvii) Surendranagar Bhavnagar Gramin Bank, Sunredranagar (Gujarat).  
[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8100/95]
- (xviii) Netravati Grameena Bank, Mangalore (Karnataka)  
[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8101/95]
- (xix) Shahjahanpur Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Shahjahanpur (U.P.)  
[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8102/95]

(2) A copy of the Coinage (Standard Weight and Remedy of Commemorative Coin of One Rupee containing Iron 82 percent and Chromium 18 percent coined for "8th World Tamil Conference 1995") Rules. (Hindi and English versions) Published in Notification No. G.S.R. 386(E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th May, 1995, under sub-section (3) of section 21 of the COINAGE ACT 1906.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8103/95]

(3) A copy of the Service Tax (Amendment) Rules, 1995 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 524(E) in Gazette of India dated the 28th June, 1995, under sub-section (4) of section 94 of the Finance Act, 1994, together with an explanatory memorandum.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8104/95]

(4) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 296 of the Income-tax Act, 1961 :-

- (i) The Income-Tax (Fourth Amendment) Rules, 1995 published in Notification No. S.O. 460(E) in Gazette of India dated the 23rd May, 1995.
- (ii) The Income-Tax (Fifth Amendment) Rules, 1995 published in Notification No. S.O. 497(E) in Gazette of India dated the 2nd June, 1995.
- (iii) The Income-Tax (Tenth Amendment) Rules, 1995 published in Notification No. S.O. 636(E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th July, 1995.

- (iv) The Income-tax (Thirteenth Amendment) Rules, 1995 published in Notification No. S.O. 644(E) in Gazette of India dated the 19th July, 1995.
- (v) The Income-tax (Sixth Amendment) Rules, 1995 published in Notification No. S.O. 611(E) in Gazette of India dated the 5th July, 1995.
- (vi) The Income-tax (Ninth Amendment) Rules, 1995 published in Notification No. S.O. 634(E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th July, 1995.
- (vii) The Income-tax (Fourteenth Amendment) Rules, 1995 published in Notification No. S.O. 667(E) in Gazette of India dated the 25th July, 1995.  
[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8105/95]

(5) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962 :-

- (i) G.S.R. 458(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th May, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to goods specified in the notification when imported into India from the whole of the basic and additional duties of customs leviable thereon, subject to certain conditions.
- (ii) G.S.R. 474(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd June, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 104/93-Cus., dated the 16th March, 1993.
- (iii) G.S.R. 475(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd June, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to materials imported into India against Special Value Based Advance Licence for the export of readymade garments from the whole of the basic and additional duties of Customs leviable thereon, subject to certain conditions.
- (iv) G.S.R. 476(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd June, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to materials imported against a Special Value Based Advance Licence for the export of readymade garments in terms of Export and Import Policy from the whole of the basic and additional duties of customs leviable thereon, subject to certain conditions.
- (v) G.S.R. 478(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th June, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in certain Notifications mentioned therein.
- (vi) G.S.R. 479(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th June, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 161/92-Cus., dated the 20th April,

- 1992.
- (vii) G.S.R. 480(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th June, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption in certain specified goods from so much of the duty of customs leviable thereon as is in excess of the amount calculated at the rate of 15 percent *Ad-Valorem* and whole of the additional duty of customs leviable thereon with certain conditions.
- (viii) G.S.R. 481(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th June, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to specified goods from the whole of the basic and additional duties of customs leviable thereon, subject to certain conditions.
- (ix) G.S.R. 489(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 8th June, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No. 13/81-Cus., dated the 9th February, 1981.
- (x) The Customs Valuation (Determination of Price of Imported Goods) Amendment Rules, 1995 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 358(E) in Gazette of India dated the 24th April, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (xi) S.O. 475(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th May, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or *vice-versa*, for the purposes of assessment of imports.
- (xii) S.O. 476(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th May, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or *vice-versa* for the purposes of assessment of exports.
- (xiii) S.O. 586(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th June, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into India currency or *vice-versa* for the purposes of assessment of imports.
- (xiv) S.O. 587(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th May, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or *vice-versa* for the purposes of assessment of exports.
- (xv) G.S.R. 366(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th April, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to extend the concessional rate of customs duty of 25 percent to specified type of copper clad laminates.
- (xvi) G. S. R. 367(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th April, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to extend the concessional rate of customs duty of 15 percent of specified inputs used for manufacture of specified electronic components.
- (xvii) G.S.R. 373 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st May, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 49/95- Cus., dated the 20th March, 1990.
- (xviii) G.S.R. 387(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th May, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 83/90-Cus., dated the 29th March, 1990.
- (xix) The Customs Tariff (Determination of Origin of Goods under the Bangkok Agreement) Amendment Rules, 1995 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 415(E) in Gazette of India dated the 22nd May, 1995, together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (xx) G.S.R. 416(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd May, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the notification No. 236/89-Cus., dated the 1st September, 1989.
- (xxi) G.S.R. 428(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th May, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to replace the world 'commissioner' for the world 'Collector' in 145 notifications of Customs consequent to enactment of the Finance Bill, 1995.
- (xxii) G.S.R. 429(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th May, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 43/95-Cus., dated the 16th March, 1995.
- (xxiii) G.S.R. 430 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th May, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum rescinding the three notifications mentioned therein.
- (xxiv) G.S.R. 484 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th June, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 104/86-Cus., dated the 17th February, 1986.
- (xxv) G.S.R. 486 (E) Published in Gazette of India dated the 7th June, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 73/94-Cus., dated the 1st March,

1994.

- (xxvi) G.S.R. 409 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th May, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to specified lifesaving drugs (including diagnostic text kits) from the basic and additional customs duties.
- (xxvii) G.S.R. 410 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th May, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to goods specified in the Notification from the whole of the basic and additional duties of customs, leviable thereon subject to certain conditions.
- (xxviii) G.S.R. 411 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th May, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to amend certain notifications so as to *inter-alia* prescribe concessional rate of customs duty on specified goods.
- (xxix) G.S.R. 412 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th May, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in Notifications mentioned therein.
- (xxx) G.S.R. 528 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to reduce customs duty on dried leguminous vegetables (pulses) from 10 percent to 5 percent *ad-valorem*.
- (xxxii) G.S.R. 543 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th July, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 26/95-Cus., dated the 16th March, 1995.
- (xxxiii) G.S.R. 544 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th July, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to reduce the basic Customs duty on Complete Ozone Generators from 50 percent to 25 percent *ad-valorem*.
- (xxxiiii) The Adhoc Exemption Order No. 154 (Hindi and English versions) together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to Machinery for Production of Condoms when imported by the Hindustan Latex Limited, Thiruvananthapuram, from the whole of the basic and additional duties of Customs leviable thereon.
- (xxxv) The Adhoc Exemption Order No. 182 (Hindi and English versions) together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to three prototype Road Railers and components when imported by M/s Kirloskar Pneumatics Company Limited, Pune, from the whole of the basic and Additional duties of customs leviable thereon.
- (xxxvi) The Adhoc Exemption Order No. 204 (Hindi and English versions) together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to Plant the Machinery required for setting up Ammonia Plant Replacement Project when imported by M/s Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Limited from the whole of the basic and Additional duties of Customs leviable thereon.
- (xxxvii) The Adhoc Exemption Order No. 200 (Hindi and English versions) together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Adhoc Exemption Order No. 115 dated the 21st May 1993.
- (xxxviii) The Adhoc Exemption Order No. 201 (Hindi and English versions) together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Adhoc Exemption Order No. 116 dated the 21st May, 1993.
- (xxxix) The Adhoc Exemption, Order No. 163 (Hindi and English versions) together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Adhoc Exemption Order No. 55 dated the 21st February, 1995.
- [Placed in Library See No. LT. 8106/95]
- (6) A copy each of the following Annual Reports and Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Regional Rural Banks for the year ended on the 31st March, 1995, together with Auditor's Report thereon :-
- (i) Aravali Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Sawai-Madhopur (Rajasthan)  
[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8107/95]
  - (ii) Valsad Dangs Gramin Bank, Valsad (Gujarat)  
[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8108/95]
  - (iii) Muzaffar Nagar Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Muzaffar Nagar (U.P.)  
[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8109/95]
  - (iv) Pratapgarh Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Pratapgarh (U.P.)  
[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8110/95]
  - (v) Aligarh Garamin Bank, Aligarh (U.P.)  
[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8111/95]
  - (vi) Mandla Balaghat Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Mandla (M.P.)  
[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8112/95]
  - (vii) Ballia Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Ranchi (Bihar)  
[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8113/95]
  - (viii) Ranchi Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Ranchi (Bihar)

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8114/95]

- (ix) Sarayu Gramin Bank, Lakhimpur Kheri (U.P.)

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8115/95]

- (x) Bhagirath Gramin Bank, Sitapur (U.P.)

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8116/95]

- (xi) Gwalior Datia Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Datia (M.P.)

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8117/95]

- (xii) Hisar-Sirsa Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Hisar (Haryana)

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8118/95]

- (xiii) Fizabad Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Faizabad (U.P.)

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8119/95]

- (xiv) Shahjahanpur Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Shahjahanpur (U.P.)

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8120/95]

- (xv) Solapur Gramin Bank, Solapur (Maharashtra)

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8121/95]

- (xvi) Marudhar Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Churu (Rajasthan)

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8122/95]

- (xvii) Sultanpur Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Sultanpur (U.P.)

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8123/95]

- (xviii) Varada Grammena Bank, Kumta (Karnataka)

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8124/95]

(7) A copy each of the Annual Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the State Bank of India, State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur, State Bank of Hyderabad, State Bank of Indore, State Bank of Mysore, State Bank of Patiala and State Bank of Saurashtra for the year 1994-95, alongwith Accounts and Auditor's Reports thereon, under sub-section (4) of section 40 of the State Bank of India Act, 1955 and sub-section (3) of section 43 of the State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks). Act, 1959, respectively.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8125/95]

(8) A copy each of the following Annual Reports (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (8) of Section 10 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970 and 1980 :-

- (i) Report on the working and activities of the Dena Bank for the year 1994-95, alongwith Accounts and Auditors Report thereon.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8126/95]

- (ii) Report on the working and activities of the Bank of Maharashtra for the year 1994-95, alongwith Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8127/95]

- (iii) Report on the working and activities of the Syndicate Bank for the year 1994-95, alongwith Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8128/95]

- (iv) Report on the working and activities of the Central Bank of India for the year 1994-95, alongwith Accounts and auditors Report thereon.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8129/95]

- (v) Report on the working and activities of the Oriental Bank of Commerce for the year 1994-95, alongwith Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8130/95]

- (9)(i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Securities and Exchange Board of India, for the year 1994-95, under sub-section (3) of section 18 of the securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Securities and Exchange Board of India for the year 1994-95.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 8131/95]

- (10) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 38 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944 :-

- (i) G.S.R. 399 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th May, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 35-95-CE, dated the 16th March, 1995.

- (ii) G.S.R. 400(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th May, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to prescribe a basic duty of 20 per cent *ad-valorem* on Wastes of man made fibres and filaments cleared by units who do not manufacture fibres and filaments from basic stages.

- (iii) G.S.R. 401(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th May, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in notifications mentioned therein.

- (iv) G.S.R. 402(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th May, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the notifications mentioned therein.

- (v) G.S.R. 403(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th May, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the notifications mentioned therein.

- (vi) G.S.R. 404(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th May, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to waste, parings and scrap arising in the course of manufacture of exempted goods from the whole of the duty of excise leviable thereon subject to certain conditions.

- (vii) G.S.R. 405(E) published in Gazette of India dated

- the 18th May, 1995 together with an explanatory Memorandum rescinding Notification No. 23/95-CE, dated the 16th March, 1995.
- (viii) G.S.R. 406(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th May, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 214/86-CE, dated the 25th March, 1986.
- (ix) The Central Excise (Seventh Amendment) Rules, 1995 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 407 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 18th May, 1995, together with and explanatory memorandum.
- (x) G.S.R. 408(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th May, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 5/94-CE, dated the 1st March, 1994.
- (xi) G.S.R. 419(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 24th May, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum providing that the exemption will be available even in those cases where the input sheets are printed, coated or lacquered outside with the aid of power.
- (xii) G.S.R. 431(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th May, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 1/93-CE, dated the 28th February, 1993.
- (xiii) G.S.R. 432(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th May, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to change designation of Assistant Collector/Collector.
- (xiv) G.S.R. 433(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th May, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in two Notifications mentioned therein.
- (xv) G.S.R. 434(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th May, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to replace the word 'Commissioner' for the word 'Collector' in certain notification mentioned therein.
- (xvi) G.S.R. 435(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th May, 1995 together with an explanatory Memorandum seeking to rescind three notifications mentioned therein.
- (xvii) G.S.R. 436(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th May, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to amend notification No. 82/95-CE, dated the 19th April, 1995.
- (xviii) G.S.R. 437(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th May, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to make certain amendments in the Notification No. 2/94-CE, dated the 1st March, 1994.
- (xix) G.S.R. 439(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th May, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 79/88-CE, dated the 1st March, 1988.
- (xx) The Central Excise (Eighth Amendment) Rules, 1995 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 438(E) in Gazette of India dated the 26th May, 1995, together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (xxi) G.S.R. 500(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 13th June, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in two Notifications mentioned therein.
- (xxii) G.S.R. 454(E) and G.S.R. 455(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th May, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum fixing the rates of interest at twenty and fifteen per cent per annum respectively for the purpose of section 11AA and 11DB of the Central Excise and Salt Act, 1944.
- (xxiii) The Central Excise (Amendment) rules, 1995 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 468(E) in Gazette of India dated the 31st May, 1995, together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (xxiv) G.S.R. 464(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th May, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum prescribing the details of invoices for the purposes of the Rule 57GG of the Central Excise Rules, 1944.
- (xxv) The Central Excise (Amendment) Rules, 1995 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 465(E) in Gazette of India dated the 30th May, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (xxvi) The Central Excise (Ninth Amendment) Rules, 1995 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 526(E) in Gazette of India dated the 29th June, 1995, together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (xxvii) G.S.R. 530(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th July, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum rescinding Notification No. 36/95-CE, dated the 16th March, 1995.
- (xxviii) The Central Excise (Eleventh Amendment) Rules, 1995 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 560(E) in Gazette of India dated the 21st July, 1995, together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (xxix) The Adhoc Exemption Order No. 26/7/95-CX (Hindi and English versions) together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to certain excisable goods mentioned therein from the duties of excise leviable thereon subject to certain conditions.

[Placed in Library See. No LT. 8132/95]

(11) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970 and 1980 :-

- (i) The Vijaya Bank Officer (Employees) Acceptance of Jobs in Private Sector Concerns after Retirement (Amendment) Regulations, 1994 published in Notification No. 1107 in Gazette of India dated the 20th May, 1995 together with a corrigendum thereto published in Gazette of India dated the 10th June, 1995.
- (ii) The Union Bank of India Officer (Employees) Acceptance of Jobs in Private Sector Concerns after Retirement (Amendment) Regulations, 1994 published in Notification No. CO:IRD:10085/95 No. OAR-I in Gazette of India dated the 15th April, 1995 together with a corrigendum thereto published in gazette of India dated the 22nd July, 1995.

(12) Two statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (11) above.

[Placed in Library See. No LT. 8133/95]

- (13)(i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India, Calcutta, for the year 1994-95. alongwith Audited Accounts, under sub-section (5) of section 29 and sub section (5) of section 31 of the Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India Act. 1984.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India, Calcutta, for the year 1994-95.

[Placed in Library See. No LT. 8134/95]

(14) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) :-

- (i) The Interim Report of the Fifth Central Pay Commission (Interim relief and merger of dearness allowance for Central Government Employees) May, 1995.

[Placed in Library See. No LT. 8135/95]

- (ii) The Fifth Central Pay Commission (Interim Relief to Pensioners).

[Placed in Library See. No LT. 8136/95]

(15) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation, Bombay, for the year ended the 31st March, 1995 alongwith Audited Accounts, under sub-section (2) of section 32 of the Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation Act, 1961.

[Placed in Library See. No LT. 8137/95]

**15.19 hrs.**

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL : Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:-

"In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Jammu and Kashmir Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 1995 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 22nd August, 1995 and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has not recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

**15.20 hrs.**

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS  
AND RESOLUTIONS  
MINUTES

[English]

SHRI SURAJBHANU SOLANKI (Dhar) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table the Minutes (Hindi and English versions) of the Forty-fourth and forty-fifth sittings of the committee on Private Members' Bill and Resolutions held during the current session.

**15.20½ hrs**

*Public Accounts Committee—  
Hundred and Seventh Report*

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay-North) : Sir, I beg to present the Hundred and Seventh Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Public Accounts Committee (10th Lok Sabha) on Salar Jung Museum, Hyderabad.

**15.21 hrs.**

*Committee on Government Assurances Thirty-Second and Thirty-Third Reports*

[Translation]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Sir, I beg to present Thirty-Second and Thirty-Third Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Government Assurances.

**15.22 hrs.**

*Statement by Minister*

Agreement Between Doordarshan and Turner International INC. (C.H.N), Atlanta, U.S.A.

**The Minister State of the Ministry of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (Shri K.P. Singh Deo) :** I rise to respond to the points made by some hon'ble Members in the House on 22nd August, 1995 regarding the agreement entered into by Doordarshan with Turneo International Inc. Atlanta, USA on 30th June, 1995, for the transmission of a 24 hour CNNI programming service utilising a transponder earmarked to Doordarshan on the INSAT 2B satellite.

The salient features of the agreement entered into on 30th June, 1995 are as follows :-

- (i) The terms of the agreement is 2 years.
- (ii) Doordarshan will provide uninterrupted access 24 hours a day to the INSAT 2B C-band transponder alongwith uplink and downlink facilities to the CNNI service.
- (iii) Turner International will assist Doordarshan in the enhancement of the satellite signal transmission and reception, equipment procurement (Automatic Playback machinery) one operation.
- (iv) The DD/CNN channel will carry a minimum of two and a maximum of eight half hours of original news and current affairs programmes per day provided by Doordarshan.
- (v) Doordarshan will provide Turner International a minimum of one hour transmission time daily terrestrially on either DD-1, DD-2, OR DD-3 for T.I. entertainment or current affairs programming. This shall be subject to Doordarshan's editorial control. Furthermore, Doordarshan's decision will be final and binding on the acceptability or otherwise of such programmes.
- (vi) Turner International will pay Doordarshan an annual telecast fee of US \$ 1,500,000 (one million five hundred thousand dollars).
- (vii) 25% of the telecast fee payable within 10 days of the signing of the agreement. Balance in three quarterly instalments, not later than the end of each succeeding quarter.
- (viii) Turner International will pay Doordarshan 50% of the additional net revenue over and above the first one million five hundred thousand dollars from the said satellite channel.
- (ix) Turner International will pay Doordarshan 50% of the net advertising revenue derived from Turner International's (T.I.) programming carried on the DD 3 channel.
- (x) Turner International will pay Doordarshan 65% of the net advertising revenue derived from Turner International's (T.I.) programming carried on the DD 1 and DD 2 channels.
- (xi) Turner International will do the marketing of all

CNNI and TI programming.

- (xii) The advertising time on the satellite channel will range from 2 minutes an hour for the CNNI service to 4 minutes an hour for DD programming.
- (xiii) Turner International will be allowed 4 minutes an hour of the advertising time on its programming relayed terrestrially on DD 1, DD2 and DD3.
- (xiv) Doordarshan and Turner International will not exercise any editorial control on each others programming on the satellite channel.  
However, all programmes will conform to Doordarshan's broadcast and advertisement code.
- (xv) Doordarshan and Turner International will provide to each other news, information stories and footage from each others programming. Turner will pay the requisite delivery charges to Doordarshan for this purpose. There will be no such corresponding obligation on Doordarshan.
- (xvi) Turner International will provide on a see basis to Doordarshan assistance in its international news gathering operations outside India.
- (xvii) The agreement will be governed by Indian laws.
- (xviii) Disputes will be finally resolved by arbitration under the Indian Arbitration Act, 1940. The place of arbitration will be New Delhi.

These salient features clearly establish that the agreement does not in any way impinge upon the national interests or security. On the contrary it must be seen as Doordarshan's pragmatic response to a situation where it finds itself in competition from the proliferating satellite and cable broadcasts. I find it difficult to understand how a channel which was being received in this country since 1989 can become a security risk by getting on to the Doordarshan platform.

At the outset I would like to refute the charge that this agreement has been entered into in haste without examining all its ramifications. In fact the proposal was initially made to this Ministry in 1993. Thereafter, It had been examined in great detail within the Government at the level of the Committee of Secretaries as also by a Group of Ministers. This examination had encompassed all aspects of the been informed about the proposed agreement by me in a meeting held in the chamber of the Hon'ble speaker.

This agreement has not contravened in any way the Government of India's policy of 1956, which as all Members are aware essentially related to the print media. The fact that the downlink of the signal of this channel from a foreign satellite and its uplink to the INSAT 2B satellite continues to be the Mandatory responsibility of Doordarshan Will clearly establish that Turner International has not been allowed to produce programmes in India and uplink them from India soil. In

fact, if there is any parallel it is the permission granted for the sale of foreign newspapers and magazines in India. There has also not been any deviation in this Ministry's stand so far as uplinking from Indian soil is concerned from that taken at the time of the coverage of the Hero Cup. As Members would recall in that case Government and Doordarshan were compelled by an order of the Court to allow uplinking facilities to a foreign agency. I might add here that even then there were many voices within and outside Parliament which had scoffed at this stand of the Government and Doordarshan and there were voices supporting the granting of uplink facilities to foreign agencies to telecast these matches.

Contrary to the assertion that this agreement has violated Indian laws the fact of the matter is that this agreement has for the first time resulted in a foreign network agreeing to abide by the programme and advertisement code of Doordarshan. Given the concern voiced by the Members about the adverse impact of the programming on certain other satellite channels available over India in our culture, this provisions in the agreement should be welcomed by all. In addition, this channel.

**15.28 hrs.**

(SH. SHARAD DIGHE (*in the Chair*) besides giving wider coverage to Doordarshan's own news and information programming in the neighbouring countries would also help it put across India's perceptions on world events and an overview of the developments at home.

I would urge the Members to appreciate more fully that a strengthening of the Doordarshan platform, as has been achieved through this agreement by the addition of an international channel which provides news and information to the viewers round the clock, will eventually benefit the country in the long run since the variety of programming offered on this platform would be such that there would be little need for the viewers to turn to other channel, some of which as one Hon'ble Member has pointed out are the principal perpetrators of obscenity today.

Doordarshan will earn an annual income of US \$ 1.5 million as telecast fee from CNN. In addition the two will equally share the revenue that accrues from the advertising over and above US \$ 1.5 million. Considering that budgetary support for Doordarshan has been reduced substantially during the 8th plan period it is necessary for Doordarshan to look for additional sources of revenue in order to not only sustain its present level of activity but also to be in a position to avail of the latest state of art technology in the field. Doordarshan cannot be faulted, therefore, for seeking collaborations with foreign channels that complement the programming on its channels instead of dealing with those channels which are its competitors as far as the revenue from advertising from within and outside India is concerned. It is surprising that some of

my colleagues look on this as a "Sell Out" to foreign capital while Chief Ministers and others from State Government run by their parties are busy inviting other foreigners to come to India, even, hiring out land to them, only for the commercial benefit it will bring.

The argument that Doordarshan will have no editorial control on the contents of the CNNI programming and the CNNI programming will amount to a cultural invasion are based on a lack of appreciation of the facts, Today foreign satellite television channels are bringing news bulletins and current affairs programmes daily to thousands of Indian homes. There is no way these can be brought under editorial control. CNN was till recently one of these but, after the agreement has been signed, it has agreed to abide by the programme code followed by Doordarshan. This is a significant change in attitude, one which will be of value to us all, and of great importance; CNN is one of the biggest international television networks seen the world over by millions. Their agreeing to abide by our code is not related only to telecast over India : it is for their international service. Surely the Hon'ble Members will see the value, of this as against a totally indifferent attitude by the network unaffected by any agreement under no obligation to respect any code of guideline.

The anxieties expressed about cultural invasion are equally mystifying. CNN has been telecasting to India and was regularly seen by thousands since 1990: what happened then? Was that no treat to our traditional culture? Suddenly in 1995, when the CNN signal comes from an additional satellite there is a threat to our culture. Is it because the satellite is Indian? CNN was received for years together by the erstwhile USSR and even terrestrially broadcast by the Soviet authorities. What happened to them? Or is it my friend's argument that the CNN broadcast led to the disintegration of the USSR? What about the fact that CNN is as of now being telecast to China from APSTAR, a Chinese satellite, a conscious decision of the Government of China ? Is the Chinese civilisation imperilled? Or is it the case that it is all right for China, but not for India? That it is all right for Indonesia which receives CNN from the Indonesian Government satellite PALAPA, that it is all right for the Gulf countries which receive CNN from the ARABSAT satellite but it is not all right for India.

MR. CHAIRMAN, Sir, I do not know what view Hon'ble colleagues have of our civilisation and culture, but I refuse to believe that our traditions and values which are thousands of years old will collapse because of a television programme. I for one do not believe our culture to be so fragile and I would plead with my honourable colleagues to have more confidence in its durability and ability to continue with integrity for many generations to come and it was, after all the Father of the Nation who said on the 1st June, that he did not want India to be shut up and

closed to outside influences, that the doors and windows of India should be opened to all cultures and civilisations - but, he said, "I refuse to be blown off my feet by any." In it the apprehension of my honourable colleagues that they will start feeling shaky by the winds being blown about by CNN? I would urge my honourable friends to consider whether this hurts our traditions or what one of them purveys on his satellite TV channel at night, in rainbow colours or may I say VIBGYOR. Most of the year it would look blue Information, Sir, today is power and is universal and should be available to all. We believe we should do what we can in the info-technology to help this process, certainly not to hinder it or miss the info-Revelation taking place universally. The agreement is just one of the many steps Doordarshan is taking in this direction, and this brings me to another point.

This is part of the day to day operations' work of Doordarshan, which has tied up in similar fashion with MEASAT, a Malaysian TV network, with MTV and with many others. There may very well be more in the future. Surely it is nobody's case that every Doordarshan tie up should be placed before parliament; in that way the executive functions of the Government of the day would be taken over by Parliament and the Government rendered irrelevant. And in any event these actions do not even come before Government. They concern Doordarshan, a professional network which is tying up with another professional network, That they consulted the Ministry and that the Cabinet was consulted, and leaders of political parties in Parliament were taken into confidence was as a measure of abundant caution, not because it was obligation.

Insofar as the happenings on the launch day of this channel are concerned the channel had carried a ten second headline relating to a report on India highlighting the buoyant state of the Indian economy. The report, among other things said and quote "Prime Minister P.V. Narsimha Rao's economic reforms have resulted in hard currency reserves of 20 billion up from 1 billion in 1991; overseas investment upto 6.5 billion dollars from less than half billion in 1990; export growth running at 20% per year." - and quote. The Visual clip that went with the said report included a clip showing some cows on the streets of Bombay. The clip was immediately withdrawn by CNN and an unqualified apology tendered by it in deference to the sensitivities of the people. CNN also coined reports that they had shown an incorrect map of India.

Some of the other advantages of the agreement are:—

- (i) Its financial terms are very favourable for Doordarshan.
- (ii) It will enable Doordarshan to gain access, through the daily CNN programme 'World Report' to a

worldwide audience for its five minute news capsule which will be prepared specially for this purpose.

- (iii) it will enable Doordarshan to provide training at CNN's facilities in the USA to its personnel. In addition, jointly conducted workshops in India will also benefit larger number of Doordarshan personnel.
- (iv) It will enable Doordarshan to provide to its viewers CNN's popular programmes on its terrestrial channel.

The views expressed during the debate on this agreement in the two Houses of Parliament as well as in the Consultative Committee attached to my Ministry has given us considerable food for thought. I would like to assure that Hon'ble members that we will not take their concerns lightly but would make all efforts to see how these concerns can be met. The various suggestions for carrying out improvements in the programmes carried on this channel will also be examined and implemented expeditiously so that the efficacy of this channel is enhanced. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MAJ. GEN. (Retd.) BHUWAN CHANDRA (KHANDURI (Garhwal) : Sir, I want to point out one thing

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Sir, I want to seek a clarification. ...*(interruptions)* We know that under the Rules, it is not permitted in this House. But there are precedents for this ... *(Interruptions)*

MAJ. GEN. (Retd.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : We have a right to seek Clarification ...

*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : under Rule 372. it is not allowed.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : We were allowed in the past to seek some clarifications. ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : You can ask for a discussion or any other thing, but not to seek clarification at this stage.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : We know that under the Rules, it is not permitted. But sometimes in the past when such important statements are given, the Members were allowed to seek clarifications. ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will not violate the Rules; and I cannot violate the Rules.

... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House shall now take up item No. : 13 of the agenda, Bill to be introduced.  
15.35 hrs.

SALARY ALLOWANCES AND PENSION OF  
MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT (SECOND  
AMENDMENT) BILL

[English]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce" a Bill' further to amend the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament Act, 1954.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament Act, 1954."

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum) : Sir, I am on a point of order. ... (Interruptions) Before he introduces the Bill, I want to raise it. ... (Interruptions) My point is that this is a very curious Bill. We have not seen such a Bill; at least I do not remember, I may be mistaken.

Between the Act and the Statement of Objects and Reasons, there is a world of difference. In the Statement of Objects and Reasons, it is stated that :

"(i) Secretarial allowance of Rs. 2,500 per month in lieu of the existing office expense allowance of Rs. 1,000 per month."

This is not a part of the Act. The Act merely says that what was permitted by changing the Act would be now permitted by changing the Rules. That is what is provided for in the Act. But in the Statement of Objects and Reasons, other things are mentioned. It is a very curious one. I do not know whether you have even seen this kind of Statement of Objects and Reasons in relation to a particular Act.

I am, therefore, suggesting that his Statement of Objects and Reasons be properly formulated and in consistent with the Act. Then only leave should be granted to the Minister to introduce the Bill. That is my submission.

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is no point of order. But if there is any clarifications to be made by the Minister, he can make them now.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA : There is no inconsistency between the Statement of Objects and Reasons and the provisions of the Bill. he hon. Member did not have time to study it properly, I think; and that is why, he is saying like this. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : I have seen this, Sir, this is highly objectionable. I am asserting this that in the Bill, there is no such provision at all. ... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You can agitate about that when the Bill comes up for discussion here.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : I am only suggesting this. ... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : At the introduction stage, it is not allowed: there is no point of order.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, there is no provision for that. Is there any provision for Rs. 6,000 for postage stamps? Let him quote these excellent Rules! ... (Interruptions)

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA : I will do that when the Bill comes up for discussion; but not now.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Nirmal Kantiji, you can do that, when the Bill comes up for discussion. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : I make this assumption that the hon. Minister has read the Bill! Therefore I am asking him to mention any single clause of the Bill which mentions these figures which are there in the Statement of Objects and Reasons. I say that it is faulty. ... (Interruptions)

VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA : It is not faulty. ... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : There may be substance in what you are saying. But this is not the stage where you can point this out. You can agitate when the Bill comes up for discussion here. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : I am not agitating. I say that at the introduction stage, it is faulty and therefore, this should not be introduced at all. They should modify it and they should come forward with a revised one. ... (Interruptions) That is why, I am objecting to the introduction of the Bill. ... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I do not accept that, please.

The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament, Act, 1954."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA : I introduce the Bill

## MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

15.40 hrs.

- (i) *Need to sanction Adequate Funds for Early completion of upper tapti irrigation project.*

[Translation]

SHRI MAHENDRA KUMAR SINGH THAKUR: (Khandwa) : There is an agreement between the Governments of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra for joint construction of three phase Upper Tapti project to provide irrigation facility to both the States.

The first phase of this project has been completed. No concrete steps have been taken for completion of rest of two phases. The entire project involves an outlay of Rs. 303.40 crore. Madhya Pradesh has to bear Rs. 140.20 crore, while Maharashtra is to pay Rs. 163 crore. The implementation of this project would bring 116727 acre land under irrigation in Madhya Pradesh and 149572 are land in Maharashtra. It also provides for generation of 4.64 mega watt electricity.

Therefore, I urge upon the Government to get the second and third phases of this project completed without delay so that the farmers of Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh are benefited.

- (ii) *Need to provide better telecommunication facilities in Gadchiroli district of Maharashtra*

[English]

SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE (Chandrapur): Sir, Gadchiroli is a tribal district of Maharashtra. It is bordering Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. This district is predominantly inhabited by Maria, Gonds and other Scheduled Tribes. Area wise, this is the fourth biggest district in Maharashtra having 12 talukas and 60 per cent forest cover. Gadchiroli city which is the district headquarter is not connected with 10 out of 12 talukas because of poor infrastructure and due to lack of maintenance work of telephone department. This district is a base of naxalite activities and remains cut off for three to four months every year from the rest of the country. Telecommunication is the only medium for the people to get in touch with others. In such circumstances, it is indispensable to improve the telecommunication facilities in this area not only for day-to-day administration work but also for combating naxalite activities. Satellite special communication system is essential for this area. During recent Assembly elections, the hot lines provided did not work throughout the electioneering period.

In view of the above, I urge upon the Government of

India to take urgent steps for providing basic telephone facilities to this district at least to get in touch with the taluka places.

- (iii) *Need to explore the possibility of reviving Hyderabad Visakhapatnam-Jeypore-Bhubaneswar Air Flight*

SHRI K. PRADHANI (Nowrangpur) : Sir, about five years back, there was a Dornier Flight operating from Hyderabad to Bhubaneswar via Visakhapatnam and Jeypore and returning back in the evening to Hyderabad to provide a link with the Delhi flights from Bhubaneswar to Hyderabad. Now, the Vayudoot flight noted above has been withdrawn due to some reason or the other and the Government is not likely to revive the same. If any private party is interested to run Vayudoot flight on this line, it will be very helpful for the passengers travelling by air from Vijayawada, Visakhapatnam and Jeypore to catch the Delhi flights from Hyderabad and Bhubaneswar on the same day. Therefore, I draw the attention of the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism to engage one of the private parties to revive the flight which was there before five years so that the passengers may travel by air and avail the flights to Delhi on the same day.

- (iv) *Need to solve acute drinking water problem in Hyderabad and Secunderabad, Andhra Pradesh*

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU (Secunderabad): Sir, the water problem in the State Capital of Hyderabad and Secunderabad is very serious. The water supply arrangement initially made in 1932 to cater to the needs of the then population of seven lakhs has not been increased further, even though the population has increased to 50 lakhs. The major sources of water, namely, Osman Sagar and Himayat Sagar have totally dried up the present alternative days of water supply for only one hour and is wholly depended on Manjera.

The only permanent solution to acute drinking water problem is Krishna water diversion project. For this project, Rs. 680 crores are needed. Andhra Pradesh Government has not been able to accomplish the task due to financial crunch. The Union Government has given clearance for the Krishna water diversion project.

The condition laid by the World Bank to aid the Hyderabad and Secunderabad water project is not feasible and the condition cannot be met easily as it will take several years. The idea of giving the project to private hands has its own inherent and attending dangers. This is likely to increase water rates to three-fold or four-fold causing hardship to common man. In view of the serious nature for drinking water problem, I demand the honourable Prime Minister to treat this project as national project and finance the same through the Central Government.

- (v) *Need to Introduce a direct express train between Dehradun and Delhi Via Moradabad*

[Translation]

DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL (Hathras): Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is a passenger train running between Dehradun and Delhi via Luxar and Saharanpur but there is no direct rail link from Dehradun to Delhi via Nazibabad-Nagina-Dhampur and Moradabad. As a result, the people of Nazibabad, Nagina, Dhampur and Bijnore face a lot of inconvenience. The passengers have either to catch train at Luxar at late night or have to go to Saharanpur which is quite far off. The passengers of Ambala and Dehradun travelling by Howrah and Lucknow bound trains via Moradabad have no direct rail link from Moradabad to Delhi. I, therefore, request the hon. Railway Minister to start a direct Mail train from these places to Delhi via Moradabad for the convenience of thousands of passengers.

- (vi) *Need to set up a Central University in Manipur*

[English]

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM (Inner Manipur) : Sir, there is a pressing necessity for the establishment of a Central University in the State of Manipur. In view of the increase in the number of students for higher studies, the Manipur University which is a State University, cannot provide admission to the aspiring candidates. In the present circumstances faced by the Manipur University, new disciplines and faculties could not be introduced.

Hence, I request the Union Government to take necessary action to set up a Central University in Manipur.  
15.48 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (EIGHTY-FIRST AMENDMENT) BILL  
(AMENDMENT OF THE NINTH SCHEDULE)

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA):

Sir, I beg to move : 'That the Constitution (Eighty-first Amendment) Bill (Amendment of Ninth Schedule) be taken into consideration'.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I feel privileged to introduce this Bill for consideration of this August House.

As you are aware that Article 31 'B' of the Constitution provides safeguards to the Acts and Regulations included in the 9th Schedule from being challenged in the Court of Law on the ground that, they infringe the Fundamental Rights included in Part III of the Constitution. The 9th Schedule includes the list of laws, Acts of various State Governments and Central Government which are, inter alia, prejudicial to rights and interests in acquisition of estates including land.

Article 31-A provides safeguards to land reform laws from being declared void on the ground that they take away or abridge any of the Fundamental Rights conferred under Articles 14 and 16. Article 31C of the Constitution provides safeguards to land reform laws which says that no law giving effect to the policy of the State (towards securing principles laid down in Part IV) shall be deemed to be void on the grounds that it is inconsistent with or takes away or abridge, any of the rights conferred by Article 14 or Article 19. These safeguards have been enforced by Article 31 (B) which provides for full safeguard to the land reform Acts and Regulation specified in the 9th Schedule from the entire Part III of the Constitution.

In the past, if any progressive law made in public interest was found in the danger of being declared void in a litigation, the same was included in the 9th Schedule. In the beginning, 13 land reforms laws were included in the 9th Schedule by enacting Constitution (First Amendment) Act, 1951 and since then, the 9th Schedule has been amended from time to time and so far, 255 Acts have been included in it, of which 222 laws pertain to land reforms.

Besides, prominent Acts, several Amendment Acts have also been included in the 9th Schedule. It became inevitable because the laws did not automatically get safeguards of 9th Schedule, and the amending laws had to be included. The 9th Schedule was amended last in 1980 when 55 land reform laws were included. Thereafter, some more proposals were received from State Governments which were examined and ultimately, it was decided to include 27 land reform laws in the 9th Schedule, of which the Acts namely the Bihar Consolidation of Holdings and Prevention of Fragmentation of Land Act, 1956, Bihar Visheshadhikrit Lok Vas Bhoomi Kashtkari Act, 1947 and West Bengal Land Reforms Tribunal Act. 1961 were main Acts and the remaining 24 were amendment Acts. These laws mainly related to ceiling on Agricultural landholdings, safeguards against transfer of tribal lands, consolidation of holdings, improvement in tilling etc. which ever legal provisions in this regard.

Sir, as you are already aware, the Government is according top priority to various rural development programmes and since land reform laws are an important part of these programmes, it has been decided to include these laws in the 9th Schedule so that the implementation of these Acts is not adversely affected due to litigations.

I move this Bill in this August House and request that it may be adopted unanimously.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The time allotted to this Bill is one hour. For the Congress Party, it is 27 minutes; for the BJP, it is 12 minutes; for the CPI, it is 4 minutes; for the

Janata Dal, it is 3 minutes and for others one minute each.

Yes, Maj. Gan. (Retd.) Bhuwan Chandra Khanduri.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (Garhwal) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am constrained to say that this is a typical case of how...

[Translation]

The Hon. Minister should listen to me.

Shri Jagannath Mishra what do you want to say.

MAJ. GENERAL (RTD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : You please listen to me what I want to say.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Are you supporting it or not?

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : I am supporting it, Sir. But you must listen to what I have to say.

Sir, this is a typical case when an inefficient and indifferent manipulative Government can bungle up even a good case, even a good issue. We all want that the landless should get land. We all have been wanting it for the last 47 or 48 years. But what is the actual result? After 48 years of our independence and talk of this land for landless — while this Government which has been in power for most of the time — 42 years or so — and now 43 years — what is the result on the ground?

You have passed a number of Bills. You have talked about the laws. But on the ground, has the landless really got the land? You have talked of justification. Though you have given the land, we get involved in litigations. Even in those litigations, what is happening? The land mafias and the big landlords manipulate the litigations, they do not allow the litigation to come to the conclusion, and therefore, the Government becomes a deliberate party.

[Translation]

You deliberately complicate those cases. Big landlords are involved in it.

[English]

Therefore, the intention of the Government by introducing such a thing itself comes into doubt. It appears that you have been holding this. The last amendment to this Bill was brought in 1990. I do not know, when you received all these 20 odd cases. Why is this delay? It now looks as if it is just an election manipulation that is going on.

You want to pass everything in hurry. Now you want

to rush through this Bill also. You are saying, 'what is the idea behind discussing this Bill'. So many things are happening and so many people want to say so many things, but this Bill has to be rushed through because time allotted for discussion on it is just one hour. Therefore, it looks more like an election gimmick than any sincere attempt on the part of the Government. It is the number of litigations that has forced the Government to bring in this Amendment Bill. That is the reason you have given for bringing forward this Amendment Bill. You do it. This is justified. I accept it. But how are such litigations handled? Nobody takes interest in resolving them. Therefore, it does not appear that you are sincere about it.

Sir, my next point is about passing this Bill. It is fine, you pass it. But what about the implementation part? As I have said earlier, this law has been passed in many States. But what is the state of implementation of this law in those States who have passed it? In how many places have the landless people got land? In how many places are people getting involved right litigations? What is the duration of those litigations? Has the Central Government ever tried to find out these things? Have the Central Government tried to effectively advice, cajole and coax the State Governments, even if required, used their authority to direct the State Governments to get going with it? It is just a question of passing the Bill and making big announcements here and there. I am sorry to say that implementation of the laws is very poor. Why is it poor? It is because there are landlords who do not want to part with their land. They are land mafias; they are rich people; and along with them, in very good company are the politicians who have got big jagirs. How do they manage to do it? They acquire benami lands on fictitious names. They acquire it in the name of their servants, in the name of their cats and dogs and later on, the land is transferred in their own name. Physically, it is not with the poor people; it is not with the landless people. What have you done about it sincerely? Passing of the Bill is all right but what about its implementation on the ground? I am sorry to say that the Central Government has not played its role in this regard. If you want sincerely, this Bill would be passed. But please evolve a methodology whereby implementation would become effective on the ground and the real landless people would get the land. If you have got the statistics you would see that the real landless people are not getting the land.

↳ Sir, my last point is about the state of such legislations. The Central Government should try, in consultation and with the advice of the State Governments, to evolve a policy whereby, whatever past pending litigations are there, should be promptly disposed of and the land is transferred to the landless people. If the present system

is not working, let us have a separate legal arrangement where such cases pertaining to the landless people could be disposed of within a reasonable period of time. The rich and the monied people should not continuously be allowed to delay and frustrate the attempts of the Government on this score.

Sir, I welcome the Bill. As the time is very short, with these few observations I support as well as welcome this Bill. But I doubt the sincerity of this Government in really implementing this and giving land to the landless people.

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat) : Sir, I rise to support the Bill. I not only support the Bill, but I also extend my congratulations to the Minister for bringing forward this Bill. (*Interruptions*)

Sir, I would like to request the Minister to go through the report prepared by his Ministry for the year 1994-95. Time is very short and Mr. Chairman would not allow me to read it out for him here. But herein the Government have admitted that there is concentration of land in the hands of a few. The Government have been very kind to admit—the persons who have drafted this report—that there has been a grip of ownership of a very few people over a vast majority of people. You please go through the report or otherwise, I would have to read just one paragraph, which says :

"In India it is good where agriculture including allied activities provides livelihood to around 68 per cent of the Indian population, land reforms is considered to be a very basic programme in the whole range of rural development activities."

**16.00 hrs.**

This is what I want to emphasise. It is good that your Department has accepted that the land reform is a key to bring about rural development. But I would like to say that the Ministry has not acted in the spirit in which the draft has been made. As for example, in 1967 Dr. Mahalanobis Committee estimated that there would be about 630 lakh acres of land as surplus land if the highest ceiling is fixed at 20 acres of land. What is the figure as per your latest Report available with me? In your Report you have admitted that the area declared surplus as on 30.9.94 is 72.94 lakh acres, area taken in possession is 64.82 lakh acres and area distributed is 51.03 lakh acres. While Mahalanobis Committee estimated that about 632 lakh acres of land is available as surplus land, now the available surplus land as per your Report is only 73 lakh acres. This gap means that there has been shrinkage of estimated amount of land.

You know that there are many loopholes in the existing Land Reforms Act and unless those loopholes are plugged and plugged properly not only the surplus land will not be available, but you cannot distribute the land and you

cannot bring about decentralisation of the main units of production among the men. Therefore, I would suggest that there should be an Agriculture Commission to work and to find out the loopholes in the existing State laws, to make proper estimate over the available surplus and also to find out what have been the main grounds of shrinkage of available surplus land.

A number of laws are there. Mr. Mishra is aware of it. There is a Gift Act in Bihar. You can gift any quantity of land even to your animal, to your pet dog. Even today there are many laws.

DR. JAGANNATH MISHRA : It is not a law. We will pass such a law.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : It is not a law, it is an illegal fact. I accept it.

Your main objective is to have land reforms. Land Reform means dispersal of ownership among many. You cannot disperse ownership among many unless you can acquire the ownership of the land and this ownership you cannot get unless these loopholes are removed. The difficulty is that it is a State subject. You can very well take the stand that agriculture and the Land Reform are the State subjects. But you can have an Agriculture Commission to find out the reasons as to why there has been shrinkage of the available estimates.

Sir, there is an ominous threat to the land reforms measure as such. I think the hon. Minister is aware of the fact that there are certain moves in some States. Maharashtra has already gone in that direction. In Punjab .....(*interruptions*)..... No, not in my state. Rather we have taken a different position. Under the third amendment of the Land Reforms Act, the concept of family was going to be changed. No land is to be changed in its character. Land means land and it is not to be qualified. As a matter of fact, you did not allow that Act passed by the legislature to be assented to by the President. What do we want? We want that land should remain as land. Some lands in West Bengal were being kept by the *jotdars* and *zamindars* in the name of tank fisheries, under orchards, under tea gardens, under companies and under cooperatives.

The aim of this third amendment of the Land Reforms Act is to declare land as land. Surplus land should be distributed on per-head basis and not on the basis of family. What about the members of the family? .....(*Interruptions*)..... This is good, Sir, the dispersal of the ownership of the primary means of livelihood and the primary means of production to the many instead of being concentrated in the hands of a few. That objective has not been fulfilled in many States.

I find, Mr. Minister, an ominous sign here. Under the liberalisation, some would invite foreign multinational

companies into it. Some State Governments are going to revise the existing Land Ceiling Act, saying that "there is no necessity, there is no need of putting any ceiling on the agricultural land", thereby allowing the companies to possess any amount of land and thereby depriving the peasantry and the poor of their land.

Sir, this attempt is really a challenge to the very basic idea of land reforms. As per my report, the Maharashtra Government has already initiated such measures. Such measures are being initiated by the Haryana Government and such measures are being contemplated by other State Governments under the name of liberalised economic policy, which we oppose.

Therefore, Sir, not taking much of your time, I would like to say that I support the Bill because it is a step in the right direction. But it is not a firm step, it is not a full-fledged step. I really want the Government and particularly the Minister to take necessary action, as he knows the land problem in his State and he was the Chief Minister of the State. Everybody knows as to what is happening in the villages of Bihar. Bihar cannot remain in its position if there are no land reforms. Since you have got the authority bring about new laws, new policies, and change the old ones, do it. It is for the millions of our agricultural workers. India's salvation lies in that.

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV (Nalanda) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am happy that Mishra ji is here in the House with this Bill.

As far as Bihar is concerned, it has nine laws which are proposed to be included in the Ninth Schedule. I am keen to speak on Bihar Land Reforms (Fixation of Ceiling and Acquisition of Surplus land Act) and Bihar Land Reforms (Amendment) Act. I want to speak on them. The big landlords and farmers have been taking advantage of loop-holes in the existing laws and moving High Court and other courts. Thus the surplus land is shown as distributed among the tillers only on papers. In fact, the big landlords continue to possess land holding because of court cases and litigations involved therein. The present Chief Minister of Bihar has proposed amendments in the provisions which are tilted in favour of landlords, whether it is the question of curtailing the land ceiling or altering the definition of the family so that maximum surplus land is available. The Bihar government has given an assurance in this regard and the people belonging to Communist Party of India have welcomed assurance. The State Government should have powers of land settlement. We in Bihar are formulating land reform laws and we want that wherever we have surplus land it should be distributed among landless people in conformity with the legal provisions.

However there is one doubt, *i.e.* if the ceiling laws are

included in the Ninth Schedule it may restrict the powers of the State Government which wants to reduce the ceiling in the interest of the poor and landless people. Under such circumstances, some solution will have to be found. With this reservation in mind, I support this Amendment Bill.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh) : Sir, I support this Bill. The List of Business says that the Minister will also beg for leave to pass this bill. It has been allotted one hour and it is also to be passed. This is a Constitution Amendment Bill and I do not know whether all the parties have been sounded for ensuring special majority.

SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA: All the parties have been consulted.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : This is a Constitution Amendment Bill and if we are unable to muster special majority, the Bill will fall. I do not know how much seriousness he has shown. I have had talks with the members of other Parties and they have expressed their ignorance in this regard. Moreover, no whip has been issued. We want that this Bill should be passed and the Members who are here should be present for the passage of this Bill; but this exposes the seriousness of the Government.

Shri Jagannath Mishra deserve our thanks for bringing forward this Bill after becoming the Union Minister. He has got an opportunity to introduce this revolutionary Bill. Bihar and other States already have land reform laws, but their implementation is stalled though litigations. In order to implement these laws strictly, these Acts are being included in the 9th Schedule. I, therefore, support this Bill.

But, I fail to understand as to what his intention is. He is bringing a Land Reform law, which will be supported by all, because general elections are near. Some laws were included in the 9th Schedule in 1990 also. There is great demand for this from all over the country. The laws made by some States were left out and they are being included now. But, I am still doubtful whether the Government is really interested in land reforms. On the one hand, they are talking of inclusion of these laws in the 9th Schedule and on the other, they have lost interest in land reforms. During the debate on agriculture policy, I had asked two questions. Many members had also wanted to know whether the ceiling in respect of horticulture land was being abolished under land reform laws or not? Whether the Corporate Sector will be permitted to have captive farms in the name of setting up of food processing units and thus, possessing thousands of acres of land? If so, what is the meaning of these land reform laws? In the name of liberalisation, globalization and inviting foreign investments, they are trying to dilute land reforms. We have been raising this question time and again for the last two years, but we are always told that nothing of this sort

is being done. But the process has started in Maharashtra and it is being talked about in other States also. The NRIs, Multinationals who are invited here put conditions and accordingly, they are promised that they would be given the required land. I want a clarification from the Government.

Whether the Government propose to relax the land reform laws or allow them to die their own death in order to appease and meet the conditionalities of horticulture sector or corporate sector or in the name of setting up a unit? We have raised another question and asked the government to view the land reforms in wider perspective. There are absentee landlords. They should be made first target. Dr. Sahib, we know how much land you have, people here have no knowledge of it. People belonging to Bihar know how much land you have. You have thousands of acres of land. Balua Bazaar family is well known and you are talking of land reforms. I don't know how honest you are. You are very eloquent and it's very difficult to gauge your mind. Some members and we, here on this side had demanded that the absentee landlord system should be abolished. You can see the records. You are sitting here. It is not possible to acquire your land. There are different ideologies confronting of your Government. These things are brought here just to befool the people. We have been hearing the slogan for long that land belongs to the tiller, except the land holdings owned by Mishraji. There are talks that Prime Minister Narsimha Raoji also owns a lot of surplus land. They adopt all the tactics to conceal their landholdings. It is known to all. Shrimati Krishna Sahi is smiling. She also owns large landholdings. Almost all congressmen have surplus land. They are big farmers and these are the people who are sitting here and say that these laws should be included in the 9th Schedule. They have in fact no interest in the poor and land reforms. If they are really interested in land reforms, then they should declare that nobody will be allowed to hold land in excess of land ceiling. You send clear instructions to the States and make an announcement here itself that land owned by absentee landlords will be acquired first. If you really want to do something, make a law in this regard. Only then we will be convinced that you are serious in this matter, otherwise it will be just an eye wash. The elections are approaching. Schemes are announced from the rampart of the Red Fort. Some schemes were announced before that only to overcome the infighting in the party. You are bringing this land reform law at the last moment only to show that you are revolutionary and believe in progressive measures. Your policy of economic liberalisation and globalisation will result in eviction of small landholders, marginal farmers. We sincerely want land reforms and implementation of laws framed therefor.

If you honestly take steps towards giving ownership to the tiller, we will certainly support you. But you are not expected to do this. Save few years, you have been ruling at the Centre and in States. The Congress remained in power all along. They promised that surplus land would be distributed among landless and poor people, but it was only a day-dream. Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Narayan and Vinoba Bhave started 'Bhoodan' movement. Influenced by this movement, people in Bihar and other parts of the country donated large landholdings. This movement gained momentum after the communist movement in Telangana had reached its peak and was showing good results. There was some tension in some areas at that time. The Bhoodan movement was launched to ensure that people voluntarily gifted their surplus land. Lakhs of acres of surplus land was acquired, but the same has not been distributed among the landless people. The donors followed the foot prints of the people like you, and occupied the donated land again. If you are interested, in land reforms, please implement them sincerely. Charity begins at home. The leaders associated with socialist and communist movement donated their land and distributed among the people. You congress people pose to be progressive but there will be hardly any example of distribution of land by them among the people. We have wasteland, we have surplus land. Our hon. Minister Col. Ram Singh ji seems to be worried how to give land to the people. We have 9-10 crore acre wasteland which can be reclaimed and distributed among the landless people. We want your views on this. The wasteland comes under your department, as well as Col. Ram Singh's department. I would like to know about the arrangements you would make for its reclamation, development and distribution will you distribute it to corporate sector or to Multinationals. How would you like to distribute the same in the name of food processing units? If you are really interested in land reforms, then the reclaimed wasteland and surplus land should be distributed first among SCs/STs and then among backward classes as per the recommendations of the Standing Committee on Agriculture. It will be a real and genuine distribution and the landless people will be able to stand on their feet. Our ancestors had seen a dream and made great sacrifices for land reforms. Only land reforms can bring revolution in rural areas, in agricultural sector and thereby we can not only feed our population but even the vast population of the world.

We want to implement land reforms in our villages, in agriculture sector but at the same time, we must ensure collective responsibility in our Parliamentary democracy. You would say that the Bill you are bringing in has limited scope, but we would say that the situation in cities is not different than that is obtaining in the rural areas. On the

one hand, there are sky-scrappers and on the other, the people do not have even huts to live in. This imbalance will not last long and the country cannot rest in peace till this disparity continues. The tides of social upheaval will not die down. If you really want to cool this erupting social volcano, you will have to implement the provisions of this proposed Bill and distribute the surplus and reclaimed wasteland among poor people. The land ceiling laws should also be implemented in urban areas. You can not bring a social change in the country without bridging the gap in the income and our dream of achieving the aims of socialistic republic can not be realised. I support the Bill but would like clarification on the points raised by me. I would also like to appeal to you to be sensitive to this issue and not only talk about the land reforms but implement them in reality. You Congress people should go two steps forward to implement land reforms and distribute crores of acres of surplus land they are owning. With these words, I conclude.

SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI (Maharajganj) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, this Land Reforms Bill has been brought forward by a person who himself is one of the big landlords of Bihar and who have lands far in excess of the ceiling. I am really surprised to see this.

AN HON. MEMBER: Who is he?

SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI: He is the person who has brought forward this Bill.

SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA: She should not make such sweeping remarks. I became the Chief Minister first time in 1975 and land reforms were given priority in the 20-point programme of late Smt. Indira Gandhi. We were the first to fix land ceilings. Then, the Janata Party came to power in 1977 and the then Chief Minister Shri Karpoori Thakur got all the cases reopened for inquiry and the matter went on hanging fire. Again, when Shri Ladoo Prasad came to power, he also once again got the whole matter enquired into. Thus, the two opposition Governments got the matter probed and closed the case. Therefore, this matter should not be raised again.

SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI: Sir, I was expecting that after the passage of this Bill, some land will be found surplus and the same would be given to landless persons like me, but I feel, what I want to say will not have any impact.

Sir, the intent of this written piece of Bill is landable. Shri Nitish has talked of statistics. We both have worked together in the University but it is providence that two babies are born at the same movement, one in a palace and the other in a hut.

Sir, I support the object of the Bill, but this has been brought forward at a time when elections are around the corner and I am afraid, the Bill may prove a populist measure.

Sir, the economic disparity between haves and have-nots is increasing in Bihar, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Karnataka and other States. There have been bloody revolutions. Land was donated under Bhoodan movement led by leaders like Lok Nayak Jaya Prakash Narayan. Land Ceiling Act also came into effect, but most of the land (surplus) cases went into litigation and still continue to be so. Therefore, I have a doubt about the effectiveness of the Bill, which has been brought very late. Farmers, who get land in donation do not have enough money to enter into litigation for retrieving their land and earn their livelihood.

Sir, the legal aspect of these reforms needs further clarification. Landlords adopt many tactics to save their land. They transfer the surplus land in the name of their relatives, friend etc. so that ceilings act is not attracted. They also convert the same into fish ponds etc. Thus, they do not part with their surplus land.

Shri Nitish Kumar has said that the land ceiling laws should be implemented in urban areas also. In Delhi, certain families have hundreds of acres of benami surplus land where one can feel fresh air, fragrance of flowers, greenness of trees and grass and yell, "Oh God, I had a place of land here to put my hut."

Sir, this bill also intends to plug the loopholes in the existing laws, which help landlords in litigation. The land declared surplus so far and distributed among landless people is involved in litigation. So, steps should be taken to distribute bulk land by plugging the loopholes which favour landlords.

Sir, we go by the concept that those who produce food and cloth will make laws, India belongs to them, and they will rule the country now. So, one who tills the land should be its owner. There is no provision for acquisition of benami lands. Therefore, the process of selling land to dogs, cats, daties, etc. will continue. The hon. Minister is competent enough to go into this aspect. He should make public the details in respect of benami land and should clarify how the surplus land is retained by the landlord. It is proposed to exempt the foreign food processing unit from the provision of Land Ceiling Act. But the tillers do not have land to till, to cultivate. The Pepsi industry is not making use of hundreds of acres of land allotted to it for the prescribed purpose. They are processing tomatoes produced by local farmers. The farmers are not getting fair prices of their produce. The hon. Minister should be sincere in its implementation, otherwise people will adopt the same tactics of showing the surplus land as river bed, horticulture land, etc. and will never part with it.

Sir, I support this Bill with the expectation that all loopholes which prevent distribution of surplus land among landless people will be plugged honestly and that

this issue will not be made only an election issue.

SHRISUBRATAMUKHERJEE (Raiganj): Sir, I support this Bill, because land reforms have been implemented in my State. There, surplus land was acquired and distributed among landless people, which was cancelled in the name of orchards, ponds and bamboo fields. This has improved rural economy considerably. This should be viewed not from economic angle but political angle also. Efforts are being made by landlords to stall distribution of surplus land by taking recourse to litigation and this Bill will definitely help in aborting those efforts. I, therefore, support this Bill. 40 years ago, in Telangana, farmers had started bloody agitations against land reforms and the Land Ceiling Act was enforced. But land reforms were implemented in small States and in West Bengal. What we learnt from the statistics collected by Shri Chitta Basu is that whenever the question of land reforms comes up, it is said that it is a State subject and the Centre does not come in the picture. I want to know what action has been taken since 1967. Except Kerala, Congress was in power in all other States. Have they implemented land reforms in those States. Sometimes ago, Shri Balram Jakhar, the hon. Minister of Agriculture, while speaking on Agriculture Policy was making a plea that agriculture is our mainstay, but no word was said about land reforms. When we raised this issue, he said that land reforms have no bearings on Agriculture Policy. It was very categorically stated by him in both the Houses of Parliament. Does it not indicate your intention of misleading the people because the elections are approaching? Are you bringing this law to mislead the people in the coming election, in the same manner in which you had brought Land Ceiling Act to crush farmers' agitation in Telangana?

My second apprehension is that you may be bringing this Bill for the protection of foreign investors, whom you are inviting, by allotting wasteland to them, and ensuring land settlement in their favour. If this is so, our support or this Bill will have no meaning. If you are sincere, then you will have to implement land reforms. You will have to formulate an All India policy in this regard and cover all the States. You will have to conduct a survey on all India basis to ascertain the area of wasteland, the area of surplus land. You have constituted Wasteland Development Board and you are spending crores of rupees on it but, so far not a single acre of land has been reclaimed and made cultivable. If the reclaimed land is not distributed properly, it will be usurped by big landlords. If the land so developed by spending crores of rupees of the people goes into the possession of landlords, it will not be proper.

I would like to add that wasteland should be developed and in land so developed should be allotted to the tillers. I hope you will consider these aspects seriously and take necessary steps to clear the doubts raised by me.

With these words, I thank you and conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN (Gobichettipalayam): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Government, after a lapse of nearly 18 years, is committed to give importance to land reforms and has come before this august body with a Constitution (Amendment) Bill to include the land reform laws in the Ninth Schedule so as to see that these laws are not challenged before the courts. The Government has come forward only on the basis of the letters written by the State Governments of Bihar, Karnataka, Kerala, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal, who have gained experience through the implementation of Land Reforms Act.

In my State of Tamil Nadu, where the land reforms have been implemented effectively, the poverty ratio has come down. The transferring of assets in favour of the landless and the poor definitely enabled them to strengthen panchayats which, in turn, strengthened agrarian reforms.

Sir as regards the present Amendment Bill, in fact, the Bill was drafted in 1994, it has come for consideration in 1995 and the Bill deals with the land reforms legislations which were passed many years ago in many States. Sir, land owners and the vested interests have already gone to courts in many cases. You have not allowed the laws to be properly implemented and, therefore, the damage has already been done. I am sure that you are not serious about the land reforms.

Coming to the land ceiling, the Planning Commission came out with a document revealing the performance of the different State Governments in the land ceiling legislations. But there is no review of the performance of land ceiling legislations. As far as my State, Tamil Nadu is concerned, apart from anything else, we have implemented the land ceiling laws. There are some loopholes in the land ceiling legislation. There are benami land holdings. We should find some way to abolish the benami land holdings.

Sir, I remember, there was a court order in 1977 that unless the Amendment Acts were included in the Ninth Schedule, they would not have any validity. Till then there were so many amendments and you have not included them. You were sleeping for nearly 18 years. At least, now this Bill has come.

With these words, I conclude and support this amendment.

[Translation]

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani): Sir, I, on my behalf and on behalf of my party support this Bill. It is true

that inclusion of land reform laws in the 9th Schedule will help those States dealing with litigation cases and which want to implement land reforms. The agriculture policy was debated here a few days ago. Some of my hon. colleagues have said that there is a mention of land ceiling in it, but mere reference will not help. The question is what will be the policy? Whether India will adopt extensive farming on the pattern of America and Australia or South East Asia. India is still in two minds. Recently, the Punjab Chief Minister said that he will fix higher ceiling of consolidation. Some other States are also thinking in the same direction. The inclusion of land reforms in the 9th Schedule will help them. Some policy should be framed for taking up ceiling and consolidation together, because we have small farmers. Farmers having two to four-five acres of agricultural land and that too divided into 10-12 pieces are unable to apply modern agricultural techniques. Therefore, consolidation should be enforced by law and small farmers be allowed to select the land of their choice to ensure that their costly land is not usurped by big landlords. The new economic policy is being thrust upon us and Government's intention is limited to that policy..

The production of foodgrains has increased in the country from 5 crore tonnes in 1950 to 19 crore tonnes today. Some land reforms were implemented, some ceilings were applied, some landholding laws were enforced, the landlordism was brought down to some extent but nothing was implemented fully and therefore, there has been only a little progress. If land reform laws are implemented fully we can increase our production further. It will also help strengthening our democracy in rural areas. Our social structure is like a pyramid. The big landlords are influential. They perpetrate economic and social atrocities on small farmers and full implementation of land reforms will help mitigate these atrocities. The incident of booth-capturing etc. will also come down. Therefore, there is a need of these measures for enduring social justice and democratic development. The Mandal Commission Report has stressed the need of implementation of land reforms, although many of our friends consider that only reservation in services will dispense social justice, they do not understand or do not say anything about land disparity in the society. These aspects enjoin upon Central Government to implement land reforms scrupulously. They can say that it is a State subject but what is the objection in implementing them in centrally administered territories? The Government is doing the job half-heartedly or half political will.

As far as land ceilings are concerned, the farmers, of course, launched agitations in Telangana, but at the same time Bhoodan Movement also became a success. I shall quote an instance. Darbhanga princely State was the biggest land holder and it donated 125 lakh acres land to Vinobaji. This land was in the possession of that

State. It had been auctioned but not purchased by anyone. Most of it was possessed by farmers. We followed the policy of acquiring land from big holders and distributed the same among poor landless people. We have forest wasteland in Bihar, West Bangal, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, etc. where not even a single tree grows. It has been leased out by forest officials for one or two years on illegal gratification. Such land can be brought under land reforms and distributed among local tribals and other economically backward people.

My other point is that the social lands which are under occupation of Mahants should also be brought under land ceilings because most of these Mahants have got married and have sons. Similarly, the land possessed by Wakf Boards should also brought under this law because the land belong to the society. It is a social property..... (Interruptions) That is what. I am saying. Two and a half years ago, a law was made that only community land will be exempted. Mahants have got married, they have children but still they talk of ceiling. They have now no legal right to own that land. The Hon. Minister has also been a Chief Minister. He knows the intricacies of land laws. The married Mahants and wakfs should be dispossessed of community lands.

Similarly, there was community land called 'garamjau' in a village during the Mughal period. There are about 10,000 ponds on it. We have been fighting for its release for the last 30 years. Many of our comrades have sacrificed their lives. It has also to be protected in social interest. I wish, the Government implements these laws with open heart. Consolidation of land should be completed and these reforms should be implemented fully in Union Territories, The Urban Land Ceiling Act should also be enforced strictly. They should be brought under 9th Schedule because there are bigger landlords in urban areas. With these words, I support the Bill and conclude.

[English]

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijay-Yawada): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Constitution (Eighty-first Amendment) Bill, particularly the proposals regarding adding certain legislations relating to land in the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution, some of which belong to the State of Bihar. I hope that this adding of the legislation relating to the land connected to the State of Bihar may cause certain agrarian problems in Bihar. It is common knowledge that private land-owners are having private armies and similar is the case with the landless poor people belonging to the weaker sections, farmers themselves. They form into groups and many a time it is leading to clashes, brutal killings which I feel very bad. In this connection, I would like to make a few

observations. One such observation is that by and large in several States the agricultural land ceiling regulations have been implemented. I am not going into details because already information was given to the queries raised by hon. Members. By and large, it varies from 70 per cent to 80 per cent. Sometimes, it is even 100 per cent. In this connection, I would like to say one thing. The Government of Maharashtra has very recently proposed one measure to permit big companies to acquire hundreds of acres of land in the name of export promotion to raise horticultural crops or agricultural crops. I wonder why this type of facilities should be given to companies. You are aware that by 1950s, zamindars and rajas had gone. Most of their land was taken away. By 1960s, another legislation was brought forward by which 50 to 100 acres of land or something like that was there with the so-called big landlords. By 1972, another Land Ceiling Act was brought forward. You know very well in the case of bank nationalisation or acquisition of property in any other sector, due compensation was paid. Only in respect of agriculture land ceiling, 20 to 25 times of the land revenue was computed as land compensation. Most of the farmers, their grand-fathers, their fathers, and have spent a lot of their energies for the development of the land, levelling the land and in bring the land under cultivation, in producing agricultural products for the people in this country.

**17.00 hrs.**

It is because the compensation was not only meagre but sometime they will try to evade through some loopholes or through certain weaknesses in the administrative machinery. It happened like that.

My point is that by introducing ceiling on the area or on the land, you are also imposing ceiling on incomes. While it is a fact that all the big capitalists like Tatas, Birlas, Goenkas, Dalmias, Singhanias whose assets were Rs. 20 crore or Rs. 15 crore at the point of Independence, today they have earned Rs. 6,000 crore assets. A person who was just a clerk, today he is almost having Rs. 6,000 crore or Rs. 8,000 crore assets under his control and he is going to become number one in this country. They are not satisfied with that. This very Government is handling over Panna Mukta Oil Fields to these big capitalists and similar is the case of K.G. Basin where the Government has already invested thousands of crores. Production of oil has been given to the private companies. Why have they so much love and affection towards big companies? Still, you want the big companies to have hundreds of acres of land to grow necessary to liberalise, to bring some change in this clause, to produce more horticultural products for earning foreign exchange, you must consider the case of the farmer also. Do not discriminate him, that is what I want to say in this connection.

Unfortunately, the consolidation of holdings is very important in making the full energies of the farmers to be

spent on the land and to increase the productivity. To some extent, they have taken place in Northern States like Uttar Pradesh, Haryana. But in Southern States, it is yet to make a good beginning. Karnataka has done something in this regard, whereas Andhra Pradesh and other States are lagging far behind. The Government must take necessary steps to see that the progress of the consolidation of holdings takes place at a much faster pace.

I once again suggest to the Government that this is not the only way to protect the rural poverty. You must understand and see that more funds are provided to encourage rural industries, small scale industries and cottage industries which go a long way in providing employment and in generating income to the rural poor. This basic attitudinal change has to take place.

With these words, I conclude and support the proposals to include these measures in the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution so that more landless poor people get more land for their tilling and to become owners of the land.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia): Sir, firstly, I like to support the Eighty-first Constitution (Amendment) Bill to include the land laws, passed by various Assemblies, into the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution so that it can be protected from being justiciable. The land reforms, as already been said by many colleagues, was the slogan since Independence, but is implemented more by violation than by execution. We thought we would get about six crore acres of surplus land but we did not get the same. Lakhs of acres of land are also involved in litigation and crores of Indian rural poor remained landless. We could not fulfill their dreams; we could not take the surplus ceiling lands, wasteland and other lands for distribution among the landless. The main theme of the land reforms is that surplus land should be distributed to the landless so that the property is distributed and that they enjoy the fruits of the land and that of production.

In that way, they get purchasing power and the market base is expanded; and this way, the industrialisation of the country also takes place. Land reform is the basis for industrialisation, expansion and development of the country. This is the theme of the land reform. But due to lack of political will by the Central Government of the Congress it was not done. It was not done because most of the Congress Ministers from the Centre and 90 per cent of the State Ministers of the Congress Party are landlords. Since they are landlords, they did not have the interest to implement the land laws and because of this, the land laws failed in most parts of the country except in West Bengal and Kerala..... (*Interruptions*) This is the situation; and I do not want to go into that controversy. But in the wake of the elections, they want to bring all these Acts in the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution.

I support this Bill and at the same time, I want to raise one question. There are so many laws. If they are pro-people, they are not being implemented till the people fight for their implementation. This is our experience. We have to fight first for a law; and after that also we have to fight for its implementation; and this is our experience of life. Wherever there is a strong *Kisan* movement, land laws are implemented and where there is no *Kisan* movement, they are not implemented. This is the fate of these laws all over the country.

I was mentioning in the morning that ex-Kasi Maharaja had 10,000 acres of Benami or ceiling surplus land in four or five districts. Just last week I have visited the place. The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes people are cultivating in some 1,500 acres of land illegally owned by him in *Bairath* farm. Now, he is evicting them. There is no record of land to that King and he is now enjoying the fruit. When I went there, I found that the Rapid Action Force and PAC have covered the land to protect the land in favour of the landlord and against the poor people. In this way, the Governments protect the landlords and spoil the chance of implementation of the Land Reform Act. This is the situation. I think that we have to fight and mobilise the people to implement those laws. Otherwise, they cannot be implemented. This is our experience.

One last point I want to mention. When we passed the Land Reform Acts, at that time, most of the land was 'single crop land.' So, we had 15 acres or 20 acres of ceiling on land according to the situation in various States. We now know that the land has become 'three crop land' or 'four crop land.' Twenty acres of land now is actually like eighty acres of land of those days. So, I demand that the land records should be reviewed and the ceiling should be further reduced. Now, the production in the land has been increased, from single crop to two or three or four crops. So, the land ceiling should be reduced so that more land is available and can be distributed among the crores of landless and poor agricultural labourers most of whom are Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

With these demands, I support the Bill and I hope that this Government will show their political will to implement those Acts properly..... (*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will now ask the hon. Minister to reply because the hon. Members from every party have taken more time than what is allotted.

.....(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : From your party, two or three Members have spoken.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI B.N. REDDY (Miryalguda): Sir, please allow me to speak for just five minutes.....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum): Sir, you may please allow Shri B.N. Reddy to speak. He has participated in the historic and famous Telangana movement.....(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will give time for those Members on the condition that each will take only two minutes. Now, Shri B. N. Reddy.

SHRI B.N. REDDY : Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak. I am a person from the Communist Party of India (Marxist) from Telangana, where for the first time the United Communist Party started a land reform movement and where for the first time, ten lakh acres of land has been distributed among the landless poor. Only after that, the slogan about land has spread throughout India.

As a result of this, Vinobha Bhave came and started the Bhoodan Movement. But, at that time, the landlords were not willing to give their lands with the result that the Bhoodan Movement failed. Once, I was hearing the Prime Minister. He said that in Telangana, they were matchless ahead because they had occupied the lands voluntarily. But the credit for land distribution should go to the people and not to the Congress Party. As a matter of fact, the programme of land reforms became disgraceful bogus drama especially by the Congress rulers. The people were asking why had this Amendment come so late. We said that it was because the Congress people who ruled the country had no political will to distribute the lands. That is why, we also said that it was the fundamental and basic duty of all of us to abolish landlordism. Only then the lands can be distributed to the agrarian sector and the productive forces will feel released and production will increase. Hence, I would like to bring this point to your notice.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support this Constitution Amendment Bill wholeheartedly. It appears to be revolutionary step but the truth is otherwise. We raise the issue of land reforms time and again and every time we are told that it is a State subject. I have been in politics for a long time and whenever this issue was raised, some or the other alibi was given each time.

In 1969, when Shri Vinodanand Jha was the Chief Minister, the poor landless people launched an agitation. A new scheme was evolved that orchard land will not be acquired. I would like Mishra ji to stick to his commitment because he cannot keep people in the dark for long. The Congress has been in power for the last 50 years—there is no other party in capitalist countries which has been in

power for such a long period still the land reforms were not implemented. He has been Chief Minister of Bihar for four years. What was the difficulty in implementing these laws? I would plead that the loopholes in these laws should be removed by sitting together. Our party launched a movement in 1970 all over the country and acquired the land owned by big Mahants. That land is in possession of poor people today but they have not got the ownership right thereof so far, although you had been there the Chief Minister. It is a matter for enquiry as to what is the result thereof. The poverty was alleviated when some of the poor people got land and they are now getting three-four crops out of it. It removed their unemployment and poverty and also helped increase production. You simply pretend. You may recollect that you were the Chief Minister and I was an MLA and it was publicised over the radio that you would introduce minimum wages, but what effect it had in Jahanabad? Naxalism emerged there but it was not implemented. Extremism spread so rapidly that today people are in a troubled state. If you are really interested in implementing these laws, then please plug the loopholes in the laws.

SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH (Buxar) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support this Bill and thank the hon. Minister for bringing forward this Bill, though belatedly. He knows that land reforms have not been implemented and unless they are implemented, we cannot run the country's administration properly. He has been the Chief Minister of Bihar and knows that thousands of acres of surplus land could not be distributed because of litigations pending in the High Court. Amendment in Rule 259 will not help. Articles 226 and 227 of the Constitution will have to be amended to ensure that no person is able to take land cases to the court and that land cases do not remain pending. So, amendment in these Articles is necessary. Otherwise, whatever amendments he may make in the land reforms will continue to be taken to court.

Sir, it will not be possible to acquire the land of the Mahants of Dharampura, Basarwa, Boxa and Sahapur unless these Articles are amended because they will file a writ in the High Court and the land will become disputed. He is talking of inclusion of land reforms in the 9th Schedule. But it is not going to help in acquiring surplus land.

I have had a talk with Shri Somnath Chatterjee about this amendment and asked him as to how much land is going to become surplus and how many pending cases are likely to be disposed of as a result of this. He told me that nothing was going to happen because landlord would take recourse to Articles 226 and 227 and conceal their land. Although I support this bill, yet I will request you to take legal advice on amendment of these two Articles. It will provide relief to the poor. With these words, I support the Bill.

SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to hon. Members for taking part in the discussion on the Constitution (21st Amendment) Bill which seeks amendment in the 9th Schedule pertaining to land reforms. All of them have given their support. Only two-three points have emerged which I would like to clarify. (Interruptions)

DR. RAM KRISHNA KUSMARIA (Damoh) : Mr. Chairman, Sir I want to raise a very important issue.

MR. CHAIRMAN : No please.

SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA : The Government is committed to enforcement of land ceiling and reform laws and there is no change in Government's policy in this respect, nor is there any possibility of any change. The economic liberalisation policy is not going to affect land ceiling aspect in any way.

The policy, we are following today, is the national policy laid down in 1972 by late Smt. Indira Gandhi and all State Governments are being asked to follow that policy. We have recently written separate letters to the State Chief Ministers and asked them to distribute immediately the surplus land among landless people and that 10.64 lakh acre surplus land which is under litigation should be got released immediately. We have also asked them to constitute special tribunals under Article 323-B of the Constitution in respect of the cases pending in the courts and to get these cases disposed of. The West Bengal Government has in its Act of 1991 acquired power for adjudication and we are providing protection to it. In Bihar, a Tribunal was constituted under 1987 Amendment but the same was declared ultra-vires by the High Court. Today, we are going to provide Constitutional safeguard to that Act also. Thus, Government's intention is very clear about speedy implementation of land reforms. Land reforms were speeded up throughout the country during the last 49 years of Congress rule. The Zamindari System was abolished and 1.12 crore land holders were given ownership rights and 51 lakh acre surplus land was distributed among 49 lakh families which include 17 lakh scheduled castes, 7 lakh scheduled tribe families and 26 lakh other backward poor families. Therefore, it is not proper to question the sincerity of the Government or that of the Congress. Congress is fully committed to its promises. It had laid down land reforms policy during the days of freedom struggle and took up the implementation of these programmes immediately after attaining independence. The Zamindari Abolition Act which was the first Amendment of Bihar, was passed in 1991 when Dr. Sinha and Shri K.B. Sahay were the Chief Minister but the same was declared ultra-vires by the Supreme Court. The Amendment of 1991 was the first Amendment and the Amendment Act No. 13 was given Constitutional

safeguard. Later, 255 laws were included in the 9th Schedule of which 222 pertained to land reforms. In May 1990, 55 laws were given Constitutional safeguards. The remaining Bills of the State Government which were pending with us are being included in the 9th Schedule. So, the intention of the Government of India is very clear. We have also asked the State Governments not to use 456 thousand acre land reserved with the State Governments for community purpose except for distribution among the landless people. We have asked them to release this land immediately and distribute the same among people. The Maharashtra Government has sent a proposal for amendment in the Act requesting that exemption should not be granted for leasing out the land for other purposes and the Government of India has not, so far, given its consent for the same. But, I am sorry ....(Interruptions)

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Have you not given the consent or they have rejected it?

SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA : It is still under consideration. The West Bengal Government has also submitted a similar Act which seeks power for the State Governments to allow an individual to retain the land in excess of land ceiling. It is also pending consideration. It is not in conformity with the guidelines of 1972 which we had laid down for the entire country. We have told the State Governments that no amendment should be made in the ceiling laws which go against national policy and the industrialists and others should not be allowed to retain land in excess of land ceiling. We do not have any proposal under consideration regarding granting exemption except the exemption provision included in the 1972 guidelines. Therefore, our economic liberalisation policy is not going to have any effect on land reforms. I also want to discuss Bihar.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : I would like to know as to what sort of exemption has been sought by the West Bengal Government.

SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA : The West Bengal Government's proposal provides for granting permission for acquisition and right of ownership of land by any religious trust, company, individual, Association or Body with the prior approval of the State Government and under the conditions laid down by the State Government; granting of permission to tenants or lease-holders for retaining the area of land as considered adequate by the State Government; dealing with and disposal of cases of the land in excess of the ceiling with an individual or a firm or a Company or individuals or institutions or bodies for purposes of setting up factories, industries, tree-plantation, tea-gardens live-stock, breeding, poultry, horticulture, aqua-culture, floriculture, sericulture and such other activities.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : This is over and above the ceiling.

SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA : It is over and above ceiling.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa) : I would like to know whether it is for industry or not.

[Translation]

SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA : This is for industry also. I have already said it is for different purposes. It includes individual, firm, company, factory etc. You have asked for exemption for all of them but it goes against our 1972 guidelines and therefore, it is under our consideration.

[English]

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY : It is not a demand for general exemption, it is a demand for specific cases.

[Translation]

SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA : As I have said, we have received exemption proposals from two State Governments only and no other State has sought exemption over and above land ceiling. I would like to make it clear on behalf of the Government of India that there is no scope for affecting any increase or decrease in granting any exemption in the ceiling so that there is no uncertainty about rural land reforms. We have laid a policy for the entire country and all the State Governments should scrupulously follow that. We have asked them to implement fully the Ceiling Act by the end of March next year.

Our Prime Minister is fully committed to these reforms. A meeting of Revenue Minister and Chief Ministers was called and a movement was launched during 1971-74 whereunder 14,000 acre surplus land was acquired. Therefore, the Prime Minister has clearly said that we want to carry out all the land reforms. The land disputes should be resolved whether they are going on in Andhra Pradesh or Bihar. The land disputes are related to naxalism. We have told the Bihar Chief Minister that most of the killings of poor people, dalits and community killing are linked to land disputes in Central Bihar. The Bihar Government remained very complacent during the last five years about land reforms and we have exhorted the Bihar Chief Minister not to show any slackness in this regard and asked him to complete the land reform process. Only then can peace be obtained in Bihar. This

is not the question of Biju system. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV : Why are you imposing restriction on reduction of ceiling.

SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA : These are the question connected with land and thus will naturally tend to create uncertainty. We have so far retrieved 50 lakh acres of land in the country, 10.64 lakh of land is involved in litigation. 95000 acre land of Bihar and 75000 acre land of West Bengal are involved in litigation. We have asked West Bengal Chief Minister specifically to try to release the land under litigation, under dispute with the Board of Revenue, he can use his good offices to get these lands released. The land which is under litigations in High Courts can be got released by setting up special courts, Tribunals. We have proposals in this regard and we are going to include in the 9th Schedule. We are including the laws of West Bengal in the 9th Schedule whereunder they want to set up tribunals. The State Government should set up Tribunals under Article 327(B) and resolve all the disputes. This is what we can demand of State Governments in order to do away with the uncertainty.

A second point has been raised that land records are not up-to-date. For this also, the Central Government had formulated a scheme in 1987-88 that land records should be brought upto date and expenditure involved therein should be shared on 50:50 basis. The Government of India had also proposed a computerisation scheme in 1988-89 the entire expenditure of which was born by Government of India. So far, State Governments have been released a sum of Rs. 104 crore for creating land records and Rs. 24 crore for completion of records. These are the steps we are taking to resolve finally the land disputes. Complaints have also been made about Benami land deals. This subject belongs to State Governments. The State Governments can and should make stringent laws in this regard. As for a Panchayati Raj institution, we have in our Ministry taken a decision that the land management, revenue administration and land reform subjects should be transferred to panchayats. The people in the villages can indicate where the Benami land lies and provision should be made for getting the same released.

In the Land Ceiling Act of Bihar we have made an amendment to provide for an award on behalf of the Government to those who furnish information about benami land. It had some effect and we got some information. But during the last 5 years, the process has slowed down. The slogan of Social Justice has remained a mere slogan. As Shri Bhogendra Jha said, the poor should be given land and the work of extending social justice to them be accelerated. The Government of India has made up its mind to speed up the distribution of

surplus land and to resolve the land disputes. The State Government should also follow the suit. I thank you for the suggestions you have made an appeal to you to adopt this Bill unanimously.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Not a single question has been replied to.

SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA : All the points have been replied.

[*English*]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : I had suggested it to the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs. There does not seem to be any seriousness on the part of the Government. The Minister said that they will come. When they will come and wherefrom?

[*Translation*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : What about voting ? Do you think this Bill will get be passed? How many members are present here. I had in the beginning of my speech had said that it would need a special majority. Will it be adopted in this way? You have brought forward this Constitutional Amendment Bill in a routine manner and if it falls who will be responsible for it?

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia) : If 273 Members are not present, then we can postpone it for tomorrow but it should not fall out.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Where is the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs? Shall I proceed further?

....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : The House is taken for a ride. Where is the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs?

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA) : It was decided in the meeting of the leaders of all parties that this Bill will be passed.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Our Members are sitting. Where are your Members? Even the Ministers are not present here.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : The entire debate was conducted to make speeches on this Bill. No clarification has been given. The Maruti Udyog is in possession of thousands of acres of land without any valid reason therefor.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Before I put the motion for consideration of the Bill to vote, I would like to say that this being a Constitution (Amendment) Bill, voting has to be by division.

Let the Lobbies be cleared-

17.35 hrs.

MR. SPEAKER : The lobbies have been cleared.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, I request you, let the vote be taken tomorrow at 11 o'clock so that every Party can organise its Members. Everybody wants the Bill to be passed.

MR. SPEAKER : If nobody is objecting to it and if we have more than 50 per cent of votes...

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : If we have it, it is all right.

MR. SPEAKER : I think we would be able to pass it.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani) : It must not be allowed to fail. If it succeeds, it is okay.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : They have not contacted us. They have not informed us. The Government is not at all serious.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this should be taken up tomorrow and the Government should be reprimanded because the Government's way of disputing Parliamentary business is improper. We had expressed our doubt at the very start of the debate that the Bill would need a special majority and asked whether the matter had been discussed with all the parties and they responded it in affirmative. But now if you look at the presence of Members, I think we don't have that special majority.

(Interruptions)

[English]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA) : Sir, may I make a submission?

MR. SPEAKER : Yes.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA : Sir, originally voting for this Constitution (Amendment) Bill was fixed at 12 o'clock but for various reasons, which I do not want to go into, the time has been shifted and now it is quarter to six. At this point of time, for this important Constitution (Amendment) Bill, for which there is a unanimous support of the entire House, the requisite number did not seem to be present. I would, therefore, make a request that, since the debate on this Bill is already over, the time for Division may be fixed for tomorrow at 11.30 a.m. or any other so

that we can have the Division and pass this Bill.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

[Translation]

SHRINITISH KUMAR: The Chair should also comment as to how indifferent the Government is in dealing with Parliamentary business.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: This is too important a Bill for us to take any chance. There is no dispute about it. Let us have Division either at 11.00 a.m. or 12 noon or whatever time you fix. As I had suggested earlier, let us not take a risk on a Bill of this nature. You fix any time that suits you so that even the hon. Prime Minister can also come. We want his vote.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, let it be tomorrow at 11.30 a.m. or 12 noon or whatever time you fix. Let us not take the risk. We will support.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittorgarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not on the merits of the requirement of such a Constitutional Amendment. I am also not on the practical move for shifting it from now to some other time when hon. Members are actually present.

Firstly, I request you to please consider that having assembled here, having concluded the debate, what is the responsibility of the Treasury Benches in respect of Constitutional Amendment which they are themselves piloting and they have themselves listed.

Secondly, thereafter — notwithstanding what the responsibility of the Government or the Treasury Benches is or is not — please examine carefully this point. We have finished the debate and then we want to shift it tomorrow. I do not know what message we are sending. Is it proper?

SHRI UMRAO SINGH (Jalandhar) : You yourself were absent. Where were you?

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : You are right. I accept that.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: It should be allotted one hour more tomorrow. So let it be taken at 12 noon tomorrow.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I am not exonerating the Treasury Benches. But I say that there are some issue on which we should act in a manner which shows responsibility here. That is only the message that I wanted to convey.

My exoneration is not there. You are as bad as anything. Sometimes, they do something good, let that not be

spoiled.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: We propose that this should be taken up tomorrow.

*[English]*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: The House is unanimous. Even if it is a little halting, I think, Shri Jaswant Singh has agreed to our proposal. Therefore, let it be granted.

*[Translation]*

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Sir, Government can be charged of lack of seriousness. I have said at the start of the debate that if the time has been allocated for discussion and passing of Constitutional Amendment Bill, talks should be held with the opposition and whips should be issued for ensuring special majority. Then he had said that talks have been held with the opposition. But now we see that we don't have special majority.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: It was discussed in the meeting of leaders.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Whatever Shri Shukla has said that carried no meaning at all because he entered the House only after quorum bell rang.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: Shri Nitish Kumar does not attend the meeting of leaders so he is not aware of it.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : The leaders of our party attended the meeting.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA : All the leaders were apprised of it.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : I have asked from the whips of all the parties but none of them is aware of it.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA : It was discussed in the leaders' meeting in the BAC and everybody was sounded about it and all of them had said that they would be present. It was decided unanimously. Many of our Members are present here and therefore we cannot be charged with lack of seriousness.

*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Let us not enter

into any controversy. Sir, you may recall that even in today's meeting I made a suggestion. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Why have you not taken up this Bill at 12 o'clock? *(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA : I do not want to affront anybody by entering into controversy. I will submit that as per consensus we should have voting tomorrow and now the listed business should be taken up. The division which is necessary for a constitution amendment should be completed tomorrow at 11.30 or 12.00 hours.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : Are you sure that there would be Members in adequate number tomorrow at 11.30 hours?

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, I suggested 11 o'clock.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, please listen to my submission. The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs has taken words out of my mouth and put them in your ears. We had decided that voting would take place at 17.00 or 18.00 hours. Whether the House was informed of this.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: The House was informed Three-four times.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : It was not in the knowledge of any Member that voting will take place at 17.00-18.00 hours.

MR. SPEAKER : It will be done as per the wish of the House. But I would like to say that today we have taken up Government business in place of private members business and I don't know whether the Members will be present tomorrow in requisite number because we will have Private Members' Business tomorrow and many members do not remain present. Secondly this has to go to other House after being passed here. So it may not be adopted there also.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA : It has already been passed by Rajya Sabha.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, it has been passed by Rajya Sabha.

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITA RAM KESRI): Sir, I have to introduce Wakf Amendment Bill also tomorrow.

MR. SPEAKER : I am very sorry. You want to do everything in the manner the Presiding Officer sitting here does.

SHRI SITA RAM KESRI : I have made a submission.

MR. SPEAKER : You want to get all the Bills passed and nobody has time to remain present here. Everybody wants to make a long speech and then schedule has also to be changed. How all things can be done? I am not fixing 12 hours tomorrow because I will assess the situation tomorrow morning. If you people want to set the business taken up, then you will have to be here for the whole day. You should not allow a feeling to come that people might feel that we have been doing what we wanted to do. I am really very sorry that we have to do all this at the fag end of the session.

If you all agree, we will take it up tomorrow but we should not do anything which might dilute our dignity.

*[English]*

So let us now take up the demands of excess grant (general).

17.50 hrs.

\*DEMANDS FOR EXCESS GRANTS (GENERAL)  
— 1992-93 and

\*SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS  
(GENERAL) — 1995-96

MR. SPEAKER : Will you please take your seats? The House will take up now Discussion and Voting on the Demands for Excess Grants (General) for 1992-93 and Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 1995-96, for which some time has been allotted. Would the Members like to speak on the Demands for Excess and Supplementary Grants?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : Yes.

MR. SPEAKER : Motions moved :

"That the respective excess sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India to make good following demands entered in the second column thereof - Demand Nos. 14, 15, 18, 22, 25, 33, 75, 95 and 97."

"That the respective supplementary sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending

31st day of March, 1996 in respect of the following demands entered in the second column thereof - Demand Nos. 1, 5, 6, 9, 14, 15, 26, 35, 39, 40, 46, 48, 50, 51, 53, 56, 61, 70, 72, 73, 75, to 81 and 83".

*Demands for Excess Grants (General) for 1992-93 submitted to the Vote of the Lok Sabha*

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand submitted to the vote of the House
1	2	3
<b>I. EXPENDITURE MET FROM REVENUE</b>		
14.	Postal Services	21,46,46,092
18.	Defence Services-Army	53,23,42,445
25.	Department of Economic Affairs	4,77,09,052
33.	Pensions	15,87,71,514
97.	Chandigarh	1,11,77,128
<b>II. EXPENDITURE MET FROM CAPITAL</b>		
15.	Telecommunication Services	25,53,86,487
22.	Capital Outlay on Defence Services	21,29,09,329

\*with the recommendation of the President Moved

75. Roads	6,46,16,261
95. Dadra & Nagar Haveli	2,58,912

*Supplementary Demands for Grants (General for 1995-96 submitted to the Vote of Lok Sabha)*

No. and Name of Demand		Amount of Demand for Grant submitted to the vote of the House	
		Revenue	Capital
		Rs	Rs
1	2	3	
1	Agriculture	120,00,00,000	...
5	Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals	45,02,00,000	...
6	Department of Fertilizers	7,01,00,000	231,50,00,000
9	Ministry of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution	32,00,00,000	...
14	Department of Telecommunications	7,01,00,000	...
15	Ministry of Defence	10,00,00,000	...
26	Payments to Financial Institutions	...	2192,54,00,000
35	Direct Taxes	...	1,00,000
39	Department of Health	1,00,000	1,00,000
40	Department of Family Welfare	1,00,000	...
46	Department of Education	817,73,00,000	...
48	Department of Culture	10,01,00,000	...
50	Department of Industrial Development	25,00,00,000	...
51	Department of Heavy Industry	55,00,00,000	41,96,00,000
53	Department of Small Scale Industries and Agro & Rural Industries	3,93,00,000	...
56	Ministry of Labour	10,00,00,000	...
61	Ministry of Mines	20,00,00,000	...
70	Department of Rural Development	550,00,00,000	...
72	Department of Science and Technology	12,50,00,000	...
73	Department of Scientific and Industrial Research	3,00,00,000	...
75	Ministry of Steel	30,00,00,000	...
76	Surface Transport	22,00,00,000	...
77	Roads	15,00,000	1,00,000
78	Ports, Light Houses and Shipping	2,85,00,000	...
79	Ministry of Textiles	55,00,00,000	107,90,00,000
80	Urban Development and Housing	...	1,00,000
81	Public Works	...	2,00,000
83	Ministry of Water Resources	5,00,00,000	...
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1843,23,00,000</b>	<b>2573,96,00,000</b>

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Ramchandra Marotrao Ghangare may now move his cut motions

SHRI RAMCHANDRA MAROTRAO GHANGARE (Wardha) : I beg to move :

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 45,02,00,000 in respect of Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals be reduced by Rs. 100."

[INORDINATE DELAY IN REHABILITATING BHOPL GAS VICTIMS AND MEETING THEIR COMPENSATION CLAIMS] (1)

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,00,000 in respect of Department of Health (page 9) be reduced by Rs. 100."

[REFUSAL BY THE MANAGEMENT OF KASTURBA HEALTH SOCIETY, SEWAGRAM TO START PENSION SCHEME TO THE EMPLOYEES OF KASTURBA HEALTH SOCIETY AND MAHATMA GANDHI INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES, WARDHA] (2)

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 817,73,00,000 in respect of Department of Education (page 11) be reduced by Rs. 100."

[NEED TO IMPLEMENT EFFECTIVELY THE COMPULSORY PRIMARY EDUCATION PROGRAMME THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY] (3)

Mr. Speaker Sir, this is on page number nine under Department of Health.

"(b) Providing additional grant assistance to the Kasturba Health Society, Sewagram for expenditure on running and maintenance of Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences, Wardha (Rs. 1 crore)'.

[Translation]

This is my cut motion. Sir, Kasturba Health Society has been set up in the name of Kasturbaji who is called the Mother of our nation. The Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Medical Services has been named after Mahatma Gandhi. The management of this Institute is indulging in various cases of bungling. The Institute receives 50% Central grant and 25% Maharashtra State Grant. This Hospital and college was set up with the aim of servicing lepers to realise the ideal of Mahatma Gandhi, who used to serve them. But the aim of the present management of this hospital does not seem to be serving the poor. Although it receives 75% grant from Government, but the management charges exorbitant fees from patients, and if the fees is not paid, then they do not perform operations, do not issue medicines. Recently a pregnant women had come to that hospital, but no doctor was available there and she delivered the baby in the toilet. The wife of one of my friends, who works in the office of a textile union, became unconscious in the night and died unattended by any doctor or a nurse. This is the position in this hospital. I would like to tell you that they are encashing the name of Mahatma Gandhi and seek country and foreign grants. Recently, Satya Sain Baba Trust donated a sum of rupees one crore to it. They do not maintain any accounts

of the grants received, nobody knows where the grant goes. This should be enquired into. I would tell you how they treat their employees The Maharashtra Government and the Nagpur University have issued instructions that the employees should be paid house rent allowance w.e.f. 1.4.88 but this was not implemented. The employees started agitations and only then, it was sanctioned w.e.f. 1.1.93, yet no arrears were paid. The employees want themselves to be covered under pension scheme. The Maharashtra Government and Nagpur University have issued directions for introducing pension scheme, the management is not implementing orders.

They have given a go by the principles of Gandhiji. The college is short of requisite strength of teachers. Good doctors, specialist join this instituta because of name of Mahatma Gandhi but leave it because of maltreatment of management. Dr. Trevidi was a heart specialist. He left the hospital because, the management did not care for him and did not provide requisite facilities. Similarly, another doctor Shri Ahuja also left. There is no specialists there today. It does not have full strength of teaching staff. One vacancy of Professor is vacant there for a long time; it is short of 5 Assistant Professors, 11 Readers and 20 lecturers. The students do not get proper facilities during their training. The management have their own rules but even there are not implemented. The Kasturba Society has its separate rules. Its service rates have not been approved by Maharashtra Government and the Nagpur University and still they are running their business. The list of students for MBBS and Dental College is prepared by Government.. (Interruptions) but here they hold their own PMT examinations and they have committed gross irregularities.

The Management invited tenders for construction of working womens hostel. The Bhopal based B.N. Construction company quoted tender of Rs. 32 lakh while Wardha based H.B. Construction company which had connections with the management quoted Rs. 32.92 lakh and yet their tender was accepted, although it was higher by Rs. 92 thousand. This Company has assets worth Rs. 5 lakh only and it submitted a false certificate. I would request that the grant of Rs. one crore to be given to them, should be released after duly conducting an inquiry, lest these funds also should be misused, as was being done so far.

My second cut motion relates to the commitment made by the founders of our Constitution that universal primary education should be introduced in a period of ten years but 48 years have passed but the same has not been introduced.

18.00 hrs.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is surprising that we have not been

able to introduce a compulsory primary education for children. What is the reason? Today you go to rural areas. The entire school has only one teacher who teaches three-four classes while at some other places no teacher is available. It is not so difficult a task as to reach the moon. We must at least make primary education compulsory. It is shame on us that we have failed to achieve this basic target and, therefore, we must make a legal provision that one who does not send his children to school shall be liable to punishment.

Sir, the Bhopal tragedy took place in 1984, i.e. about 10 years ago, but claims in respect of many victims have not been settled so far and they have not yet received any compensation. The new generation of these people is disabled, deformed in many ways. So their claims should be settled without delay. If we do not have sufficient number of courts, then their number should be increased so as to dispense early justice to them. I have moved cut motion on these lines.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee will you speak?

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum): Can my friend speak now?

MR. SPEAKER : I am asking you.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : I thought I will be the third speaker.

MR. SPEAKER : You can be the second one also.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : I am not still clear whether we are discussing the two things separately. I think, combined comments are being given. I will also do that although I objected yesterday.

MR. SPEAKER: Your point is very valid and we shall make amends afterwards. But you can cover both the items if you like.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum): In the List of Business the correction is there. I will just make a mention of this.

As far as the Excess Demands are concerned, I am drawing the attention to one simple fact that in all the interventions that I have made during the discussion on Budgets, since this Ministry has come, in terms of data and statistics, the Ministry is bungling hopelessly. If we look into the figures of initial Budget Estimates, the Revised Estimates and then the final accounts as presented in the Budget, it is found that the figures of subsequent years as compared the revised estimates differ. I have drawn the attention of the Ministry of Finance again and again to this. I did not see any correction even in this year's Budget. Now, over and above that, this is a matter of Excess Demands. Over and above, what is disclosed as the final accounts for yester year in this year's Budget constitute Excess

Demands. This is over and above that any here comes the rub. Even when you say that in 1992-93 in your Budget for 1994-95 that is the figure of final accounts, this is over and above that. This is something about which the Government must be much more careful.

The most important point is that in this particular year, i.e., 1992-93, the Public Accounts Committee has cleared it. Unless the Public Accounts Committee clears it, they will be in a soup. I remember while functioning in the Public Accounts Committee on occasions we felt that we shall not pass it. It was so atrocious. But, every time, we are compelled to pass it, otherwise there will be some difficulties in personal terms. The Public Accounts Committee recommends and then it comes to us.

If we look at the characteristic of your Excess Demands, primarily this is due to the pension fund.

Now, my problem is: Is it not possible for you to have definite figures about Central Government Budget? If there is anything definite about the Central Government Budget it arises from the fact that they know definitely as to how many people retire and they know what is the level of pensions to be paid. And yet, even after the Supplementary Budget, it seems you spent beyond what has been permitted to you by Parliament. This is something about which definite knowledge is possible. But even that escapes your attention. I feel that there is something wrong in your approach to the problem of budgeting. That is why these things arise. In any case we have passed it. You know that and, therefore, my support is there.

**18.06 Hrs.**

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Then there is the other aspect. I am combining both these things. I am not going into specifics. In the Supplementary Demand you have to pay pension to all those who are retiring. That is a definite number. One or two may die. You cannot anticipate it. But you know as to how many people are retiring. That you know definitely as to what is the level of pension payment. You know it. You also know how much increment will be there. That also you know for definite. And yet you failed to calculate and called for a Supplementary Budget. In this year's Supplementary Demand there is one more interesting characteristic. You are making huge payment. But the Appropriation Bill is one-third of the demand. Why is it so? It is because essentially it is a matter of book transfer. What is that book transfer? This is the distinguishing feature of this Supplementary Demand. What for you are asking for money? You are asking for voluntary retirement. That is the primary thing for which you are asking for money. There are other items. I referred to one but there may be others. I thought you will be asking for money for public sector enterprises. You did ask for it. And you have

asked for public sector enterprises only for voluntary retirement scheme and not to strengthen the public sector. Why is it a book transfer? It is because you have a World Bank-aided National Renewal Fund and that has almost been taken for granted and, therefore, the funds from that Fund for this kind of expenditure is taken for granted. Therefore, you say that while you are asking for some Rs. 4,000 crore you Appropriation Bill will be for Rs. 1,200 crore.

I am not going into the figures as such. Now that really appears tragic to me. In the course of the discussion in this Session we have repeatedly underlined the fact that kindly, while you try to contain your fiscal deficit, pay attention to public sector enterprises. Your mid-term appraisal of the Plan says that you are neglecting the public sector. Your Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission goes round the country saying that he is all for public sector and wants that the crucial role, even to the extent of being at the commanding heights of the economy, to be retained by the public sector. But you are asking for funds not to strengthen them.

I know of several public sector enterprises that have not paid the wages. When they have paid wages, they are not being paid the working capital. From the Budget you refuse to provide anything. I have a suspicion that you want to hit on the banks so that funds from the banks also do not come instead they are asking only for funds, almost only — let me clarify that — in order that they can reduce the size of employment in the public sector. That is what your Supplementary Budget stands for. I do not want to elaborate on this. I wanted to speak one thing. It is for this reason, excuse me for my saying so, that I am not in favour of this Supplementary Demand.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAMPAL SINGH (Dumariaganj): The supplementary budget provides for an excess demand of Rs. 231.50 crore which is proposed to be given to the Fertiliser Corporation of India by the Ministry of Fertilisers for purchase of fertilisers. This subject is debated here every year and shortage of it is highlighted, its non-availability to farmers is reported, but from the present official dispensation it appears that Government do not have factual statistics of availability, demand and supply of fertilisers. Shortage of fertilizer appears only when it is not arranged on time. It is also said in blackmarket. The farmers face a lot of difficulty.

There are two other demands, one is about education. As my friend has said, Rs. 611.71 crore has been provided for mid-day meal. This scheme is alright but its implementation is faulty. It should reach the village children, the poor children. Government must make some foolproof arrangements. It has been noticed that the utensils are

purchased, meals are also prepared but after two-four days, everything disappears.

Similarly, a sum of Rs. 25 crore has been shown as excess demands for the Department of communications because it is said that more cables involving this amount were purchased. I would like to know as to why these cables in excess of requirement were purchased and why they have not been used so far? Some details must be provided in this regard.

I would also like to stress that excess demand of Rs. 550 crores sought for providing social assistance, giving pension to rural old women living below poverty-line should be utilised judiciously. This is a good scheme, but such schemes are not implemented faithfully. People in villages have been staging demonstrations and dharnas over non-payment of pension for 6 months together, they have not received old-age pension. The existing system needs a review.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani) : A constitutional question has arisen. I have heard that a majority of MLAs have gone against the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh but the Chief Minister has manoeuvred the proposal of dissolving the Legislative Assembly to be passed by the Cabinet and has suggested the Governor to do so. But according to my opinion any Legislature should not be dissolved as per the opinion of either Chief Minister or Prime Minister after they lose majority in the Legislature concerned. I would like you to instruct hon. Home Minister to convey the opinion of the House to hon. Governor that he should not dissolve the Legislative Assembly on the advice of a Chief Minister having no majority in the Legislative Assembly.

*[English]*

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU (Secunderabad): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I want to make a small submission on this matter.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: That is not the subject matter before us now. You cannot do that.

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU: Sir, the issue has been raised by Bhogendra Jhaji. The situation in Andhra Pradesh has become very sensitive and the entire country is looking towards Andhra Pradesh.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I would like to plead with your intelligence and ask: "Can you stand up and speak whatever you like in the House?" There is a specific provision and rule for that. You should follow that rule.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU: Sir, I will take only one minute. There is political instability in Andhra Pradesh and a lot of things are going on there. Yesterday I was in Hyderabad and today only I came here. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: These are all imaginary things.... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU: Sir, the Assembly should not be dissolved... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: This is not going on record.

*\*(Interruptions)\*...*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: These are all imaginary things. They are not before us. The Governor is there, the Government is there and the President is there, they will take care of this. I would like to know from you that when a particular subject is taken and we are in the midst of discussion, can we take up some other subject?

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU: Sir, I totally support whatever Shri Bhogendra Jha has said.

SHRI K.P. REDDAIAH YADAV (Machilipatnam): Sir, I am on point of order.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: This is not zero hour where there is a point of order.

SHRI K.P. REDDAIAH YADAV: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, having heard the points from the other sides, is it justifiable not to hear the Treasury Benches?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Really that is most unjust and unfair.

SHRI K.P. REDDAIAH YADAV: Sir, we have also discussed the Uttar Pradesh affair in the same House in the same manner. Kindly give me one minute so that I can make my submission.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I regret to say that when Panigrahi was on his legs, a senior most Member, Shri Bhogendra Jha suddenly stood up and fielded some information in this august House. It is very strongly supported by Shri Dattatraya and some other Members.

SHRI K.P. REDDAIAH YADAV: Sir, please allow me to say what I want to.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I would request that let us follow certain rules in the House. We have made these rules and if we were to violate the rules then who shall safeguard the interest of the House?

SHRI K.P. REDDAIAH YADAV: Sir, because the House had heard the view of the two hon. Members, I may also be permitted to say a few words. The democratic principles are being eroded day-by-day whenever we

are facing such crisis. It is the resolve of the Indian people and it is the accepted principle of the House and elsewhere also that whether it is majority or minority, it should be approved only on the floor of the House. Sir, today at 10 o'clock Shri N.T. Rama Rao, Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh has called a Cabinet meeting. The Cabinet has endorsed the dissolution of the Assembly. He took that decision and put it up in the hands of the Governor. Sir, there should not be any discrimination between one State and another. People are watching us. Please do not take steps for your advantage. Whenever it suits you, you take one stand and when it does not suit you, you take another stand. I therefore, urge upon this House to take note of this fact and we should not erode these democratic principles any further...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU: Sir, what Mr. Reddaiah has said...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Dattatraya, this is most unfair on your part. This is not the subject matter before you, please take your seat...*(Interruptions)\**

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: This is not going on record...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: If you want to discuss all these things, you are really at liberty to go to the lobbies and have a deep discussion, not on the floor of the House.

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU: Shri K.P. Reddaiah Yadav is misleading.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): Who can help if the Government is crumbling under its own pressure and contradiction?

SHRI RAMA KRISHNA KONATHALA (Anakapalli): It is an internal matter of Telugu Desam Party.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): Sir, I rise to support the items mentioned against Nos. 16 to 20 relating to Demands for Excess Grants (General) with regard to the year, 1992-93 and Appropriation Bill for that purpose and again the Supplementary Demand for Grants for the current financial year and also the relevant Appropriation Bill for that purpose.

In a country of our size and diversity which is called a sub-continent, everything cannot be visualised while formulating the annual budget. Therefore, there is always a need to come before the Lok Sabha in the form of Supplementary Demands etc., and we meet minimum twice, once during monsoon and again during winter besides during the Budget Session and, on all these occasions, we find a Supplementary Demand presented, discussed and passed.

When the Supplementary Demands cannot be ruled out, why should there be a gap of three years for discussing them? I am not able to persuade myself to this idea. Demands for Excess Grants etc., are there. But all these accounts should be audited and the final picture given within one year, at least in the following year of that particular financial year. But it is in August, 1955 that we are passing now some expenditure incurred in the financial year, 1952-53, in excess of the Budgetary provisions and that is also not a small amount. It runs to Rs. 149.78 crores. The second para could be looked into by the Finance Ministry so that this sort of situation is minimised.

The Budget on Supplementary Demands relates to 29 Grants amounting to net Rs. 1,672.89 crores. As I have said just now the expenditure is unforeseen. Everything cannot be visualised. There would be unforeseen expenditure and a democratic Government, in their wisdom, may find that certain new projects had to be taken up for the welfare of the people and that has to be provided in this type of Supplementary Demands.

Here, I can refer to one item of expenditure to the extent of Rs. 550 crore under the Ministry of Rural Development. They are seeking a grant to the tune of Rs. 550 crore. This is quite welcome. I also thank the Government for this. While going into the details about this expenditure, I find that it will be incurred in the days to come. As I find, it is for old-age pension that they require this money. From the ramparts of the Red Fort on 15th August, a few days before, the hon. Prime Minister launched certain very good programmes meant to fight out poverty, launched certain poverty-alleviation programmes intended to help the poorest of the poor. Old-age pension is given to those who are helpless people, who have become very old, who are above 60 years and in some other cases 65 years etc. It is absolutely the State's noble duty to give financial assistance to those people. This expenditure of Rs. 550 crore is a very welcome item. Like this, in the case of Fertilizer Ministry, non-Plan loans to Fertilizer Corporation of India and Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation for achieving higher production target of urea - including cash losses etc. come to Rs. 231.50 crore. You know a little earlier, my learned, dear friend Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee was referring to the sickness of Public Sector Undertakings. He is not here right now. He has gone somewhere. The External Affairs Minister, who also happens to occupy the high office of the Deputy-Chairman of the Planning Commission, while going round and speaking said that the Public Sector would be allowed to play the commanding role as is expected of it. There is nothing wrong in it. That is a good development. Only some people try to create the impression that this Government is against the Public Sector. The stand of the Deputy-

Chairman demolishes this. The Fertilizer Corporation of India and the Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation have many units and these have gone sick and they are before the BIFR. The BIFR has finalised and cleared the revamping scheme with regard to the units controlled by these two organisations. For that also, money is required. I can give one instance of the grant of Rs. 500 crore sanctioned for the Fertilizer Plant at Talcher under FCI. It is a unit of the FCI. More than 500 crore is required. The technology will be converted. Earlier, it was run on coal-based technology. In future, it will be run on naphtha-based technology. So, that way, the argument, the plea of the Opposition that the Government is against the Public Sector does not hold water at all.

As I said, I will not take much time. I want to mention only one thing. There is a Plant of the Atomic Energy Department at Talcher. That area is called Vikrampur. In one campus, there are two Plants - the Fertilizer Plant and the Heavy Water Plant. The Heavy Water Plant is linked to and dependent on the Fertilizer Plant because of the inputs it draws from the Fertilizer Plant. Because of so many factors of and sickness that the Fertilizer Plant has developed, that ultimately led to the closure of the Heavy Water Plant in my constituency. I thank the Government of India because they have finally decided to revamp the Fertilizer Plant there. Now, there is no necessity at all to close down the Heavy Water Plant.

I would appeal to the hon. Minister and I would also seek the help of the hon. Parliamentary Affairs Minister regarding one plant which is linked to the other plant. When that mother plant is being reviewed, why do close down the other plant, the heavy water project thereby throwing the workers and bringing in an atmosphere of uncertainty for the workers. It is also causing resentment among the local people.

About fertilizer subsidy and other things, I think it should be announced well in advance before the sowing season. Another thing is that of Urea Growmore. It is in short supply in Orissa. While we are discussing about fertilizers, as mentioned in the Supplementary Demands, I would request the Minister to ensure availability of all kinds of fertilizers in required quantity and at proper prices. Otherwise, there is always apprehension of blackmarketing in this field.

As I said, there are very welcome items for which money is required and which are provided in the Supplementary Demands. I wholeheartedly support this and thank you for giving this opportunity.

[Translation]

DR. S.P. YADAV (Sambhal): Sir, I rise to oppose vehemently the excess demands for grants presented

by the hon. Minister because this Government is ante-farmers. This Government can reduce import duty, can liberalise its policy for production of cars; can it not do something for farmer community? What it has done for farmer is that the rates of DAP which is used by farmer at the time of sowing have gone upto to Rs. 492 per bag in 1995 from Rs. 265 in 1991 and Rs. 430 in 1993. I would request the hon. Minister, if Government is unable to do anything for farmers it should at least do the job of providing irrigation facility for every field. It will greatly help the farmer. Now that the sugarcane season is going to start. Government gains a lot from sugarcane. 10 kg of sugar is obtained from one quintal of cane. Molasses, 'khand', etc. is produced from sugarcane. But farmer is given Rs. 70 per quintal. I would request the hon. Minister not to be so ante-farmers. The elections are approaching. Therefore, increase sugarcane rate to Rs. 100 per quintal. I would like to make one more submission. You are delicensing every industry, but not thinking in terms of delicensing sugar industry. If sugar mills are delicensed, sugarcane will be crushed efficiently throughout the country and sugar production will go up considerably. At present a lot of bargaining takes place in the rates of sugarcane which are fixed by sugar mill owners, then there are middle-men. The farmer gets much less than the actual price. The biggest problem of farmer is that if he belongs to Bihar or Uttar Pradesh, he has to sell his produce only in his states. The prices of wheat differ in different states.

So, the farmer should be free to take his produce to any state and sell it there.

Sir, the second demand relates to education. Recently, the Prime Minister alongwith Shri Bhajanlalji inaugurated mid-day meal scheme in the schools of Haryana. This is only a fraud. In Primary school a few children study and teacher do not go there to teach. The Human Resource Minister is not aware of difficulties of rural primary schools, out of four teachers only one teacher goes for teaching.

The other burning problem is that of adult education. The Government is providing a lot of funds for adult education but this adult education has become fraud education and the funds provided for it are being misused. The bureaucrats are swallowing these funds like anything. This money is being misappropriated in every district of Uttar Pradesh. I would plead that this adult education programme should be done away with and the funds be utilised for providing better facilities to primary and junior high schools.

About Jawahar Rojgar Yojana. I would say that half of the funds are utilised by state Governments and half are given to rural areas. The funds for JRY are provided by the Centre and you should ensure that they are not misused by the states.

As for surface transport, you must have seen the very poor state of National Highways. The Delhi-Lucknow National Highway is in most pitiable condition and road accidents take place very frequently.

For water resources, flood control and irrigation a sum of Rs. 6495 crore was allocated for 1994-95. But today the floods have played havoc in the entire country, in Bihar, in Uttar Pradesh. The Ganga has eroded many villages. The funds have been misused under these heads also. Where has that money been used? You are asking for more funds through these supplementary demands. I want that you should ensure that the funds released by you are not misused, then only your responsibility will be called completed. With these words I conclude.

[English]

SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS (Jalpaiguri): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Demand for Excess Grants totally amounting to Rs. 149.78 crores as excess expenditure has been incurred towards 10 Grants during the year 1992-93. It has been placed before the House for passing... (Interruptions)

The excess expenditure is always treated as unauthorised expenditure. It is because of lack of financial discipline. The existing mechanism has completely failed to control this excess expenditure during that period. It seems that there is no financial and budgetary control and discipline over the Departments.

In the case of Telecommunication Services, the Supplementary Demand for Grants during the year 1992-93 was Rs. 0.01 crore; and the Excess Demand was Rs. 25.53 crore. The excess expenditure is more than 2500 times than the Supplementary Grant. How is it possible? In the case of Road, that is, Demand No: 75, where there is no improvement throughout the country, the Supplementary Grant was Rs. 13.85 crores whereas the Excess expenditure was Rs. 6.46 crore.

Here the excess expenditure is more than half of the Supplementary Grants.

In the case of postal services which have become very much unpopular and which has been practically replaced by courier services, excess expenditure is about Rs. 21.46 crores. It is also seen that saving in the order of more than Rs. 100 crores in each of the grants has occurred in 19 grants or appropriations during 1992-93. Excess expenditure and savings of this kind are both clear indications of faulty budget and undesirable tendency of misuse of public funds.

I would request the Government to gear up their budgetary control so that such things may not occur again.

Regarding Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1995-96, Rs. 4417.19 crore has been placed as Supplementary Demands for Grants and this is nearly

2.5 per cent increase of our original budget placed during 1995-96.

In the Department of Fertilisers, Rs. 238.51 crores has been placed as Supplementary Grants. I would like to know, in spite of the enhanced budget, why are the farmers not getting fertilisers at a subsidized rate. Why is the Government trying to close the fertiliser industry under public sector in our country? Why is the Government decreasing the fertilizer subsidy?

In telecommunications, Rs. 7.01 crores is placed as Supplementary Grants. But what is the position of telecommunications in our country? The people of rural areas are not getting telephone facilities and the existing telephones are not working well in almost all places of the country. In North Bengal, the problem of telecommunications is very acute. If the Government's policy is to privatise the basic telecommunication services, then what is the necessity of this Budget? I do not know on this point.

In the Department of Education, Rs. 817.73 crore is placed as Supplementary Demands for Grants. Most of these funds are earmarked for the programme of nutritional support to primary education. The scheme itself is very good and attractive. But we have got every doubt in proper utilisation of this fund and whether the scheme is executed in the proper direction or not. Higher education is being neglected in the Budget with a view to privatise the same. I would like to draw the attention of the Government to provide adequate provision in the Budget for the promotion of higher education.

In the Department of Rural Development, Rs. 0.04 crore is placed as Supplementary Demands for Grants. These grants are for implementing the national social assistance for the people below the poverty line. But these funds have not been properly utilised as it is seen that the people living below the poverty line are increasing in number. Even in Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, only 14.3 per cent of the funds allotted reaches the poor people.

In the Department of Communications (Road), Rs. 20 crores have been earmarked for national highway works in the States. There are five or six States mentioned in the papers supplied to us.

You know, Sir, during the recent floods in the North Bengal, a number of bridges have been damaged and the road communication has been dislocated. A number of communications have been made to the Government of India but no response has come till today. I would like the Government to look into the matter seriously.

Sir, there is a National Highway which is almost under the Central Government. So, the repair works relating to the damaged bridges should be taken up immediately by them to revive the street communication which is very important for the development of the area.

In almost all the Departments, the Government is very much keen and interested in implementing the voluntary

retirement schemes. But the Government is silent to solve the basic problems of the country. I would like you to know the basic problems. These problems are : (1) There is no positive step to meet the unemployment problem; (2) there was a negligence in providing compensation to the people victimised in the Bhopal Gas Tragedy; (3) there is a negligence in protecting the industries under public sector undertakings; (4) there is no broad-based planning to control floods and to fight against drought; (5) there is no plan in the Budget to control abnormal price-hike of essential commodities; and (6) there is no honest attempt to revive the sick industries and to re-open the closed industries.

Therefore, Sir, I do request the Government to come out with a new Budgetary provision to solve these basic problems of the people of this country.

[Translation]

DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA (Damoh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to make my submission regarding excess demands and supplementary demands for grants. Excess demands have been presented for 1992-93 and this is old sin which we have to bear today, and Rs. 25 crores have been demanded for purchase of cables.

Sir, last time, I had put a question on cable theft and we found that officers were also involved in that theft. Is this cable theft a joint venture? He is demanding excess grants. Similarly, supplementary demands have also been presented. I would like to know why this situation is created? Our Parliamentary Affairs Minister Shri Vidya Charan Shukla says that his guru lives in Patharia village and he visits that place every fortnight by a helicopter and this process has been continuing for the last two years during monsoons. One day the entire fleet of official vehicles reached that place. It was raining incessantly and the entire traffic jammed because the connecting bridge had washed away. The area collector was Sh. Bhatt who asked me as to what he should do, whose assistance should he seek, whose door should he knock? The entire fleet was stranded. I met his guru also. He said that he was not happy with his pupil who frequently comes to him and brings with him Russian, Pathans etc.

The other pupils fled away. Now he does not have anybody with him. These people were involved in the bomb explosion case. It is said that the excess demands are being sought to meet the situation arising out of price rise and payment of pensions. I would like to know why the prices have risen? Today, people are starving. Youth are without job. Should they eat your political speeches and fill their bellies and cover their body with these speeches? This is the situation prevailing today.

They talk of agriculture. They have framed an agriculture policy. Shri Jaxhar says that he will set-up Krishi Vigyan Kendra in every district but these kendras have been set up only in those places where his favourite

live. He has left the backward districts like Panna, Damoh, Chattarpur. These kendras have not been set up there

The grants should go to farmers. They should be provided funds for promotion of live stocks. Earlier, today we discussed the land ceiling Bill. We talk of small holdings. Small holdings are ploughed with the help of bullocks. These are connected with promotion of live stocks. You are not giving grants to them, you are giving loans and grants to fertiliser producers. India's mainstay is agriculture. If you want to increase production you will have to strengthen agricultural sector. You have to provide funds for live stock. I could have congratulated you if you had provided grant for setting up gobar gas plants. Today, the rural areas are facing crisis of fuel wood.

Pandit Nehruji was farsighted. He imported Iponia Besran because he knew that forests would be cleared and the poor people will have to use this wood as fuel. This species of tree has been planted as fencing and the poor people are using it as fuel. We would have praised them had they given this grant for bio-gas.

Similarly provision has been included for mid-day meals in primary schools. You go to the villages and see for yourselves that there are no schools, no school building, no teachers. The students study sitting under trees. Then whom are you giving this grant? Will this meal be eaten by vegetation? I say this money will be pocketed by the contractors and by those who will be given supply licences. This is what has been going on so far and no review has been conducted despite this issue having been raised many a times. We feel this money is not meant for rural development, for the development of the country. We do not have approach roads, potable water in rural areas and people die of water born diseases. 10-15 people have died in village in my area for want of potable water. They contract diarrhea and malaria. No effective steps have been taken for controlling malaria. I myself am a victim of malaria. What I want to say is that when you are unable to provide basic facilities, what will you do for people living in villages? You are not worried about them. The funds are being misused.

There is no irrigation scheme. I don't know what for you have made this provision. The dam constructed during British rule are extensively breached. Canals are broken. There is no provision for repairing canals and water channels and to check seepage to ensure that irrigation water reaches the field of farmers. The rural areas lack of culverts, transportation, roads and all that. Shri Shukla ji knows how the river was flooded and how the traffic jammed for want of a bridge. Panna and Chattarpur districts are most backward and they are not connected with road network.

The educational institutions are also facing the similar situation. Funds are sanctioned for recruitment of teachers and construction of school buildings. But the money is

misused. Recently a water shed scheme was formulated and we have a Rs. 3 crore scheme for one of our developed blocks. The scheme is meant to check erosion and to augment irrigation capacity by retaining water.

**18.56 hrs.**

*[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]*

The farmers should be provided means of irrigation. They are planting Khus at all the places which is washed away every year. 75 percent of the funds out of Rs. 2 crore has been spent but water shed is as it was. I would like to suggest that first the land should be levelled with the help of bulldozers and the erosion should be checked. Irrigation facilities should be made available. If there is canal or dam then the water should be lifted for irrigation.

MR. SPEAKER : On what subject are you speaking? You have to speak on supplementary demands and excess demands.

DR. RAM KRISHNA KUSMARIA : I am speaking on the excess demand being sought and the funds which are being wasted.

MR. SPEAKER : That is why we become short of time and cannot complete the business. On which demand are you speaking?

DR. RAM KRISHNA KUSMARIA : I am on agriculture.

MR. SPEAKER : It cannot be so. You can speak on water resource only, if funds have been provided for the same under agriculture head.

DR. RAM KRISHNA KUSMARIA : I am speaking on that. If erosion takes place, I will have to speak on it.

MR. SPEAKER : Where has it taken place ? You cannot speak on whole budget.

DR. RAM KRISHNA KUSMARIA : They have created this situation, nothing has been done for the poor.

MR. SPEAKER : This is not so. The Hon'ble Minister is also not raising any objection; as if he is speaking on budget. How will we be able to take up other business?

DR. RAM KRISHNA KUSMARIA : The position is : "Jor aur julm se shuroo hoti hai, kisi garib Ke rone se shuroo hoti hai, Bhasm hote hain Takhat-e-tawus shriman, Jab aag kisi kone se shuroo hoti hai."

(The cry of repressed poor can burn to ashes even the crown) with this couplet I conclude.

MR. SPEAKER : Hari Kishore Singh ji, do you want to speak, if so, please restrict your speech to supplementary and excess demands which speak funds, do not go into the whole budget. If you have any point to make, I will allow you.

**19.00 hrs.**

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH (Sheohar) :

I would like to speak on Supplementary demand, on

the funds sought. I am surprised at the pace government is moving. They are not aware where the money is spent. I am not in favour of granting more funds to Government, since unemployment is mounting, the labour class is dissatisfied. Floods have played havoc in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh and Government is unable to do anything. A provision has been made for irrigation. Bihar and east U.P. is affected by flood after every second or third year because of rain water discharged from Nepal. We have been demanding that the Government should have talks with Nepal and frame some policy in this regard to control flood, to save farmers from recurring losses. But Government is doing nothing in this respect and it appears it has no policy.

The prices are rising and there is demand for increased D.A. Inflation rate may be in single digit but prices are rising. Does this price-rise not affect freedom fighters? Why D.A. is not being paid to them? Some formula should be evolved so that they also get price linked D.A.

The other point is that Government are unable to provide employment to educated youth. I think, they should be paid dearness allowance @ Rs. 500 per month. Recently mid-day meal scheme was announced which we appreciate. But I am afraid, this scheme will be misused. I have bitter experience of it. Government should reconsider it and the money so saved be utilised for repair of school building, and particularly for the development of women education.

There is yet another scheme—adult education scheme. But the way it is being implemented and funds being spent, has been explained by Shri S.P. Yadav and I do not want to repeat. The entire money is going waste. This should be looked into and the funds should be utilised for primary, secondary and universal education to ensure wider dissemination of education. We should launch some crash programme to ensure that no one remains illiterate in the country.

Then, there is new economic policy. Government is itself vigilant about the progress this policy may achieve. It is finding difficult to make mid-term-appraisal of 8th five-year Plan. Same bitter facts are emerging which go against official policies, official announcements; the most prominent among them is widening regional imbalance. The investment is being made in three-four states only, such as Maharashtra, Gujarat, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and in Haryana a 'Japanese township' is coming up.

MR. SPEAKER : This is not true. It is not related.

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH : It is having bad impact. I would, therefore, like that Government reviews some of its policies. I do not say that Government's new economic policy is wrong, but this policy is creating economic disparities in the country, it is creating regional imbalances. No investment is being made in backward

areas. This has to be looked into. I would urge that Government should give the share of corporate taxes, and excise duty to States in an appropriate proportion. The financial powers should be decentralised to ensure balanced development of all the States and that a strong and financially viable country marches forward in the 21st Century.

SHRI CHUN CHUN PRASAD YADAV (Bhagalpur) : I rise to speak on supplementary demands.

MR. SPEAKER : On which demand?

SHRI CHUN CHUN PRASAD YADAV : I want to say a few words on the demand that have been presented.

MR. SPEAKER : What do you mean by few words. Have you seen the demands."

SHRI CHUN CHUN PRASAD YADAV : Yes, Sir, I have seen.

MR. SPEAKER : Then, tell me in which demand you want to speak on. Only then I will allow you.

SHRI CHUN CHUN PRASAD YADAV : I am telling you on what point I want to speak.

MR. SPEAKER : You can speak only on the subject to which the demands presented relate; you cannot speak on other subject. You can express your views on the heads of demands and plead why the amount of particular demands be curtailed or increased.

SHRI CHUN CHUN PRASAD YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I share the views of Shri Nirmal Babu expressed by him on the excess and supplementary demands of grant. Budget was presented in March, then supplementary budget was presented and now excess demands have been brought. This is not fair—I oppose them. Promises were made in the budget, the new economic policy was introduced, foreign investment was invited, but the benefit of all of them is likely to go only to haves, not to the have-nots. For example, the small scale industry, which is associated with poor and farmer employ more educated unemployed youth than the big industries. In demand No. 4 only a sum of Rs. 3.93 crore has been sought while for major industries a sum of Rs. 96.96 crore has been sought. This shows how much the rural areas have been neglected. The plight of the farmer is that he is unable to feed his children while he is feeding the entire country and government's faulty policies are responsible for it. We used to be taught that job of cultivation was the best, second came the commerce, third service and fourth begging. But today Government policies have pushed the agriculture to the last category. They are worst than the beggars. Who get food by begging whole day. The Government must look into this aspect.

The Government are lagging emphasis on education.

MR. SPEAKER : Under agriculture, demands have been presented only for marketing.

SHRI CHUN CHUN PRASAD : I will finish in one

minute. In ancient time, we had three universities, namely, Taxshila, Nalanda and Vikramshila. The excavations carried out in Vikramshila have produced many valuable antiques. In an answer to my question, it was stated that a shed would be provided there. I would want Government to convert it into a museum and the articles despatched elsewhere should be restored to it, because it was an old and prestigious university of Bhagalpur. A museum should be constructed there. With these words, I conclude.

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad): Sir, I would also like to speak.

MR. SPEAKER : On which subject, I would give time to all of you. Please let me know the subject.

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Sir, I would like to speak on excess demand for 1992-93, demands under appropriation bill 1995 and demands of education.

MR. SPEAKER : You cannot do this. You can speak on the heads under which more funds have been sought; on what subject do you want to speak?

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: The excess expenditure incurred in 1992-93, which is a manifestation of financial indiscipline.

MR. SPEAKER: You cannot do this, rules provide for presenting demands for excess and supplementary expenditure. You can say whether it is right or wrong to demand this money, whether it is less or more. Now tell me what demand are taking.

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: They have sought a sum of Rs. 4 Lakh for rural development which should be increased....

MR SPEAKER: What for?

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: For rural development.

MR. SPEAKER: It is all right, go ahead.

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: The rural areas are backward and therefore, we need more schools there. The mid-day-meal scheme has been launched by our hon'ble Prime Minister but if there are no schools, what is the meaning of it. Whom will you give this meal? Villagers are migrating to cities and the pressure on them is increasing. He should have provided more funds for this to ensure greater rural development. More funds have been sought for telecommunications. Late Shri Rajiv Gandhi had started a scheme for providing telecom network in rural areas. M.A.R.R.P.C.O.s were set up there by spending crores of rupees but the same have gone out of order. Sir, in my constituency Jahanabad the entire machinery is out of order. the Government had also admitted that the equipments were faulty and the suppliers have been black-listed but the equipment have not been removed so far. Who will do all this? That is what I wanted to oppose.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Bombay-South Central): Sir, I want to speak.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: On textile only, please.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: On education, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: On which demand of education? You have to speak on the head for which demand is presented, not on other subjects.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : All right Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : You want to speak on education, please do so.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Thank you Sir.

Sir, a bill to provide for modernisation of textile was passed, but the modernisation process will take one and a half year more. I would demand supply of cotton to and allocation of working capital for this mill. The provision should be included under the head NTC mills.

As for education, the Government has introduced a mid-day-meal scheme for schools. It is good. But it is Government's duty to provide quality education along with mid-day-meal. In Anganwadis, five lakh women work as teachers but they have been getting a remuneration of Rs. 400-500 for the last ten - twelve years. I would plead that these women should be absorbed on permanent basis and their salary should be raised. Free education is being provided to girls only. It should be provide to boys also, because boys also belong to poor families and cannot afford fees. The constitution enjoins upon the state to provide free education upto middle standard, but this provision has not been implemented fully.

There is a mention of urea. It was not purchased when its international market price was 202 dollars. 1.60 lakh tonne urea was contracted on 29.4.1995 but the party did supply it. It supplied urea when its price went up to 245 dollars. This resulted in increase in prices of essential consumer items. Same was the case of Sugar. It was purchased when its international market price had gone upto 450 dollars. There have been large scale bungling in these deals. Government should provide subsidy on fertiliser.

[English]

SHRI B. RAJARAVIVARMA (Pollachi) : I will take just only one minute.

MR. SPEAKER : On which Demand, you want to talk? All right, you can talk.

1917 hours.

SHRI B. RAJARAVIVARMA : Sir, our repeated plea to correct the fiscal illusions of Budget has not been given the right kind of attention in this Supplementary Demand for Grants. The promise of the Finance Minister to take care of the fiscal situation to cap the deficit has turned out to be hollow. As on 7th July, the budget deficit of the

Centre had climbed to a whopping Rs. 18,953 crore, bringing to naught the agreement between the Centre and the Reserve Bank of India, to cap the deficit. This is almost four times higher than the projected year-end budget deficit for 1995-96. The original deficit projection was only Rs. 4000 crore. We still have seven months to go. I do not know what would be the year-end deficit.

The Government trumpets that it has foreign exchange reserves to the tune of Rs. 17.6 billion. Of course, it is enough to pay for immediate imports. But going by the version of the Government, the new economic policy has been making miracles and as such, investment and industrial growth will pick up resulting in more demands for imports.

MR. SPEAKER : This is not on policy issues.

SHRI B. RAJARAVIVARMA : This could lead to an alarming depletion of resources resulting in balance of payments problem. Therefore, I request the hon. Finance Minister to apprise the House as to how the Government is going to handle this problem.

The Union Government is doing everything possible to make the States as glorified municipalities. Politically the Centre has been usurping the powers of the State through legislations against the federal spirit of the Constitution. On the economic front, while States have to bear the brunt of the Centre's method of fiscal correction, the due share of States in the revenues through taxes etc., is not given to the States.

MR. SPEAKER : It is becoming a matter of record. Please do not do like this. It says it has nothing to do with these Demands.

SHRI B. RAJARAVIVARMA : Sir, can I say a few words about my own State?

MR. SPEAKER : It is not like that. You have spoken now. You take your seat please.

Mr. Minister, you will reply only to the points which are contained in your Excess and Supplementary Demands and not to the other points.

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

Mr. Speaker, Sir, today we are discussing the Demands for Excess Grants for the year 1992-93 and the Supplementary Demands for Grants 1995-96. I thank all those hon. Members who have participated in the discussions.

First, I would like to touch upon the Demands for Excess Grants. Out of 94 Grants four Appropriations in 1992-93, there was an excess expenditure in ten Grants amounting to a total of Rs. 149.78 crore. This expenditure has been scrutinised by the Public Accounts Committee and they have in their Report regularised it. It is for this House now to approve the regularisation of this excess expenditure.

Some of the major areas of Excess Demands of expenditure were, Defence Services which is about Rs. 53.23 crore mainly due to carryover liabilities of the previous year; exchange rate variations, shortfall in customs duty, payment of bonus and steep hike in tariff rates for water and electricity. On telecommunications nearly Rs. 25.5 crore has been incurred mainly for the purchase of cables and on postal charges an excess of Rs. 21.46 crore was spent mostly due to settlement of more pensionary cases. In addition to this, there was an Excess Demand for an expenditure of ... (Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Why could you not anticipate your pensionary demands? Please explain that. That is a very curious thing. Why could you not do it? It was such a definite thing.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : Regarding pension, there was an excess expenditure of Rs. 15.88 crore due to addition of pensioners and increase in the rate of Dearness Allowance and receipt of more pensionary schemes.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes. You have explained that.

PROF. SUSANTA CHAKRABORTY (Howrah) : Even the grant of provident fund and ESI which are the statutory dues of the workers and employees of the public sector undertakings, have also not been included in the Demand. I do not know about pension. But what about those dues which have not been included in pension?

MR. SPEAKER : We are discussing the demands which they have made not the demands which they should have made. That is the difference.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : It is only about pension schemes.

MR. SPEAKER : You have explained it fully and correctly.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : Next I will take up Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1995-96.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : He has not explained it correctly.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes ; he has done it correctly.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : The major Demand in the Department of Education is the Programme of Nutritional Support to primary education which has been recently launched by the hon. Prime Minister. It envisages provision of food to children from Class I to V in all Government, local bodies' and private-aided schools and this is their requirement for the current year. It costs about R. 611.79 crore. This will be fully funded by the Central Government. Another major important demand is of Ministry of Rural Development. This is about Rs. 550 crore. It is for the implementation of National Social Assistance Scheme which provides old age pension, family benefits, maternity benefits for

poor people below poverty line.

The third one is about fertilizers. First a sum of Rs. 231.5 crore is required. Additionally, it is for Non-Plan expenditure of the Fertiliser Corporation of India and Hindustan Fertiliser Corporation for meeting their operational needs to achieve the targets of urea.

For textiles nearly about Rs. 107.9 crore is required for Non-Plan expenditure.

MR. SPEAKER : That is all due. I suppose that there is no objection to it.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : This is to defray the expenses on payment of salaries and wages.

MR. SPEAKER : That is right. You reply only to the points which were raised.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : One hon. Member has moved three cut motions. I request the hon. Minister to withdraw the cut motions and support the Excess Grants and the Supplementary Demands for Grants.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : How much money is provide for Voluntary Retirement Scheme in the Supplementary Demands for Grants?

MR. SPEAKER : Is there anything?

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : I do not have the information.

MR. SPEAKER : Are you asking that money should have been demanded?

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : No, no. In the Supplementary Demands under various things it is the Voluntary Retirement Scheme which is dominating, so far as the public sector enterprises are concerned. That is what I have mentioned.

MR. SPEAKER : Where is it? Under which Demand?

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : I put it this way. The Demand for Voluntary Retirement Scheme is there. It is not coming into the Appropriation Bill for the simple reason that it is withdrawn from the National Renewal Fund. Therefore, there is a big gap between what you are demanding and the Appropriation Bill, mostly because of Voluntary Retirement Scheme.

MR. SPEAKER : The Appropriation Bill does not provide for that. So, they would not be able to withdraw the money also.

I shall now put the Demands for Excess Grants (General) for 1992-93 to vote.

The question is :

"That the respective excess sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India to make good following demands entered in the second column thereof - Demand Nos. 14, 15, 18, 22, 25,

33, 75, 95 and 97."

*The motion was adopted.*

19.28 hrs.

#### APPROPRIATION (NO. 3) BILL,\* 1995

[English]

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the authorisation of appropriation of moneys out of the Consolidated Fund of India to meet the amounts spent on certain services during the financial year ended on the 31st day of March, 1993 in excess of the amounts granted for those services and for that year.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the authorisation of appropriation of moneys out of the Consolidated Fund of India to meet the amounts spent on certain services during the financial year ended on the 31st day of March, 1993 in excess of the amounts granted for those services and for that year."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : I introduce the Bill\*\*

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : I beg to move :"

"That the Bill to provide for the authorisation of appropriation of moneys out of the Consolidated Fund of India to meet the amounts spent on certain services during the financial year ended on the 31st day of March, 1993 in excess of the amounts granted for those services and for that year, be taken into consideration."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill to provide for the authorisation of appropriation of moneys out of the Consolidated Fund of India to meet the amounts spent on certain services during the financial year ended on the 31st day of March, 1993 in excesses of the amounts granted for those services and for that year, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. SPEAKER : We shall now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill. The question is :

"That Clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill."

\* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section 2, dated 25-8-1995.

\*\* Introduced moved with the recommendation of the President.

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.*

MR. SPEAKER : The question is "that the schedule stand part of the bill".

*The Motion was adopted.*

*The 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 M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

*The motion was adopted.*

**19.31<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> hrs.**

**DEMAND FOR EXCESS GRANTS (GENERAL) -  
1992-93 AND SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR  
GRANTS (GENERAL) - 1995-96**

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : Now, we shall take up Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of Budget (General) for 1995-96.

I shall now put all the cut motions moved to the Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of Budget (General) to vote together unless Shri Ramchandra Marotrao Ghangare desires that any of his cut motions may be moved separately.

*Cut Motions Nos. 1,2 and 3 were put and negatived.*

MR. SPEAKER : I will now put the Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 1995-96 to vote.

The question is :

"That the respective supplementary sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st day of March, 1996 in respect of the following demands entered in the second column thereof - Demand Nos. 1, 5, 6, 9, 14, 15, 26, 35, 39, 40, 46, 48, 50, 51, 53, 56, 61, 70, 72, 73, 75 to 81 and 83".

*The motion was adopted.*

**19.32 hrs.**

**APPROPRIATION (No. 4) BILL 1995\***

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIM.V.CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill\* to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the service of the financial year 1995-96.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Funds of India for the service of the financial year 1995-96."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : I introduce the Bill.\*\*

SHRIM.V.CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : I bet to move":

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the Financial year 1995-96, the taken into consideration".

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1995-96, be taken into consideration".

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. SPEAKER : We shall not take up clause by clause consideration.

The Question is :

"That Clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.*

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the schedule stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*The Schedule was added to the Bill.*

\* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section 2, dated 25-8-95.

\*\* Introduced moved with the recommendation of the President.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Clause I, 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 M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed".

*The motion was adopted.*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK) : Sir, I just want to inform the hon. Members, members of the staff and members of the Press that dinner will be ready at 9.p.m.

MR. SPEAKER : That is good.

MAJ. GEN (Retd.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (Garhwal) : Sir, now we have five Bills to be passed. Do you want to do all of them today?

MR. SPEAKER : The difficulty is, in fact, today we allowed the Members to have the Mentions upto 3 p.m.

MAJ. GEN (Retd.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Yes sir,

MR. SPEAKER : It was because it is the last day and these are some essential Bills. Please cooperate and let us see that they are passed. If there is a consensus there is no point in saying : 'I agree with this'. There is no point in each Member getting up and saying : 'I agree with this'. If you want, for record sake, a Member wants to support the Bill he can get up and say : 'yes, I support the Bill'. That will help us.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum) : Yesterday he has agreed that these Bills will be passed today so that they could go to the Rajya Sabha.

SHRI MUKUL WASNIK : Thank you Nirmal.

MAJ. GEN. (Retd.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : It is a different issue that under what conditions it was agreed. ... (Interruptions)

19.34 hrs.

#### WAKF BILL\*

(As Passed by Rajya Sabha)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, I think everybody has read it. You can lay your speech on the Table of the House.

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) : I beg to move :

"That the Bill to provide for the better administration of Wakfs and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration.

[Translation]

Sir, this bill has been introduced in Lok Sabha after its passage by Rajya Sabha. I beg to move for leave that this House may take it into consideration and I lay a copy of my speech in the Table of the House.

#### TEXT OF THE SPEECH

Sir, I beg to move that the Bill to provide for better administration of Wakfs and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration.

The Indian National Congress(I), in its election manifesto for 1991 Lok Sabha elections, had promised that it would review the Wakf Act and make it more effective by making amendments. Immediately after taking over the charge of Welfare Ministry in 1991, I initiated action in that direction by holding wide discussions with the honourable Muslim Members of Union Cabinet and other eminent leaders belonging to muslim community.

Sir, I would like to remind that the Muslim Wakf Act, 1923. was substituted by the Wakf Act, 1954. The main object of the Wakf Act, 1954 was to provide for efficient administration of Wakf properties. However, representations and objections had started pouring in against various provisions of this Act of 1954 immediately after its enforcement. Amendments were made in this Act in 1959, 1964 and 1969 to clarify certain provisions thereof. During the discussions on the Wakf Amendment Bill, 1969, a forceful, demand was made in Parliament that there was a need for indepth study by a Committee of the whole working of the Wakf administration in the country. Therefore, the Government constituted an enquiry committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Syed Ahmed for this purpose. This committee made several recommendations in its interim report of 1973 and the final report of 1976.

The Wakf Amendment Bill, 1984 was introduced in

\* Introduced with the recommendations of the President.

this House based on the recommendations of this committee. I would like to remind that during the course of discussion on this Bill, some honourable Members had registered strong opposition to some of these provisions suggesting that the Wakf Commissioner should have no powers to overrule the decision of the Wakf Board and that the States should not interfere in the working of Wakf Boards so as to maintain their autonomy. Although the Wakf Amendment Bill, 1954 was passed by this House but only two provisions of its were enforced.

Therefore, an intensive effort initiated in the 80's in order to make provisions of the Wakf Act unanimously acceptable. After taking over the charge of Welfare Ministry, I held wide consultations with hon. Muslim Members of Parliament and other eminent personalities belonging to muslim community and in this connection, a conference of Ministers incharge of Wakf in various State Governments was held in June, 1992.

I am happy to say that we arrived at some concrete conclusion following detailed discussion. I formulated this Bill on the basis of those conclusions and have brought forward it now for consideration in this House. It has been provided therein that this Bill extends to the whole of India except the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

The substance of these important provisions can be seen in the enclosed statement of Objects and Reasons. However, I would like to draw the attention of this House to the important features of this Bill. This Bill aims at making Wakf Boards more democratic. Most of the Members of the Wakf Board will be elected by an electoral college consisting of Muslim members of Parliament, Muslim MLA's, Members of State Bar councils and Mutawallis, whose annual income in Rs. One lakh or above.

In the Central Wakf Council, we will nominate the representatives of All India Muslim Organisations, administrators of national eminence, experts on economic matters, Muslim Members of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, one Chairman by rotation, of the three Wakf Boards, retired judges of High Courts and the Supreme Court etc., so as to make this council a well represented body to give representations to all sections of muslim community.

Sir, the powers of Wakf Commissioner and Wakf Board have been a subject of contention and we have made suitable provision in this Bill to put an end to it. Now, the Wakf Commissioner has been replaced by the Chief Executive Officer and in most of the matters, he will work under Wakf Board.

As the hon. Members are aware, the financial position of most of the Wakf Boards is very weak and they are not in a position to disburse salaries to their employees. Therefore, after the passage of this Bill, I hope the

financial position of these Wakf Boards will improve.

The Bill provides or the Constitution of the Wakf Tribunal to ensure speedy disposal of civil disputes related to Wakf properties and to ensure that Wakf properties are not involved in unnecessary litigation. The passage of this Bill will also ensure proper accounting of Wakf properties.

Sir, we have also made a provision in this Bill that if for some reasons the State Government dissolves Wakf Board, then it will have to be reconstituted within six months. It also provides that the Limitation Act will not be applicable for releasing Wakf properties from unauthorised occupation. Thus, I have drawn the attention of hon. Members to the broad features of this Bill. I will welcome constructive suggestions of the hon. Members during the course of debate on this Bill. I will once again like to assure the hon. Members that this Bill has been drafted after detailed discussions and exchange of views and, as far as possible, we have included in it unanimously agreed suggestions so as to ensure better administration of Wakf properties and to revamp Wakf Boards. I hope that efficient administration and proper use of Wakf properties will result in increase in the revenue of Wakf Boards which will help in development of Muslim community.

Sir, with these words, I beg to present this Bill in the House for consideration.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That the Bill to provide for the better administration of Wakfs and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj) : Mr. Speaker, Sir. I would like to pay my tribute to the hon. Minister of Welfare for the doggedness with which he has pursued the objective of having this Bill passed. He has put in tremendous amount of energy, enormous amount of time and almost forced us into a consensus. I think it is a tribute not only to his perseverance, but to his persuasiveness also.

Sir, the Wakf Bill was sought to be amended in the 1980s. It was amended in haste. The entire community protested against it and it was not put into effect by the government. Now, after 11 years we have, finally, been able to work out a Bill which, in my view, large represents the consensus of the community concerned namely, the Muslim community of India.

Sir, the importance of Wakf in the affairs of the Muslim community cannot be over-emphasized. In fact, if I may say so, if there is one single factor on which the future

economic, social and educational development of the Muslim community depends, it is the management of the Wakf properties. They Wakfs are in a very poor state. They are under occupation, they are under unlawful use and the community which is supposed to be benefitting from it is not able to get any real substance out of them.

Sir, before I go any further and having paid my tribute to the hon. Minister of Welfare, I must first point out three basic lacunae in the Bill, which, I know, the hon. Minister has tried to fill in. But there were certain constitutional and legal difficulties which we appreciated and yet we feel that some day, the Government will find its way to find a remedial measure on these three aspects.

My first point is that the Public Wakfs, at least for purposes of vacation of illegal, unlawful and adverse occupation, should be given the status of public premises. We know that there is a summary procedure for vacation of public premises and properties belonging to Trusts, belonging to Universities, belonging to Municipal Boards, belonging to Port Trusts and a large number of public properties come under the purview of that Act. Sir, Wakfs are of two types. We are asking for coverage only for the Public Wakfs and I once told the hon. Minister that if the hon. Minister just gave us this and nothing else, perhaps, he would save the Wakf properties. But I know that there are difficulties and, therefore, that is one point that still remains on his agenda.

Sir, I must say that some of these Wakf properties are under the occupation of the State Governments, the Central Government, semi-Government bodies and sometimes the attached and the subordinate offices of the Government. I know that the late Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi, in her wisdom, had sent out a personal circular signed by herself to all the Chief Ministers of the States to see to it that the Wakf properties which were under the occupation of various State authorities at least should be vacated and if some had been built over, then they should be compensated. Unfortunately, if I may say so, nobody has cared to monitor the implementation of that directive and, therefore, the situation remains largely as it was. I am sure that the hon. Minister will, at least, look into the implementation of the directive given by the late Prime Minister.

Sir, the second point is about the resources of the Wakf which is what we are concerned about. We want to maximise the resources. According to the Muslim law, the first charge on the income of a *Wakf* property is the fulfilment of the wishes, of the intentions of the Wakif, the Person who created the Wakf. But beyond that, if there is any surplus that can be used for any charitable purpose and that is how as I said, the future of the community depended upon the utilisation of that surplus. Where does that surplus arise from? It would, Sir, arise,

for example, if the Wakf properties were exempted from the Rent Control Law. There are Wakf properties — Sir, you would be surprised to know — which are rented out at Rs. Two per month, Rs. 3 per month and there is no other way. Therefore, several State Government have exempted the Wakf properties from Rent Control Laws; others have not. I have suggested to the hon. Minister that there should be a Central directive or a Central regulation on this point.

The second way of creating these Wakf resources would be to exempt at least the land part of the Wakf properties from the Land Reform Laws.

Sir, it is very interesting to note that, for example, in Bihar which is my State if a temple has a property and a masjid has a property to support it, the temple takes one unit in the name of each God or Goddess installed in the temple. Now motions have only one Allah and therefore they can take only one unit. So, the masjid is left with only one unit of land while the temple is able to reap a much larger harvest. Now I cannot change my theology. But I do know that this is the trick which has been applied by many Mahants. But I will not go into that. Ali I am saying is that if the public wakfs — I am not talking of private wakfs — can be exempted from the application of land reform laws whose income would be used for public purposes, for charitable purposes for educational purposes, that will be for the good of a deprived community like the Muslim community.

Sir, moreover we feel that not all the wakf properties, but the properties which have a religious significance, say, the site on which a masjid stands, a site on which an Imam Bara stands, that is of a different nature from a piece of wakf land or secular property whose income supports the masjid. There should be a distinction between these two and wakf properties of a religious nature must be exempted from the acquisition law. It hurts the sentiments of every one. In a religious society like ours a religious property where we offer our obeisance to God we believe in should not be taken away, the therefore even the law that made in the colonial times was slightly amended by regulations for providing exemption. For example we see a few small masjids all round New Delhi because although the land was acquired yet the sites were in effect kept immune. Now, some legal provision should exist so that just the religious properties — I am not talking of the land, I am not talking of a house whose income supports the wakf or supports the masjid — should be exempted from the purview of the acquisition laws and that should apply to all religious properties in this country. Nobody would like a temple to be acquired and nobody would like a church to be acquired. That should apply universally.

Sir, the third point that I have is about the utilisation of the resources that we generate. There is a demand in the

Muslim community that this should be utilised largely for educational development and economic uplift of the community and there we have the full support and sympathy from the hon. Minister. He has gone to the extent of creating a Foundation in the name of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad whose first money has come from the Government itself. But we hope that once the resources are available, a lot more money shall be available to the Maulana Azad Foundation and similar foundations to be set up in various States and various parts of the country for the education and economic uplift of the community. Now, the problem is that there is no specific provision there which says that certain percentage of the surplus must definitely be applied for education. That is a slight lacuna which exists in the Bill.

The Bill has excellent features, as I said, we generally support it. Yet in nature nothing is perfect. Therefore, there are a few amendments that we have suggested and if you like, Sir, I would like to speak briefly on those amendments also.

MR. SPEAKER : Are you moving those amendments?

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Yes, Sir, I am moving those seven amendments which have been listed in my name.

The first amendment is on Article 3, the definition article, where it speaks about a person interested in a wakf. What we are saying is that a person who is in unlawful occupation should not be considered to be a person interested in the wakf. So, that is what should be there and after the words "who is" the words "not in unlawful or adverse possession of the wakf property" should be added.

Secondly, there is a provision that a situation may arise where the Chief Executive Officer of State Wakf Board may advise his Board that certain things that are proposed to be done are not quite in accordance with law or should not be done. Now, one of the things given there is that if implemented it is likely to lead to riot or a breach of peace. We have a Supreme Court judgment which clearly says that any such apprehension is for the law and order authorities to look after and that a legitimate demand cannot be stopped only on this ground of apprehension. Therefore that aspect is for the law and order authorities to consider and not for the wakf authorities to consider.

Therefore, this particular line should be eliminated.

On page 18, there is a provision that is a certain situation, the Wakf Board may in a large wakf, create the post of an Executive Officer, with such supporting staff. It does not say for which duration. What we are saying is, while appointing such supporting staff or the executive officer, the duration should also be pointed out in the

letter of appointment.

Secondly, normally it is the mutawalli who is the manager of a wakf. While the mutawalli is there and there is also an executive officer, it is likely to create a situation of conflict. Therefore, in such a situation where the Board or the Government consider that proper management is necessary and the mutawalli is not looking after the wakf very well, then I think some rider should be put in that either a mutawalli may be declared to be incompetent and thrown out or if he is a minor, if he is of unsound mind, then surely an executive officer should be appointed for a particular period and on particular terms. So, I have said here :—

"Provided that the Executive Officer shall be appointed only in case the mutawalli is a minor or the unsound mind or is for any reason whatsoever incapable of performing the duties of the mutawalli."

There is a very small amendment on page 25. The hon. Minister has himself said and he has sought to protect the wakf property. It is stated that the property cannot be generally alienated without the sanction of the Board. It is an excellent provision. But there is a proviso which says that no mosque, dargah or khangah can be alienated except in accordance with any law. It creates the impression that mosque, dargah or khagah may also be alienated. There are mutawallis who have sold away mosques and kabristan and imambaras. Mosque, dargah and Khangah are there, but Shia friends want that the word 'imambara' should be added there because that is of equal significance to them.

Secondly, all laws are subject to other laws for the time being in force. Therefore, that other provision 'except in accordance with any law for the time being in force' is totally redundant and should be deleted.

Finally, there is a provision on page 55 about the Budget procedure. The Budgets is framed by the Wakf Board and sent to the Government for approval within a certain time and the Government may send it back with some suggestions for consideration by the Board. But there is no time-limit given for the Government to send its suggestions. Therefore, the Government of the day may sit on the Wakf Board Budget for a whole year without doing anything. In the earlier part, a period of a few weeks has been put in, *i.e.*, for the Budget to be sent to the Government, then the suggestions of the State must also come back within four weeks to the Wakf Board for consideration. The final word is that of the Government. At least this procedure should be there.

These are the few ideas that we have got and we have considered among ourselves and we have also discussed them with the hon. Minister himself and I am sure that in his reply he would at least give us his views because today we are in a hurry and we cannot have a real debate.

I hope and expect and pray that the Minister would give us some assurance that these aspects that I have brought out shall be considered further and, if necessary, some further amendments may be made in future.

I would like to quote one line of poetry by famous poet called 'Souda':

[Translation]

"Ye To Nahin Kahta Hoon Ki Sachmuch Karo Insaaf, Jhoothi Bhi Tasalli Ho, To Jitta To Rahoon Main."

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : We have to pass five Bills. Please be kind to those people who are sitting and not speaking.

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU (Secunderabad) : I welcome this Bill. It is one of the important Bills because actually the Bill was introduced in Parliament on 27th August, 1993.

Now, this Bill has come up for discussion. The Wakfs are permanent dedication of movable or immovable properties for purposes recognised by the Muslim Law as religious, pious or charitable. Apart from religious aspect, Wakfs are also instruments of social/economic uplift as the benefits from the wakfs flow to the needy persons for their socio-economic, cultural and educational development. In this Bill, one important aspect that is there is the uniform application of the Act throughout the country except Jammu & Kashmir. They have mentioned it. This is highly objectionable.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : That is a constitutional provision. he do not want to discuss that why are you discussing that which cannot be discussed.

[English]

Please understand that there is a constitutional provision. You understand it. You have to first amend the Constitution for that. Please leave that.

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU : Another important aspect in this Bill is about the property. A large number of properties are listed in many urban area. In my constituency in Hyderabad, a large number of properties are there. Even in States like Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Delhi — the Report says and it has been discussed in the Assemblies also — a large number of misappropriations took place about the dealings of the land. Though the Boards have got the powers, yet they could not properly maintain them. That is why, in this Bill, the Minister has come out with a very good suggestion of appointing the Executive Officers. This is welcome thing because in many of the local bodies also, they pass the resolution. When there is a Special Officer, he checks whether the resolution is proper or not. That is why, the

Executive Officer's appointment is a welcome one. This should be strictly implemented to protect the properties of the Wakf Boards. Whatever financial resources are there, they must go to the really poor and needy people. Many of the properties of the Wakf Boards are not getting resources. That is why, they have mentioned this here.

There is another important thing to which I object. It is about Clause 20 which deals with the removal of the Chairpersons. The Chairperson is an elected person. So, there should be a provision for the removal also just like any of the our bodies that are there. A No-Confidence Motion should be there. If two-thirds of members oppose, the Chairperson can be removed through a No-Confidence Motion. As I said, a No-Confidence Motion should be there in case of any misappropriation, any illegal activity and like that. So, about removal of the Chairperson, you must amend this provision. This is also one of the important points which I wanted to mention.

Another important Clause is Clause 77 which is sought to be amended. Under the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Divorce) Act of 1986, it is provided that a Muslim Woman who is a divorcee and there is non-availability of her close relatives to maintain her after the period of *iddat*, the Magistrate can pass an order against the concerned State Wakf Board for her maintenance. There must be a corresponding provision in the proposed Wakf Act whereby it is made obligatory for the State Wakf Board to create a special fund for Muslim divorcees and to pay to them amounts as may be ordered by the Magistrate under the provisions of Muslim Woman Act. This is an important aspect. Many of the women are suffering because of injustice.

The next important point is about the Central Wakf Board Council. This is also welcome feature. In the matter of appointment, they have mentioned certain things because many of the Muslim organisations have represented to the Central Government about their nomenclature and appointment. In their representation, they have mentioned it. The Minister also should make an effort. The Council should consist of the representatives of five Muslim organisations, three scholars who re eminent in Muslim Law.

MR. SPEAKER : You do not have to read this. This is already there. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU : This is not there. I wanted to include this thing. Another important point of mine is about Clause 64. They have specified the ground on which the Mutewalli may be removed from his office. One more ground should be added to this clause, which is, "if such Mutawalli.

This must also be amended.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Have you given any amendment?

MR. SPEAKER : Bandaruji, you have to give amendment if you want any suggestions in the Bill.

SHRIDATTATRAYA BANDARU : I was in the Standing Committee on Labour. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : When the Bill comes to the House you should give amendments if you want some changes in the Bill which is presented.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Already, there is a Report.

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU : I have mentioned in the Committee and I thought it would have been incorporated in the Bill.

MR. SPEAKER : You shall have to give amendments and then only you can speak on that. You cannot speak without giving amendments. You cannot claim changes in the Bill without giving amendments.

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU : I understand, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : You have made very good points and certainly they would be looked into by the Minister.

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU : About the divorced women, I mentioned that it was not in the Bill. Overall, what I feel is that the Bill is a welcome one and it should be immediately passed.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Rawale, very brief speech of two or three sentences.

*[Translation]*

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Bombay South Central) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, why do we make a distinction between minority and majority. We should have only one law under Article 44. I would like to express my views on what Bandaruji has said.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : This not relevant.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER : This Bill relates to Wakf property.

SHRIMOHAN RAWALE : Sir, I support what Bahdaruji has said. In case of divorce, the divorcee should be given compensation as per the legal provisions. The Muslim personal law in India is not different from that of muslim law in the world.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : It has nothing to do with it.

*[Translation]*

SHRI MOHAMMAD YUNUS SALEEM (Katihar) : Mr. Speaker ....

MR. SPEAKER : Yunus Sahib, you wanted this Bill to

be passed. Therefore making speech is alone not going to help. You have to support it.

SHRI MOHAMMAD YUNUS SALEEM : Sir, I think that not only in this house but in the entire country, no body is so closely and deeply associated with this Wakf law as I am. In 1954, a draft of this bill was represented first time in this House by Mohammed Ahmed Kazmi. In 1953, meetings were used to be held in the office of Jamitulba and I used to called from Hyderabad to attend those meetings ....

MR. SPEAKER : You leave all these details aside. There is no time for all this. We have still five Bills which are to be passed.

SHRI MOHAMMAD YUNUS SALEEM : I am concluding. Otherwise also, I speak very little.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, you do not speak much, but we are short of time today.

SHRI MOHAMMAD YUNUS SALEEM : What I am saying is a matter of record. Why this Bill has been presented, should be made known to the House.

When I was the Deputy Minister and was in-charge of Wakf, I had made an announcement in Rajya Sabha that the existing Wakf Act had some loopholes and it needed changes. Therefore, a committee was appointed under the Chairmanship of late Syed Ahmed Sahib. The committee submitted two reports and efforts were made to draft a model Act based on those reports. Many meetings were held and in 1984, an Act was passed. Several meetings were held later to remove the deficiencies left therein and I got the opportunity of attending those meetings.

**20.00 hours**

I am addressing Shri Sita Ram Kesari who is presently the Welfare Minister. He took great interest and tried to make it a complete law so as to ensure, as far as possible, that complaints of the people are removed. This effort culminated in the passage of a Bill in Rajya Sabha. Many amendments were moved by Shri Shahabuddin and myself. He has already enumerated the amendments proposed by him and I would not like to repeat them. But sometimes, courts interpret these laws differently which creates difficulty for us. So, amendments were moved. See page 2, line 36—persons interested in wakf. This necessitated amendments in the Act because one who forcibly occupied wakf property is deemed to be interested person. Recently, the Supreme Court has given a judgement saying that Wakf Board will arrange for wages to be paid to the Imams of mosques. Such things create differences and it becomes difficult to implement such laws. In this connection, Shri Kesariji has, with his magnanimity, ability and capability, presented a very good Bill. We have reached an agreement in regard. To the problems related to Imams. Without taking much

time. I support this Bill. It has already been passed by Rajya Sabha and I would request that it should be passed by this House also.

MR. SPEAKER : Masudal Hossain ji, please be brief. If you have any objection, please explain, otherwise say that you support it.

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN (Murshidabad) : I speak occasionally. whenever I speak. I speak to the point.

MR. SPEAKER : We are short of time. We have other Bills to be passed.

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN : Sir, I have objection on 1-2 points. I come from west Bengal and there, we also have a Wakf Act which is very good. U.P. also has an At. But the State Wakf Acts will lapse after the adoption of this Bill. You are abolishing a very good Act of West Bengal, please read the provision of Clause 2:—

[English]

"Provided that nothing in this Act shall apply to Dargah Khawaja Saheb, Ajmer, to which the Dargah Khawaja Saheb Act, 1995 applies".

[Translation]

The question is not of the dignity of Khawaja Sahab but it is the question of an Act, which is a separate Act and not an Act of the State Government ... (Interruptions)

It is provided that there will be only one Act. If it is so, then this Act should also have been abolished. Otherwise, the State Act should also be retained.

MR. SPEAKER : Enactment of a single Act will supersede the State Act over State Act will lapse. Is this what you think?

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN : Yes, This is what will happen.

[English]

It extends to the whole of India except the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

[Translation]

It is clearly stated that Acts of West Bengal, U.P., Gujarat will be superseded.

MR. SPEAKER : Will this supersede the Acts of West Bengal and U.P.?

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN : Yes, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : I don't think. It can be only in the case of conflict.

[English]

SHRI MOHAMMAD YUNUS SALEEM : Sir, I am on a

point of order.

Here, you will find that the first Act which was passed by this Parliament in 1954 has the same wording that. It extends to the whole of India except the State of Jammu & Kashmir. In spite of this Act, the West Bengal Act, UP Act and the Maharashtra Act continued to be functional. It is because it is on the Concurrent List.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : The constitutional provision is that both State and Central laws can go together and if there is any contradiction, then central law prevails.

[English]

You please do not go into it. That is a constitutionally decided provision.

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN : Statement of Objects and Reasons says :

"AT present, the Wakf Act, 1954 is not applicable to UP, West Bengal, part of Gujarat, part of Maharashtra and some of the North-Eastern States. With the enforcement of this legislation, there will be uniformity in respect of Wakf Administration throughout the country except in Jammu and Kashmir State."

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Please do not go into it. There is a provision in the Constitution that the previous Act which did not apply to U.P. and Bihar now earlier will extend to these States also. On the other hand, there are separate Acts in Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal and there is no contradiction between this Act and the Acts of those States. Then

[English]

That will be applicable also. You leave it, please. That is a constitutional issue.

[Translation]

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN : Alright, will you reply?

MR. SPEAKER : No, no, there is nothing to reply. The Supreme Court will interpret it. I am not going to ask the hon. Minister to give a reply to it.

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN : There are one or two points. At page 3 the word 'Wakf' has been defined. It should have a secular character.

[English]

SHRI MOHAMMAD YUNUS SALEEM : This Bill has been passed by the Rajya Sabha. Now if you want to

propose any amendment in the wording of any clause, then you can suggest amendments. Now, there is no useful purpose served if you simply say that the language is defective and so on. I beg to differ, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : I uphold your point of order. Even then, I will allow him to make his point briefly.

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN : The definition of "wakf" means :

"the permanent dedication by a person professing Islam, of any movable or immovable property ...."

[Translation]

'Dedication by a person professing Islam only' This sort of restrictions go against our secular character. This clause should not be there. If a Hindu willingly wants to donate any property, then, I think there is no reason for putting hurdles in it.

MR. SPEAKER : Where is this written?

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN : At page 3

[English]

Wakf means permanent dedication by a person professing 'Islam'.

[Translation]

I request to remove this particular Word 'Islam'. If Hindus want to contribute, that should be accepted. I have not moved any amendment on Central Wakf Council. Still, I would plead for consideration of the points raised by Shri Shahabuddin which you quote time and again. The Ex-Officio Chairman of the council will be the Minister in-charge of Wakf. Shri Sita Ram Kesri is not a Muslim, he is a Hindu. I have raised this issue because except chairperson, you have added the 'muslim' with all other members. It is written at the end that :

[English]

"Three persons who are eminent scholars in Muslim Law".

[Translation]

But, if a Hindu is eminent scholar in muslim law how would you appoint him? About the Council which is presently being constituted it is provided that:

[English]

The following members to be appointed by the Central Government from amongst Muslim, namely :— ...."

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : You please leave this. A Hindu who is

an eminent scholar in Muslim law will also be appointed.

[English]

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN : Sir, the Clause 9(2)(b) says : three persons who are eminent scholars in Muslim Law".

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Don't make interpretations like lawyers.

[English]

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN : Sir, the clause 9(2)(b) of the Wakf Bill, 1995 says :

"the following members to be appointed by the Central Government from amongst Muslims, namely :—

- (i) three persons to represent Muslim organisations having all-India character and national importance;
- (ii) four persons of national eminence, of whom two shall be from amongst persons having administrative and financial expertise;
- (iii) three Members of Parliament of whom two shall be from the House of the People and one from the Council of States;
- (iv) chairpersons of three Boards by rotation;
- (v) two persons who have been Judges of the Supreme Court or a High Court;
- (vi) one advocate of national eminence;
- (vii) one person to represent the mutawallis of the wakf having a gross annual income of rupees five lakhs and above;
- (viii) three persons who are eminent scholars in Muslim Law."

[Translation]

Shri Sita Ram Kesri should also know what will happen if a Muslim scholar is prevented from joining it. If there can be Muslim Ministers at the centre, eminent scholars of other community should also be permitted.

The West Bengal Wakf Act provides for non-Muslim official Mutawalli who can be appointed by the Wakf Board. It must have some secular Character. Otherwise Hindu or persons of other communities will not be able to join this Board. The school run with the funds of Wakf Board will not allow admission to Hindu boys, which is very strange. I can understand that it is the property of minority community and it should be controlled, managed and maintained by that community, but it will not be proper not to involve other community, or not to have consultations with them.

Page 8, clause 14 says :-

[English]

'one and not more than two members to be nominated by the State Government representing eminent Muslim Organisations'.

[Translation]

What does it mean by muslim organisation? There can be a secular muslim organisation, a communal Muslim organisation. You must clearly say that it will be so a political party. When I was the Chairman of the Committee, a dispute arose. It was said that muslim community will be represented by the Muslim League MLA. In my constituency, we have 60% muslim population and I belong to communist party. Then, should I have no claim? The definition of muslim organisations should be made very clear. Otherwise, many difficulties will arise. I did not move amendment because there was a consensus and it would not have been accepted then. Only the official amendment will be adopted. Therefore, I request that if you have understood me you must accept it and bring an official amendment. I would reiterate that there is a large muslim property in Delhi as well as other parts of the country. I am not against its overall control being in the hands of Muslim community. It should be there. This community is economically and educationally backward. If some improvements can be brought about it will help them. In West Bengal girls hostels have been constructed in all districts. Five of them we constructed with the funds provided by Wakf Board. hey will be constructed in more districts. This is very good. But to say that you will not have consultations with or will not receive the property of other communities and will not allow them to join these institutions or you yourself will be Ex-officio Chairman of the Wakf Board does not carry conviction. I oppose this dual policy. You change it as far as possible and ensure that it retains the secular character. With these words, I conclude.

MR. SPEAKER : I would say that you have made a deep study. The State Acts have been repealed after being converted under repeal provisions. So, your plea is justified.

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN : This is the tragedy. These people do not understand me and you too misunderstand me.

MR. SPEAKER : The constitutional provision is that both State and Central laws can go together and if there is any contradiction then central law prevails. But he has brought all the State Acts under repeal clause 112.

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN : That is why I had said that I speak very little and only speak to the point.

MR. SPEAKER : You have rightly said so. I recognise your deep study, I am not saying you are wrong.

Kesriji, you should say that these are good point and you will do some thing. Therefore let it be passed.

SHRI SITA RAM KESRI : Sir, Shri Shahabuddin has raised certain points and I assure you and the House that I will look into them and the poem recited by him is a mixture of truth and lie. I will only speak the truth and you please be rest assured. This relates to his community and I shall place before you all the relevant points.

The hon. Member has raised the issue of non-Muslims. It is not so. Page 50, clause 104 provides that 'non-muslims can also dedicate a property as a WAKF' I would not like to go into details and request you to withdraw your amendments and pass the Bill.

SHRI MOHAMMAD YUNUS SALEEM : You have given an assurance and I hope you will consider the amendments moved by me and Shri Shahabuddin and then bring forward a comprehensive bill.

MR. SPEAKER : Do not ask for such an assurance.

SHRI MOHAMMAD YUNUS SALEEM : He has given such an assurance.

MR. SPEAKER : It is good if he has given an assurance.

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HUSSAIN : What about definition?

MR. SPEAKER : You please sit down and have some discussion. This has also to go to Rajya Sabha.

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HUSSAIN : Rajya Sabha has already passed it .

MR. SPEAKER : If this amendment is accepted, it will again have to go to Rajya Sabha. You please discuss it later.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill to provide for the better administration of Wakfs and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. SPEAKER : We shall now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill. Mr. Yunus, are you moving your amendment?

SHRI MOHAMMAD YUNUS SALEEM : No, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : Are you moving you amendment?

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : No, Sir.

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.*

MR. SPEAKER : The question is : "That clause 4 to 113 stand part of the Bill".

*The motion was adopted.*

Clause 4 to 113 were added to the Bill.

THE 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.*

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister may now move that the Bill be passed.

SHRI SITARAM KESRI : I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

*The motion was adopted.*

NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR MINORITIES  
(AMENDMENT) BILL

20.21 hrs.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITA RAM KESERI) : Sir, the Minorities Commission was given judicial powers in 1992 and under these powers the Chairman of this commission was to be from the minority community. Now we propose that the vice-chairman shall be a Sikh or a Christian or from any other community who will preside in the absence of Chairman.

Sir, I beg to move for leave :

"That the bill to amend the National Commission for Minorities be taken into consideration."

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Motion moved :

'That the Bill to amend the National Commission for Minorities Act, be taken into consideration.'

[Translation]

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Barielly) : Sir, I will not take much time. The Hon. Minister has said what I was thinking. It appears that approaching elections are weighing their mind. They want to take all the parties with them. That is why he has said that he can be a Sikh or a Christian. But these things do not catch votes, it is something different. You have added Vice-Chairman.

You could have included Vice-Chairman in 1992 itself.

We are a secular Country. If you talk of minorities, then women also come in this definition. They need to be uplifted. We have amended Article 73 and 74, we have Commission on women and therefore, I do not see the need of Minority Commission. Rather, we should have Commission on Human Rights and like that.

Sir, I would not say much. The hon. Minister should know it that politically it will go against them in the coming elections because the people of the country are realising these matters and will act accordingly. However, you have brought this bill for inclusion of Vice-Chairman and I have no objection to this.

Sir, the clause relating to composition of Commission for Minorities provides for one Chairman and Six Members who will be nominated by the Central Government from amongst eminent, capable and devoted people. I would suggest that no one should be nominated for appeasement only. Real ability, honesty and trustworthiness should be the criteria. Sir, I thank you for giving me time to speak.

[English]

DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR (Nasik) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am here to support the National Commission for Minorities (Amendment) Bill, 1995.

I am on a specific point and that is the problem that has arisen in implementation of this Act in the State of Maharashtra as the minorities there consist of Muslims, Sikhs, Christians, Buddhists and Parasees amounting to 16.47 per cent of the population. Under Articles 29 and 30, a special character has been given to the minorities. Right now the Amendment is seeking for appointment of the Vice-Chairman, and I am supporting it. The present Chairman is Justice Sardar Ali Khan. ... (Interruptions)... Sorry, may be it is somebody else. But in Maharashtra there is a problem.

Late Shrimati Indira Gandhi ji had formulated a 15 point-programme for the upliftment, social, economic and educational development of minorities, and to instill confidence and a sense of security in minorities. As per this Act, 10 States have formed State Commissions for Minorities. Gujarat and Rajasthan have also formed these Commissions and they are doing good work. But in Maharashtra the present combined Government has dissolved the State Minorities Commission. There is a provision that the Central Government has the power to regulate, to remove the difficulties in the implementation under Section 16(1) of the principal Act but the Central Government has not done this. The State Government has taken an anti-minority stand. This is an anti-Constitutional stand and an anti-Parliament stand. So, I request the hon. Minister to take serious note of this and

take action in this matter.

My second point is, the Jain community have requested that they should be included in the minorities. This must be properly studied, scrutinised, and Justice must be given to the Jain community.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Bill.

However, I would like to point out to the House and particularly to the hon. Minister the fact that although the present Commission was constituted in 1992 under the law, the Minorities Commission has really been in existence from 1978 when it was formed by an executive order. They have been submitting their Annual Reports which have been tabled in the House also. However, I note with regret and anguish that not a single Report during these 17 years has ever been discussed on the floor of the House. Therefore, the problems of the minorities have remained closed within the leaves of those Annual Reports. I wish that the hon. Minister will see to it that in deciding the Government business, at least one hour is allotted in a year to discuss the Annual Report of the Minorities Commission. Otherwise, the Minorities Commission becomes a paper organisation and does not serve any useful purpose.

The second point that I have is really with regard to the situation in Maharashtra which has been mentioned.

But I have a suggestion. For a long time — not now — a suggestion by the Minorities Commission had been pending for consideration with the Government that in order to enable it to discharge its duties, it should have regional offices in various parts of the country. Now, that has been pending before the Government. One way of remedying the situation in Maharashtra would be that the Minorities Commission should be authorised to establish its regional office in the Western Zone immediately and locate it in Bombay so that the Minority Communities, if they have any grievance or problem, could easily have access to the Minorities Commission.

But, Sir, when I say this, I am conscious of the fact that the Commission has been handicapped for lack of resources. They do not yet have sufficient staff. Since 1992 — when the hon. Minister gave them the legal powers, and that they will have the necessary funds to investigate any situation in-depth and to call any witness or to act as a court — they have not been given sufficient staff simply because of lack of resources. Therefore, what is really needed is an increase in budget. Our friends on my right do not believe in the very idea of the minorities. They consider the Minorities Commission to be unnecessary which can be jettisoned any day. If you really believe in the welfare of the minorities and if you have a Minorities Commission, then, please give them adequate resources, please give them necessary staff.

You have given them the necessary powers but they must have proper staff.

My other point in this connection is that, you have the power to see to it that every State is governed according to the Constitution and according to the law. We had passed a law in this House in 1992. We suggest that — though it does not lay down as a compulsion that every State shall have a Minorities Commission — if a particular State Government, in its wisdom, abolishes the existing Commission, I think you have the powers to intervene in the situation under Article 355 of the Constitution.

Lastly, I would rebut the argument given by my colleague who said that it is a political move. If it is a political move, then, there are four other minorities which are covered; and the hon. Minister should have come to us with a proposal to create four posts of Vice-Chairman in order to satisfy all the other communities. But that is not so. In his wisdom, he has said that the work of the commission has expanded, its scope has expanded. Therefore, if need a Vice-Chairman and therefore, Sir, I support the Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Bombay-South Central) : Sir, Maharashtra has just been mentioned. We have dissolved Minorities Commission because there is no need of it; we all are Indians whether we belong to minorities or majority community. It has been done from humanitarian angle. A muslim girl is our sister. When she gets married, she is asked thrice whether she accepts the marriage, but when she is divorced. ...

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRISYED SHAHABUDDIN : I am on a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER : What is your point of order ?

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : What have we been discussing? Are we discussing Muslim Personal Law or are we discussing the Uniform Civil Code? (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have to decide the point of order.

I uphold your point or order. Please stick to the amendment. It has nothing to do with the Uniform Civil Code.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : As I have said, it was abolished in Maharashtra because we consider all people equal and expect from other to harbour this sentiment. We constitute Muslim Commissions, board, but we must have only one feeling, that is, we all are one whether muslims, sikhs, christians or hindus. This is the reason why we dissolved it.

Sir, I thank you for giving me time to speak.

MR. SPEAKER : This relates to Vice-President....

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You made a very good speech.

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN (Murshidabad):  
Mr. Speaker, Sir, now I would only say that I support this Bill. The new post of Vice-President has been created and I think if the Chairman is a Muslim then in no case should a Muslim be the Vice-Chairman. He should be from any other minority whether it is Sikh or Christian or Buddhist.

SHRI MOHAMMAD YUNUS SALEEM (Katihar) : Sir, some people have opposed the Commission on Minorities but I would only say that in 1978 when this commission was constituted by the Janata Party Government my friend belonging to Jan Sangh was a part of that Party and the Commission was constituted with their consent.

*[English]*

SHRI C. SREENIVAASAN (Dindigul) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support this Bill.

Sir, the Bill seeks to provide for a Vice-Chairman among the members of the Commission without altering the total membership of the Commission. Sir, the problems of the minorities are in large number but the size of the Commission is too small to cope with all the work relating to resolution of all these problems. I, therefore, urge upon the Government to increase the size of the Commission by doubling the existing number of members. A large Commission will not only attend to major policy issues aimed at uplifting the minorities but will also be able to properly monitor the implementation of the programmes for the minorities.

Sir, minorities are the jewels in the crown of India.  
...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : This Bill is only to add one Vice-President post.

SHRI C. SREENIVAASAN : I am making some suggestions.

MR. SPEAKER : No, not necessary. You cannot go on like that. You have to stick to that Amendment only.

SHRI C. SREENIVAASAN : I demand that the Government should immediately appoint a Parliamentary Committee on Minorities Welfare so that the Government is accountable to this august forum on all issues relating to minorities welfare.

The Government has provided for reservation for SCs, STs and OBCs in Government jobs as a matter of rule.

I also urge upon the Government to constitute a Task Force to ascertain the literacy level among the minorities

especially among the Muslims and to suggest ways to improve the educational conditions of the minorities. A Central Minorities Welfare Fund ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I am not allowing all these things to go on record. Please sit down. This Bill is so simple.

SHRI. C. SREENIVAASAN : Sir, I would like to mention about Tamil Nadu Minorities commission. Please allow me to speak, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : It is okay.

SHRI C. SREENIVAASAN : Some of our colleagues have already mentioned that some other States were engineered the Minorities Commission. Sir, Tamil Nadu, under the sagacious leadership of our leader, has the distinction of constituting a Minorities Commission in the State while the State Government like the Maharashtra Government are dismantling the Minorities Commission. Sir, you would learn with interest that a Christian, the Chairman of the Commission and a Muslim woman is the Vice-Chairman. Representation to linguistic minorities in the State like those speaking Telugu, Kannada and Malayalam has also been provided in the State Minorities Commission. This shows the commitment of the Tamil Nadu Government to protect the interests of the minorities. The State Government ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please conclude.

SHRI C. SREENIVAASAN : Sir, the minorities Finance and Development Corporation recently established should also be geared up to this task. I would like to inform this august forum, Sir, that it is Tamil Nadu which has restructured the existing Backward Classes Finance Development Corporation into Backward Classes and Minorities Finance Development Corporation.

Tamil Nadu, thus, is second to none in providing special assistance to the minorities and in protecting their special rights and interests under the Constitution. On the other hand, at the Centre, the measures taken by the Government are not adequate to help the minorities.

With these words I am concluding.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : I support this Bill with the suggestion as Shri Sahabuddin ji said, that in the next Session, the Government should formulate the points out of the report submitted by the Commission up to now as to which of the suggestions have been accepted or implemented and which of the suggestions have not been acceptable and then we can discuss it in the next Session. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Only thing is in the Zero Hour, no subject should be raised. Yes, Mr. Minister.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SITA RAM KESARI : Sir, I would like to say only

one thing. Sh. Shahabuddin has charged that Commission for Minorities has not been given adequate funds but I would like to say that it is our responsibility and we have considerably improved its financial position. Now without going into other points I would request that this bill be taken into consideration.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The question is:

"That the Bill to amend the National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. SPEAKER : The House will now take up Clause-by-Clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is :

"That Clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.*

MR. SPEAKER : The question is : "That clause 1, the Enacting formula and the Long Title of the Bill stand part of the Bill."

*The Motion was adopted.*

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI SITA RAM KESRI : Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed".

*The motion was adopted.*

**20.42 hrs.**

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE : DISAPPROVAL OF  
THE PAYMENT OF BONUS (AMENDMENT)  
ORDINANCE:  
AND  
PAYMENT OF BONUS (AMENDMENT) BILL  
As passed by Rajya Sabha

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The House will now take up item Nos. 24 and 25 together.

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly) : I beg to move :

"That this House disapproves of the Payment of Bonus (Amendment) Ordinance, 1995 (No. 8 of 1995) promulgated by the President on July 9, 1995."

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I oppose the government's policy of promulgation of Ordinances, more so, because the House had been summoned on 5th July while this Ordinance was signed by the hon. President on 9th July and the Lok Sabha Session was to start after 15 days and still this Ordinance was brought.

I will not say much about this. In 1993, the limit was prescribed as 1600–2500 and this could have been considered at that time but it appears that this ordinance has been proposed having an eye on the coming elections. Now this limit has been raised from 2500 to 3500. This has been passed in Rajya Sabha and many things were brought to the notice of the hon. Minister which mainly include waiving of ceiling. My information is that the matter was discussed with the trade unions but their viewpoint was not accepted. It is true that talks were held with the trade unions but their suggestions were not taken into consideration. I oppose this Ordinance but support the spirit of this Bill.

I would like that the Government should not remain a government of Ordinances. You know Sir, how many Ordinances have been brought during this four years tenure of this House. The government has in fact, made a mockery of this House. This sort of thing should not happen during the next few months left with the present Lok Sabha and proposals be considered in the House first and then action taken thereon.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): I beg to move\*:

"That the Bill further to amend the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965, as passed by Rajaya Sabha be taken into consideration."

Sir, with your permission, I lay my initial statement on the Table of the House.

Bonus is treated as deferred wage. For the past two years workers in the country have been agitating that the existing eligibility limit as well as calculation ceiling for payment of bonus are much too restrictive, considering the wage revisions on the one hand and progressive increase in the cost of living indices on the other. The Central Trade Union Organisations have on several occasions in the recent past given notices of strike on this issue, among others. However, through intervention at the level of the Labour Minister, the Trade Union

\*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

Organisations were persuaded to withhold agitation on the issue of bonus on the promise that the Government would take an early decision on the matter.

The urgency in promulgating an Ordinance was that in the context of national festivals like Ganesh Chaturthi, Onam and Dussehra which are celebrated in the months of August, September and early October, it was anticipated that industrial workers in the various parts of the country might place demands for payment of bonus at enhanced rates than envisaged in the Act. Protracted negotiations normally take place between managements and workers in industrial enterprises on demand for bonus placed in advance of the festivals. Advance payments are also demanded by the workers with reference to bonus claims. Non-settlement of the issue of amending the legal provisions so as to enhance the eligibility and calculation ceilings on time had the potential for seriously vitiating industrial peace, resulting in avoidable loss of production days.

The Ordinance was, accordingly, promulgated on 9.7.95 enhancing the eligibility limit for bonus from Rs. 2500/- per mensem to Rs. 3500/- per mensem and calculation ceiling from Rs. 1600/- per mensem to Rs. 2500/- per mensem effective from 1.4.93. The Ordinance is to be replaced now by passing the Bill to amend the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965.

MR. SPEAKER : Motions moved :

"That this House disapproves of the Payment of Bonus (Amendment) Ordinance, 1995 (No. 8 of 1995) promulgated by the President on July 9, 1995."

"That the Bill further to amend the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965, as passed by Rajya Sabha be taken into consideration."

SHRI. MOHAN RAWALE (Bombay-South Central) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support the proposal of Sangama ji. But the ceiling limit should be increased which was earlier 1600 and later raised to 2500. Today, the prices have risen considerably and this upper limit should be increased to Rs. 4500.

[English]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : I support this Bill but not wholeheartedly because almost all the central trade unions have been demanding since long that there should not be any ceiling in regard to the payment of bonus to the workers and employees. Here, the ceiling has been increased from Rs. 2,500 to Rs. 3,500.

When this ceiling was imposed long before, at that time what was the price index and after what time has this ceiling been enhanced? What is the price index now? What is the difference between the time when it was fixed and now when it is being enhanced?

In my view, there should not be any ceiling because all the workers are entitled to the bonus. What we find is that there are some industries, even public sector units which are sick which have been referred to the Board of Industrial and Financial Reconstruction. The workers of those sick industries are denied the payment of bonus. What we find sometimes is that the workers and their unions have to go to the courts for getting their bonus. As per the provisions of the Payment of Bonus Act where there are more than 20 workers employed in a unit or industry, the workers and employees of that unit or industry are entitled to get bonus.

There are a large number of workers who are engaged in shops and establishments. They are denied this bonus. So, the purview of this Payment of Bonus Act should be extended to cover all those categories of workers and employees. The employees engaged in the shops and establishments, construction workers and even the agricultural workers should also be included. But as per the Act, these categories of workers are outside the purview of the Payment of Bonus Act.

Also, the workers of the public sector undertakings which have been declared sick and are incurring losses should not be denied payment of bonus. Similarly, recently the Ministry have issued a circular dated July 19, 1995 laying down detailed guidelines regarding wage revision. Recently, the wages of the workers of public sector undertakings have been revised. ... (Interruptions)

The wages of the workers who are working in the public sector undertakings have been revised. But as per the memoranda issued by the public sector undertakings...

MR. SPEAKER : No, no. This is out of the context.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : This is a very valid point.

MR. SPEAKER : Please make this valid point at some other time.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : I will be very brief. I will finish my speech within one or two minutes. (Interruptions) This is quite relevant. If the workers of the public sector undertakings which have been referred to the BIFR are denied of this wage revision like Hindustan Paper Corporation ...

MR. SPEAKER : I am not allowing these things.

(Interruptions)\* ...

MR. SPEAKER : These things are not going on record.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : I have proposed an amendment that the ceiling be increased from Rs. 3,500 to Rs. 5,500.

I thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak.

\* Not recorded.

[Translation]

DR. RAMESH CHANDRA TOMAR (Hapur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, government has brought forward payment of bonus (Amendment) Bill, 1995 with a view to amending Clauses 12 and 13 of Section 2 of the payment of Bonus, Act 1965. It is proposed to enhance the eligibility limit to Rs. 2500-3500. Sir, this amendment is inadequate and is not likely to provide any relief to working and salaried classe.

The prices are rising continuously and this government is unable to control the price rise. During 1991 elections the government had promised that price would be arrested within 100 days ....(Interruptions)\*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : It is not going on record.

[Translation]

DR. RAMESH CHANDRA TOMAR : Sir, the Central Trade Unions, individuals and various Federations had been making demands from time to time for increase in pay and there was also a demand for increasing and abolishing the eligibility limit of payment of bonus. The amendment brought by the Minister in the payment of Bonus act is inadequate and I want that the eligibility limit should be done away with and the calculation limit should be raised from 2500 to 4000. This should also be ensured that the working and salaried class people get the bonus amount on time.

I would also request that the 8.33 percent minimum limit of bonus provided in Section-10 of the payment of Bonus Act, 1965 should be raised to 15 percent and the maximum limit of 20 percent should be enhanced to 25 percent.

[English]

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Bill despite its inadequacies that it does not fully met the legitimate aspects of the working class in the trade union movement. But it does benefit seven lakh public sector employees and 24 lakh private sector employees and the total annual benefit would of the order of about Rs. 800 crore. And, therefore, although the Bill is inadequate in many respects, I welcome it.

I would like to make one humble suggestion. Any monetary ceiling or limit that you put in a Bill becomes out of date when the economy is subject to inflation. Therefore, a provision should be there that such limits should be automatically index to inflation every year when the bonus is paid. So, that is a suggestion which I hope the

hon. Minister will consider as he need not come back to us every few years with a new ceiling and a new monetary limit and it will be done automatically. Sir, this has been done in a number of countries that I know of.

I would also welcome the provision here that this will apply retrospectively from 1.4.1993. Therefore, there will be some additional benefit.

I would link to support the suggestion made by Shri Basudeb Acharia and submit it for the hon. Minister's consideration that organised labour alone should not be our concern. Our major concern should be unorganised labour who are not really being looked after either by political parties or by trade Unions. I hope that the hon. Minister in his wisdom shall look after their interests also.

[Translation]

SH. RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad) : Sir, I had given notice of an amendment and there is nothing to be explained about it. This Bill has been brought forward with a view to improving the living standard of working class. I had proposed an amendment that the bonus limit should be enhanced to Rs. 5000 and suggested that on page 1, line 10 the amount of Rs. 2500 should be substituted by Rs 5000 because the price index today has considerably gone up since this limit was laid down. This is why I have given notice of the amendment with these words I conclude.

[English]

SHRI P.A. SANGMA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to the hon. Members for having supported this Bill. To be very frank I am with you, Shri Shahabuddin, that I am not myself satisfied with this. I wish that the ceiling could have been removed or it could have been raised further. But then the question is we have to look at the whole economy of the country. We have to look at the health of the industry. We also have to look at the paying capacity of the industry. This matter was discussed in several rounds with all the Central trade union organisations and though we could not come to any agreement, we did reach an understanding and on the basis of that understanding, this has been brought now.

Some hon. Members have spoken about the price rise. In fact, this has nothing to do with price rise. For neutralising the inflation or price rise or the consumer price index, we have a formula system which takes care of the inflation. And, therefore, this Bonus Act has nothing to do with price rise because we have another formula of neutralising it which is the D.A. formula.

As has been rightly pointed out by Shri Shahabuddin, we could have done something more. The total number of beneficiaries is 26 lakhs and an amount of Rs. 800 crore additionally is going to the workers. It is quite a big

\* Not recorded.

amount. Therefore, I would solicit the support of the whole House and request them to pass this Bill.  
...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : What about unorganised workers?

MR. SPEAKER : It does not come under this.

[Translation]

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, for withdrawal of the resolution I have to say only that the liberalisation policy is being implemented and the government is fully seized of this matter and therefore, there is need for enhancing wages and amending bonus policy. This Bill has been brought after two years and I think another Bill will have to be considered and amendment made next year. There must be a comprehensive policy in this regard although your intentions are *boafide*.

Sir, I beg to move for the leave of the House to withdraw my resolution.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Is the pleasure of the House that the Resolution moved by Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar be withdrawn?

*The Resolution was, by leave, withdrawn.*

MR. SPEAKER : I shall now put the motion moved by Shri P.A. Sangma to the vote of the House.

The question is :

"That the Bill further to amend the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965, as passed by Rajya Sabha be taken into consideration."

*The Motion was adopted.*

MR. SPEAKER : The House will now take up Clause-by-Clause consideration of the Bill. Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh, are you moving your amendments to Clauses 2 and 3?

[Translation]

SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH : Sir I am not moving.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now, there are no amendments moved. I shall now put Clauses 2 to 4 to the vote of the House.

The question is :

"That Clauses 2 to 4 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

Clauses 2 to 4 were 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 P.A. SANGMA : I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

*The motion was adopted.*

21.02 hrs.

MOTION RE: SUSPENSION OF  
PROVISO TO RULE 66

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : Sir, I beg to move :

"That this House do suspend the proviso to rule 66 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in its application to the motion for taking into consideration and passing of the Technology Development Board Bill, 1995 and the Research and Development Cess (Amendment) Bill, 1995 in as much as these are dependent on each other."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That this House do suspend the proviso to rule 66 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in its application to the motion for taking into consideration and passing of the Technology Development Board Bill, 1995 and the Research and Development Cess (Amendment) Bill, 1995 in as much as these are dependent on each other."

*The motion was adopted.*

21.03 hrs.

TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT BOARD BILL  
AND  
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CESS  
(AMENDMENT) BILL

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now, the House will take up item nos. 27 and 28 together for discussion.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : Sir, I beg to move\* :

"That the Bill to provide for the constitution of a Board for payment of equity capital or any other financial assistance to industrial concerns attempting commercial application of indigenous technology or adopting imported technology to wider domestic applications and for matters connected therewith or

\* Moved with the recommendation of the President.

incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : Sir, I beg to move\*:

"That the Bill to amend the Research and Development Cess Act, 1986, be taken into considerations."

Sir, the Finance Minister, while presenting the Budget of the Central Government for the year 1994-95, had announced the setting up of a New Fund for Technology Development and Application, to be placed at the disposal of the Department of Science and Technology.

To augment the New Fund, it is proposed to divert the proceeds collected by way of five per cent cess on import of technology which was earlier being utilised to provide financial support to the Venture Capital Fund administered by the IDBI.

To facilitate such transfer of funds to the Fund for Technology Development and Application, it is proposed to amend the Research and Development Cess Act of 1986.

The proposed Amendment Bill provides for placing of funds with the proposed Fund for Technology Development and Application in lieu of releases to Venture Capital Fund.

The Bill also seeks to assign the responsibilities of administering the Technology Development and Application fund by a newly constituted Technology Development Board which in its earlier form of Venture Capital fund was being administered by the IDBI.

The Act of 1986 provided for payment of Cess on foreign technology collaborations approved by the Government of India. The amendment now proposed will bring within its ambit even those foreign technology collaborations which come under the automatic approval by Reserve Bank of India apart from the agreements which are approved by Government.

The Technology Development Board Bill seeks to constitute a Technology Development Board to administer the Fund for Technology Development and Application. The Board will provide equity capital or any other financial assistance to industrial concerns or other agencies attempting development and adopting imported technology to wider domestic application. The Board will also provide financial assistance to Research and Development Institutions engaged in developing indigenous technology or assisting in adaptation of imported technology by industrial concerns.

Both the Bills were referred to the Standing Committee of Parliament and the Standing Committee approved the Bills with recommendations for certain amendments which have now been incorporated.

With these words, I commend the Bills which are complementary, for the consideration of the House.

MR. SPEAKER : Motions moved :

"That the Bill to provide for the constitution of a Board for payment of equity capital or any other financial assistance to industrial concerns attempting commercial application of indigenous technology or adopting imported technology to wider domestic applications and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

"That the Bill to amend the Research and Development Cess Act, 1986, be taken into consideration."

MAJ. GEN. (Retd.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (Garhwal) : Sir, we have two Bills here before us. Both the Bills are good. But before I express my views on these two Bills, I would say that the sequence should have been the other way round. First, you should amend the Cess Act and then only have the Board. If you want the Board first and then to amend the Cess Act, I think this is not a proper order.

Therefore, I will first talk of Research and Development Cess Amendment. The Bill is good and it ought to have, in fact been done such earlier. I do not know since 1986 when this came into being how have it been functioning in the present system? In my understanding the system is complicated as the money goes to some bank or some venture fund and then they decide how to send it and how to use it. In a Bill like Research and Development this sort of complication is not at all desirable. But while giving justification for amendment in the Statement of Objects and Reasons, the Government has not been straight forward and truthful. You try to indulge in platitudes and semantics as to why you are doing it. I think the difficulties which are being faced presently — since 1986 till 1995 — if you had discussed some of them earlier, it would have been a more cogent reason for amending it. All the same, as I have already said, the idea is good and it should have been done much earlier. So, I support it.

As regards the Technology Development Board, again the follow up is good. I have only one comment to make, i.e., you have a Chairman who is also an *ex-officio* Secretary. I think he is Secretary of the Department of Science and Technology. Apart from this, four other Secretaries will be *ex-officio* members of the Board and you have also made a provision for four other people. These *ex-officio* Secretaries will be able to contribute to a very limited extent and it will be mostly pertaining to their own Departments. Even then as members they are all right. But I think the Chairman ought to have been a man who is involved totally and entirely in Research and Development field. A Secretary has a lot of other things to do and if you make him an *ex-officio* Chairman, then there is nothing like Managing Director. You are having

\* Moved with the recommendation of the President.

a Chairman who is only for decoration. The Chairman has to function effectively and I do not know how he will function in addition to his very onerous tasks of being Secretary of Department of Science and Technology. I think it is going to be a difficult task. No doubt, you have made provision for four other people who will be technically qualified and R&D experts.

Sir, although I have not given any amendment yet I would request the Government to have a look into it. At this point of time I can only suggest that after having a look if you find that this is not working properly kindly consider the appointment of a full-time Chairman for this Development Board.

With these words, I support the Bill.

PROF. R.R. PRAMANIK (Mathurapur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support this Bill but with some amendments. My main amendment is for the Long Title. The Long Title says :

"to provide for the constitution of a Board for payment of equity capital or any other financial assistance to industrial concerns attempting commercial application of indigenous technology or adopting imported technology to wider domestic applications and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

My amendment was :—

"to provide for the constitution of a Board for payment of equity capital or any other financial assistance to the scientific laboratories and scientific institutes carrying out fundamental research on basic science and to industrial concerns attempting commercial application of indigenous technology and for attempting and adopting imported technology to wider domestic applications or matters connected with or incidental to."

That was my amendment for the Long Title and I want to give some reasons for this amendment. I am of the opinion that development of technology mainly depends on the development of science. Unless and until there is a development in the basic sciences, there cannot be development in technology and copying without any improvement can be done by copying the technologies of the other countries. Some Asian countries which are called the Asian giants have developed the technology with the help of development in science. But to get the improvement, we must have the development of our scientific fields.

MR. SPEAKER : We have national laboratories and universities for development of science.

PROF. R.R. PRAMANIK : Maybe. There are technologies. I can give you some examples to prove that they are getting funds from somewhere, but some part of this fund collected must go to these basic researches where you see the fruits of the scientific discoveries will go for inventions in the technological

fields. Unless and until the technological inventions are supported by scientific discoveries, there will be more imitative technologies and less innovative technologies. There are some countries allied Asian giants who developed enormously in technology because there is enormous support for scientific discoveries. In support of my contention, I quote what no less a person than Shri Jawaharlal Nehru has said on "The National Science and Technology Policy". According to Shri Jawaharlal Nehru's thinking :-

"It would be ideal, of course, if the industrial system could be built on the basis of indigenously developed technology, but given the absence of a capital goods base and the utter lack of research and development capabilities within the country, this would be a longdrawn out and time-consuming process whereas India cannot afford to wait to push through its industrialisation".

I again quote :-

"The 1969 Session of the Indian Science Congress held at Mysore in 1982 had as its theme basic research as an integral component of a self-reliant base of science and technology. Extensive discussions were held on various facts of basic research in the Science Congress. In his Presidential Address, Prof. M.G.K. Menon, an eminent scientist of this country had stated: 'Self-reliance demands a national commitment and political will and involves many facets such as technology policy, management and technical skills etc.' But clearly a crucial element of self-reliance in a world whose economy and life-styles are dominated by scientific and technological advances, has to be a self-reliant base of science and technology. This base cannot be built without, at the same time, doing significant basic research; for that is the only way to generate basic understanding which is not restricted to specific knowledge in an area, but provides the ability to attack and solve problems over a wide spectrum and it is this ability that basic research, more than anything else, develops to the highest degree."

So, no less a person than Prof. M.G.K. Menon and also our Prime Minister emphasised on the need to support and strengthen the basic research. If we go in for only technological aspects, then it will be imitative work which we are now doing in India. But if we are to get the innovations to compete globally, we must have the scientific support for technological development. Sometime back I met Shri Joshi, Director-General of CSIR and talked about this. I visited the National Physical Laboratory in Delhi. I met Dr. A.B. Narlikar working on superconductivity and a group of scientists. There are two technologies — the carbon fibre technology, and the fusion technology and superconductivity. I have collected these two items. This is the copy about the indigenous carbon-fibre. One is the imported carbon-fibre and the

other one is the indigenous carbon-fibre. The indigenous one is much inferior to the imported one...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : It cannot be displayed like this.

PROF. R.R. PRAMANIK : It is only to impress upon you. Unless and until the development of technology is supported by the discoveries in the scientific field, we cannot have innovations and we cannot compete globally in the technological field. In this amendment, I think the hon. Minister while making the statement just now, has accepted one thing in principle. You have added in the Preamble the following :

"to industrial concerns and other agencies attempting development..."

I want to know from the hon. Minister whether he has added the words : "other agencies attempting development and commercial application". You have now added the industrial concerns. What do you mean by "other agencies?" I have categorically mentioned about scientific laboratories and scientific institutes, Universities etc. In place of that, while making the statement, you have added "industrial concerns and other agencies attempting development." So, it is not clear. Therefore, I would request the Minister to clarify what do you mean by "other agencies." I think you have got no objection to get it cleared by adding the words "scientific laboratories and scientific institutes" in order to avoid ambiguity. If that is done, it will be much clear and no ambiguity will be there. What is the definition of "other agencies etc?" According to the Long Title in Item No. 4 circulated to the Members, you have added :

Pages 3,—

for lines 26 and 27, substitute —

"(a) provide equity capital, subject to such conditions as may be determined by regulations, or any other financial assistance to industrial concerns and other agencies attempting commercial application of indigenous technology"—.

I would like to submit that if your amended Long Title is to have that meaning, the other agencies, namely, "scientific laboratories and scientific institutes, Universities etc." should be added. In the Long Title, the Minister has added the words "other agencies attempting development..."

In Item No. 4, you have added 'industrial concerns and other agencies'. ...*(interruptions)*

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum) : One minute, Sir. The hon. Minister has stated that the recommendations of the Standing Committee have been accepted. In that case, can a Member of the Standing Committee...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. R.R. PRAMANIK : I am not a Member of the Standing Committee. *(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : He is a Member of the Committee on Finance.

PROF. R.R. PRAMANIK : According to the amended 'Long Title' as stated by the Minister, in Item No. 4 in the amended paper, you have to put 'other agencies' attempting development and commercial applications'. You have omitted 'development'. If you omit this 'development', the whole meaning is lost. Here, development means agencies attempting research and you have amended this Long Title. You have the consistency in amending. You have to add in item No. 4, 'the other agencies attempting development bank'.

Now, in the Bill, I would request you to see Chapter 5, Clause No. 15, Sub-clause 2 in Miscellaneous — "The Board may authorise an officer to visit any industrial concern or institution referred to in sub-section (1) at any time to verify the accuracy of any return made under this section." Regarding this 'any time', my amendment was instead of 'any time' it should be 'any time during office hour.'

MR. SPEAKER : 'Any time' means....

PROF. R.R. PRAMANIK : 'Any time' means during office time and 'any time' means not in the late hours—12 midnight or 1 a.m.

MR. SPEAKER : We put reasonable interpretation on such terms.

PROF. R.R. PRAMANIK : What do you mean by 'any time'?

MR. SPEAKER : Reasonable time, not at the dead of the night.

PROF. R.R. PRAMANIK : It should be clear, Sir. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : General Clauses Act applied to it. Please do not worry about it.

PROF. R.R. PRAMANIK : My second amendment was regarding the Constitution of the Board. I gave an amendment for the inclusion in the Board - the Members of Parliament elected from the Lok Sabha and from the Rajya Sabha. There should be three Members in the Board - two from the Lok Sabha and one from the Rajya Sabha. So, I think regarding that amendment, nothing is said. I think it has not been accepted by the Minister.

Regarding the inclusion of Members of Parliament in the Board, hon. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I cannot but mention that while visiting the National Physical Laboratories in Delhi, I met a group of scientists. I met a number of renowned scientists, one of them is Dr. A.V. Narlikar working on super conductivity. While discussing super conductivity a mention was made that there is no instrument of international standard for conducting

research on super conductivity value. You know, Sir, it is a very sophisticated subject. If we can achieve the high temperature super conductivity it will revolutionize the computer technology and also minimise the loss in the electrical transmission system and many other item regarding the fusion technology also. I requested him to give me some notes so that I can request the Ministry through my Standing Committee. He did not give me on his own. Taking some notes I put up the matter in the Standing Committee on Science and Technology, but after that the officers and the scientists also agreed with me.

After that, now that scientist is in trouble in getting the fund. It is only a matter of Rs. 45 lakh. These are the papers. All these correspondence have come from the scientist. It is a pathetic situation in which the renowned scientist, Narlikar is. These are correspondence received from him. He is in trouble. Perhaps, he may get the money. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Such issues are not allowed. We cannot plead the case of individuals.

PROF. R.R. PRAMANIK : Sir, I am not pleading the individual's case.

MR. SPEAKER : Please avoid it.

PROF. R.R. PRAMANIK : I am not pleading the case of an individual. I am only saying that an MP wanted to help a scientist.

MR. SPEAKER : No. You cannot do that on the floor of the House. Here, we make the policies, we are not advocates of any individuals.

PROF. R.R. PRAMANIK : I am only saying that ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please avoid that.

PROF. R.R. PRAMANIK : I am only pleading that MP's — the representatives from Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha — should be included.

MR. SPEAKER : That is right. That is a valid point.

PROF. R.R. PRAMANIK : I am only pleading for that.

I want to make just one more point before I conclude. I want to impress upon you and through you to the Minister that unless and until we have ambitious programmes for the fundamental research on basic sciences, our attempts would be futile.

MR. SPEAKER : Please leave that point also. We have already established about 230 institutions for development of science. We do not have the institutions for development of technology. That is why this is being done. I have been a Minister for Science and Technology for four years. I know that. Please go by the ... (Interruptions)

PROF. R.R. PRAMANIK : It is very easy for you to understand. There are these institutions but they are not

getting the requisite funds for the research work. Some money should come from this particular Board also. That is my plea. You know better than me. I know that you have been the Minister for Science and Technology.

MR. SPEAKER : We have enough science institutions, but technology institutions are not there. So, they are doing it.

PROF. R.R. PRAMANIK : But funds from this Board must go for the development of technology.

MR. SPEAKER : You have made that point. I think that the Minister has understood it. We have also understood it.

PROF. R.R. PRAMANIK : Perhaps, he has understood that.

I want to get a clarification. What does he mean by 'agencies'? I want the clarification because he has added this in his amendment : 'other agencies attempting development'. I want to know whether he has accepted my amendment or he has got other things in his mind. He can give the explanation on this.

As the time is very short and you are very angry, with these words,

MR. SPEAKER : No. I am not angry. I am only explaining to you because the weak link in our science and technology is technology, not science.

PROF. R.R. PRAMANIK : I do know that. We have the Minister for Science and Technology and the Department of Science and Technology. Without the development of science, there can be no development of technology. I have understood that point.

MR. SPEAKER : We accept that theory. They will respect your theory. But the position is that we have some institutions for development of science. We do not have enough institutions for development of technology, which they are trying to do. The theory is not disputed.

PROF. R.R. PRAMANIK : I am not pleading for not having enough technological institutions but I am pleading that some money collected under this Cess Act must go for that.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj) : Mr. Speaker, in the shrinking global village that we live in, I feel that science and technology are the common heritage of all mankind. We have reached a point of development where there can be no self-sufficiency in technology.

No country can be an island by itself. That is why, I welcome this dual concept in this Bill, that is to say, development of indigenous technology and adaptation of imported technology at the same time. That is how, the function of the proposed Board has been defined.

I would like just to point out, I think, a printing error in the third line of the long title. The word used is not 'adapting', but 'adopting'. The correct word should be

'adapting', as it has been in inside the Bill.'

However, I have some problems, twofold problems. One is the composition of the Board. The Board is largely bureaucratic. There will be Five Secretaries to the Government of India none of whom may be technologists. Of course, they are sought to be balanced by four persons to be nominated by the Government. But where five Secretaries to the Government of India sit in any Board, their wisdom and their will prevails, at the cost of the technologists. That is why, I feel that the Board is lopsided. And it is not loaded in favour of technology as it ought to have been. That is one fear that I have got.

MR. SPEAKER : No. All the Secretaries of the Scientific Department are scientists.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Not always; they may not be, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : No. No. All. Almost all are. And to help them, we have given them Additional Secretaries who know administration.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : That is than okay, Sir. ... (*interruptions*) My second point is this. We had developed the CSIR with its own chain of national laboratories, primarily for the development of technology just as we have the universities, primarily for the development of basic sciences. Here I see a certain possibility - a possibility only a dim possibility, but a possibility nevertheless - of a conflict between the CSIR and the Board, primarily because the CSIR comes under the Ministry of Science and Technology while this Board will function under the Ministry of Finance. I can easily see some conflict in a specific situation. I would like to caution the hon. Minister so that right from the beginning, the Board works in a manner with set procedures as are established so that such a conflict does not arise.

Sir, I have got just one more point. One point has been made here. I would say the Clause 6 of the Bill has been drafted very well. It mentions three definite purposes. One relates to 'industrial concerns' themselves — financing them, helping them with finance which have got the technology and for which they need financial assistance to put it into on production stream; and the other is 'research and development institutions' whose purpose is to develop the technology which should then go on to the enterprises. So, one function of the Board is directed towards the 'concerns and enterprises'; and the other function of the Board is directed towards 'research and development institutions' for adaptation or for development of indigenous technology as it ought to be. Therefore, I see no particular reason to nurse the same doubts that my hon. colleague has.

There is of course a third normal function, that is, 'perform such other functions as may be entrusted to it by the Central Government.' I am not aware about the

funds that the hon. Minister hopes to accumulate under this Technology Development and Application Fund. Technology development is a very costly business today and you have to compete with giants like Germany, Japan, USA and UK. You have to give something and you have to take something.

It cannot be a one way traffic. I do hope that the funds that will come into it will be large-enough. I have no estimates at all before me to think whether they would meet all our requirements. I hope the Minister will give us some clarification.

With these few observations, I support the Bill.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum) : Sir, I have not heard the hon. Minister at the beginning. But I know that all these amendments were discussed in the Standing Committee. They have arrived at unanimous conclusions about these amendments.

You are absolutely correct when you said that about the Secretaries. We have also felt that it is a bureaucratic set up. But the Scientist-Secretaries who were present told us that each of us was a scientist, although we are Secretaries to the Department. But even then, we introduced the amendment because we are after all, applying technology.

But there is a point of view from the need also. You allocate funds to certain areas. There is a need felt in certain areas where certain technology should be applied and there may be needs which are conflicting. Therefore, the consuming departments and their secretaries also should be there. That is how, the Minister's amendments about the nomination of Secretary of Rural Development has come apart from the fact that other persons will be nominated from outside.

I want to make the second point. My friend Mr. Pramanik has suggested other agencies, etc. In fact, the intention was to include universities, institutions, etc. in the other agencies but we could not reach them out. Therefore, we have provided that and it has come as an amendment which was not there in the original Bill. It was a suggestion from the Standing Committee. Then there was one problem, that is, with the Cess Bill. I do not know what you will say about it. I do not see any amendment of the Cess Bill. The problem is, you have a case but on what? Is it technology input? There was a problem that we discussed that there is an embodied technology in the machinery. Apart from some agreement that this technology is being offered, embodied technology in the form of machinery is imported. Are you going to have a cess on that? Only in that way, can you build a sizeable fund which can be utilised here. We also discussed that question but it was left with the Government that somehow or other they will incorporate this idea because this idea was not there. I do not know whether the Minister will

reacted to this or not. If he has not, I am drawing his attention to this point. We had a unanimous suggestion excepting one which was from Mr. Bhogandra Jha. My amendment was there initially that MPs should also be included there. Then we also felt that the body being of an executive nature allocating funds, perhaps, it will not be useful for the Board to have Members of Parliament. He have a note of distant there and our colleague also felt that MPs should be there. But at that time, we felt that it is of the nature of the executive and I gave an amendment. Then I withdrew it after a good deal of discussions. This is how the situation stands. I wanted to just comment because I was in the Standing Committee and I wanted to communicate the feelings of the Members and the discussions that took place and to raise this problem which you may kindly clarify.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank all those Members who participated in this discussion. This Bill was referred to the Standing Committee and they have discussed threadbare and recommended certain amendments to the Board Bill. The amendments broadly covers inclusion of Secretary, Rural Development as part of the Board, widening the field of the expertise of the four members to be nominated by the Government to the Board, experience in technology development, banking and finance, agriculture, rural development and industry. There are amendments to the long title of the Bill also. The Standing Committee also discussed about the inclusion of MPs but they did not accept this suggestion. Therefore, the Government has not proposed any amendment, Sir.

Hon. Member, Mr. Khanduri said that the Secretary of the Board should be a scientist. The Secretary of the Department of Science and Technology will be the Chairman of this Board. The Board will be under the Department of Science and Technology and not under the Ministry of Finance.

Mr. Pramanik desired to clarify about other agencies.

Sir, 'the other agencies' has been included on the recommendation of the Standing Committee. So, 'the other agencies' will be decided by the Technology Development Board, which in their opinion, will lead to technology and technology applications.

There will be 11 members in the Committee which will be headed by the Secretary, Department of Science and Technology.

As suggested, there are some other schemes for the promotion of scientific research. As far as the amendments of Shri Pramanik are concerned, I appeal to him to withdraw his amendments and support this Bill. Naturally, the funds will depend on the payment of import of technology. The collection for two years is about Rs. 45 crore. We have made a beginning. So, I appeal to

the hon. Member to support this Bill.

PROF. R.R. PRAMANIK: The Equity Capital should be given to the industrial concerns. My amendment for the Long Title was to include 'the scientific laboratories and institutes'. While replying, the hon. Minister has just now stated that the amendment which has been circulated is about the inclusion of 'the other agencies'. He has also that it was brought forward on the suggestion of the Standing Committee.

So, I wanted to have the clarification. It is because my amendment was to include 'the scientific laboratories'. He said, just now that his amendment was as per the recommendation of the Standing Committee, then I want to know the meaning of 'the other agencies'. The definition should not be given by the Board Members. It should be made clear in the Bill here. He has not clarified what is the meaning of 'the other agencies'.

MR. SPEAKER: You know that the cooperative societies have industrial establishments, some individuals have industrial establishments, and if you give the names of industrial research institutes, the flexibility will be lost.

PROF. R.R. PRAMANIK: For that reason, Sir, I wanted to have a clarification what the 'the other agencies' means.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY: Sir, I have already clarified this point that it will be decided by the Technology Development Board.

MR. SPEAKER: That is correct.

PROF. R.R. PRAMANIK: For that reason, I have requested, through you, instead of 'the other agencies', it should be made more clear by saying 'namely, the scientific laboratories, scientific institutes, universities and etc'. Why is the hon. Minister very shy to include mainly 'namely, the scientific laboratories and scientific institutes'?

MAJ. GEN. (Retd.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Nothing is being debarred. The list is open. They can decide it. Whomsoever they think is having advanced technology, they will give it to them.

MR. SPEAKER: Anyway, we will put it to vote. . .

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: That is an enabling clause. For some reason, the Board feels that there is an institution which should be helped, they can decide and give that assistance. If you have a very tight-jacket provision. . .  
*(Interruptions)*

PROF. R.R. PRAMANIK: No, Sir, that is why I am saying instead of 'the other agencies' you can include 'namely, the scientific laboratories, scientific institutes, universities and etc'.

MR. SPEAKER: That covers everything. While drafting, generally, if you do not want to restrict them only

to the points which are mentioned and if you want to give them some elbow room, you generally say 'the other agencies'.

PROF. R.R. PRAMANIK : It does not give the elbow room to 'and etc'.

MR. SPEAKER : I will put it to the vote of the House. He is not accepting that. If you want I will put it to the vote of the House.

PROF. R.R. PRAMANIK : Sir, he has accepted to include 'the other agencies'. Why is the feeling shy to include 'namely, the scientific laboratories, and scientific institutes, universities and etc'?

MR. SPEAKER : Now, I will put your amendments to the vote of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the constitution of a Board for payment of equity capital or any other financial assistance to industrial concerns attempting commercial application of indigenous technology or adopting imported technology to wider domestic applications and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration".

*The motion was adopted*

MR. SPEAKER : Now, the house shall take up Clause-by-Clause consideration.

Clause 2—Short title and Commencement

PROF. R.R. PRAMANIK (Mathurapur) : Sir, I beg to move:

Page 1, line 5,-

after "called the" insert-

"Science and" (10)

Page 1 line 13,-

after "Fund for" insert-

"Fundamental research on Basic Sciences and"  
(11)

MR. SPEAKER : Now, I shall put the Amendment Nos.10 and 11 moved by Shri R.R. Pramanik to the vote of the House.

*Amendment Nos. 10 and 11 were put and negatived.*

MR. SPEAKER : The question is:

"That clause 2 stand part of the Bill".

*The motion was adopted.*

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 3 —

Constitution and incorporation of the Board

Amendments made :

Page 2,-

for lines 37 to 42, substitute-

"(f) the Secretary to the Government of *ex-officio*;

India in charge of the Ministry or Department of the Central Government dealing with Rural Development

(g) such number of persons, not exceeding four as may be prescribed, to be appointed by the Central Government from amongst persons having experience in technology development and application, banking and finance, industry, agriculture and rural development; and

(h) Secretary of the Board *ex-officio*," (2)

Page 2, line 44,-

for "(f)" substitute "(g)"

(Shri M.V. Chandrashekhara Murthy) (3)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri R.R. Pramanik - not present.

The question is :

"That clause 3, as amended, stand part of the Bill".

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 3, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

MR. SPEAKER : The question is:

"That clauses 4 and 5 stand part of the Bill".

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 4 and 5 were added to the Bill.*

*Clause 6 Function of the Board.*

*Amendment made:*

Page 3,-

for lines 26 and 27, substitute-

"(a) provide equity capital, subject to such conditions as may be determined by regulations, or any other financial assistance to industrial concerns and other agencies attempting commercial application of indigenous technology"  
(4)

(Shri M.V. Chandrashekhara Murthy)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri R.R. Pramanik - not present.

The question is:

"That clause 6, as amended, stand part of the Bill.

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 6, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

MR. SPEAKER : The question is:

"That clauses 7 and 8 stand part of the Bill".

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 7 and 8 were added to the Bill.*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri R.R. Pramanik - not present.

The question is:

"The clause 9 stand part of the Bill".

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 9 was added to the Bill.*

MR. SPEAKER : The question is:

"That clauses 10 to 14 stand part of the Bill".

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 10 to 14 were added to the Bill.*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri R.R. Pramanik - not present.

The question is:

"The 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 as 20 stand part of the Bill".

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 16 to 20 were added to the Bill.*

*Clause 21 - Power of Central Government to make rules.*

*Amendment made:*

Page 7, line 24,-

for "(f)" substitute "(g)" (5)

(Shri M.V. Chandrashekhara Murthy)

MR. SPEAKER : The question is:

"That clause 21, as amended, stand part of the Bill".

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 21, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 22 Power of Board to make regulations.*

*Amendments made:*

Page 8,-

after line 9, insert-

"(b) the conditions subject to which equity capital may be provided by the Board under clause (a) of section 6;" (6)

Page 8, line 10,-

for "(b)" substitute "(c)" (7)

(Shri M.V. Chandrashekhara Murthy)

MR. SPEAKER : The question is:

"That clause 22, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 22, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

MR. SPEAKER : The question is:

"That clause 23 stand part of the Bill".

*The Motion was adopted.*

*Clause 23 was added to the Bill.*

MR. SPEAKER : The question is:

"That clause 1 and the enacting formula stand part of

the Bill".

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 1 and the Enacting Formula were added to the Bill.*

*Long Title*

*Amendment made:*

Page 1, in the long title,-

for "to industrial concerns attempting commercial application of indigenous technology".

substitute "to industrial concerns and other agencies attempting development and commercial application of indigenous technology" (1)

(Shri M.V. Chandrashekhara Murthy)

MR. SPEAKER : The question is:

"That the long Title as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

The Long Title, as amended, was added to the Bill.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY: 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.*

**21.53 hrs.**

*Research and Development Cess (Amendment) Bill*

[English]

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY: I beg to move:

"that the bill to amend the Research and Development Cess Act, 1986, be taken into consideration."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is:

"That the Bill to amend the Research and Development Cess Act, 1986 be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. SPEAKER : We will take up clause-by-clause consideration.

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 clauses 3 to 5 stand Part of the Bill".

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 3 to 5 were 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.

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister may now move  
 "That the Bill be passed".

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

*The motion was adopted.*

**21.57 hrs.**

[English]

STANDING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORT AND  
 TOURISM  
 Eighteenth Report

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum): I beg to lay the Eighteenth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport and Tourism on the 'Inland Waterways.'

[English]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank you for your indulgence and thank all the Members for their indulgence that they had shown to us and to the House today.

MR. SPEAKER : I would like to thank everybody for a very good cooperation.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: I would also thank the security staff and the other staff of the Lok Sabha Secretariat.

MR. SPEAKER : Very good.

**21.57 hrs.**

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Saturday, August 26, 1995/Bhadra 4, 1917 (Saka)*

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